

World War II

World War II was a terrible war fought between 1939 and 1945. Almost every part of the world was involved. While the troops were away fighting, life was hard for the people back home, too. They missed their family members and worried about them being safe. They were also proud of them for being so brave and helping people who needed help. In some countries, it was so dangerous even at home that parents sent their children to other places to keep them safe until the war was over.

At that time, many women did not have jobs outside of all the work it took to take care of their homes and families, but with so many of the men away fighting the war, they had to help fill in. They took jobs like building the equipment needed for the war and for home.

The troops needed food to eat, and they needed food for the people they were helping. Because of this, there wasn't as much food to buy back home, so food and other items were rationed. That meant you were only allowed to buy a certain amount of some things such as sugar. You were given a card or a book that told the grocery store how much sugar you were able to buy. When you had bought all of the sugar you were allowed to have, you had to wait until you were given more cards or books that allowed you to buy more sugar. This was done to make sure everyone could buy some sugar but that the all the sugar wouldn't be bought by just a few people. The same thing was done with many other items.

Because food was harder to get, many people planted gardens. During World War II, these were called "victory gardens." Growing their own food helped people have what they needed to keep their families healthy.

People also helped at hospitals where the wounded troops were sent to recover. Famous people would sometimes visit the hospitals to try to cheer up the troops. Other people would do all they could to help the troops as they recovered.

Another thing people did at home was buy bonds or stamps. This was like saving money. Later, the bonds or stamps could be cashed in to get the money with interest, but until they were cashed, the government could use the money to fight the war.

The war finally ended, and the troops came home, but it took a long time. Many people died in the war, and many who came home were hurt. Everyone back home was happy to be together again, but many things had changed, and life would never be exactly the same again.



Writing Prompt #1
Your mom is a nurse at a local military hospital. Some famous actors and actresses are coming to visit the injured troops. You want to go to help cheer them up, too.
What do you do?





Writing Prompt #6

All the kids in your class are writing letters to wounded soldiers to help cheer them up while they are recovering in the hospital. What do you say in your letter?


