# 75th Anniversary of VE Day

On 8th May 2020, it will be 75 years since the first VE Day. VE Day stands for Victory in Europe Day. The day marks the end of the Second World War in Europe. People remember everyone who lived during the war and the soldiers who fought.

## Victory in Europe

On 7th May 1945, Germany called an end to the war. The next day, Tuesday 8th May 1945 became a day of celebration called Victory in Europe Day. It marked the end of the war so people were very happy. There were lots of celebrations.
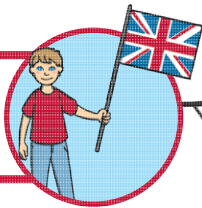
## How Did People Celebrate the First VE Day?

People listened to the Prime Minister on the wireless. A wireless was a radio.

Church bells rang to share the news.

People set off fireworks into the night sky.

They danced and waved flags.

Everyone made food to share at street parties.

People hung bunting and banners in the street.

People wore red, white and blue to look like the British flag.

Many people waited outside Buckingham Palace to see the King.

London was very busy on VE Day.

# Questions

1.  When is VE Day? Tick one.

    ◯  2<sup>nd</sup> May
    ◯  8<sup>th</sup> May
    ◯  3<sup>rd</sup> March

2.  What does VE Day stand for? Tick one.

    ◯  Victory in Everything Day
    ◯  Victory in England Day
    ◯  Victory in Europe Day

3.  What does VE Day mark? Tick one.

    ◯  people being happy
    ◯  the end of the war in Europe
    ◯  church bells ringing

4.  What was hung in the streets? Tick **two**.

    ◯  bunting
    ◯  bells
    ◯  banners

5.  Where did people wait to see the King? Tick one.

    ◯  in the street
    ◯  outside Buckingham Palace
    ◯  near the church

# Answers

1. When is VE Day? Tick one.

   ◯   2<sup>nd</sup> May

   ✓   **8<sup>th</sup> May**

   ◯   3<sup>rd</sup> March

2. What does VE Day stand for? Tick one.

   ◯   Victory in Everything Day

   ◯   Victory in England Day

   ✓   **Victory in Europe Day**

3. What does VE Day mark? Tick one.

   ◯   people being happy

   ✓   **the end of the war in Europe**

   ◯   church bells ringing

4. What was hung in the streets? Tick **two**.

   ✓   **bunting**

   ◯   bells

   ✓   **banners**

5. Where did people wait to see the King? Tick one.

   ◯   in the street

   ✓   **outside Buckingham Palace**

   ◯   near the church

# 75th Anniversary of VE Day

On 8th May 2020, it will be 75 years since the very first VE Day in 1945. VE Day is short for Victory in Europe Day. It is a day to mark the end of the Second World War in Europe. People also remember the bravery and hardships of those who lived during the time and the soldiers who fought.

## Victory in Europe

On 7th May 1945, Germany agreed to stop the war. The next day became a day of celebration called Victory in Europe Day. It marked the end of many hard years of war so people were very excited.

## How Did People Celebrate the First VE Day?

There were lots of celebrations across the country.

• People ran out into the streets and hung bunting and banners.

• Everyone made food to share with each other at street parties.

• People wore red, white and blue to look like the British flag.

• They sang songs, danced and waved flags.

- London was very busy on VE Day. The city centre was full of people.

- Crowds of people filled Trafalgar Square and waited outside Buckingham Palace to see the King.

- At 3 o'clock, people listened to the Prime Minister on the wireless. A wireless was a radio.

- Church bells rang across the country to share the good news.

- People also set off fireworks into the night sky.

# Questions

1. In 2020, how many years will it be since the first VE day? Tick one.

   ◯ 25
   ◯ 75
   ◯ 95

2. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

   | | |
   |---|---|
   | On 7<sup>th</sup> May 1945,... | day of celebration. |
   | The next day became a... | many hard years of war in Europe. |
   | It marked the end of... | Germany agreed to stop the war. |

3. What colours did people wear on the first VE Day?

   _____

4. **Crowds of people filled _____.**
   Tick the missing words. Tick one.

   ◯ Trafalgar Square
   ◯ the church
   ◯ Buckingham Palace

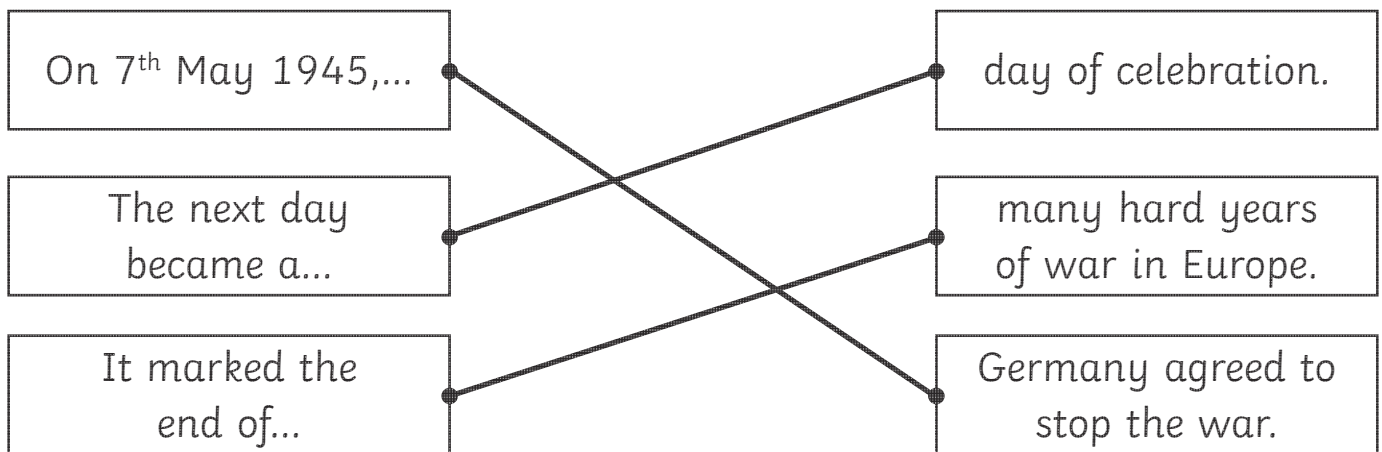5. What time did people listen to the Prime Minister on the wireless?

   _____

# Answers

1. In 2020, how many years will it be since the first VE day? Tick one.

   ◯ 25

   ✓ **75**

   ◯ 95

2. Draw lines to match the parts of the sentences.

   | On 7<sup>th</sup> May 1945,... | day of celebration. |
   | The next day became a... | many hard years of war in Europe. |
   | It marked the end of... | Germany agreed to stop the war. |

3. What colours did people wear on the first VE Day?

   **People wore red, white and blue on the first VE Day.**

4. **Crowds of people filled _____.**
   Tick the missing words. Tick one.

   ✓ **Trafalgar Square**

   ◯ the church

   ◯ Buckingham Palace

5. What time did people listen to the Prime Minister on the wireless?

   **People listened to the Prime Minister at 3 o'clock on the wireless.**
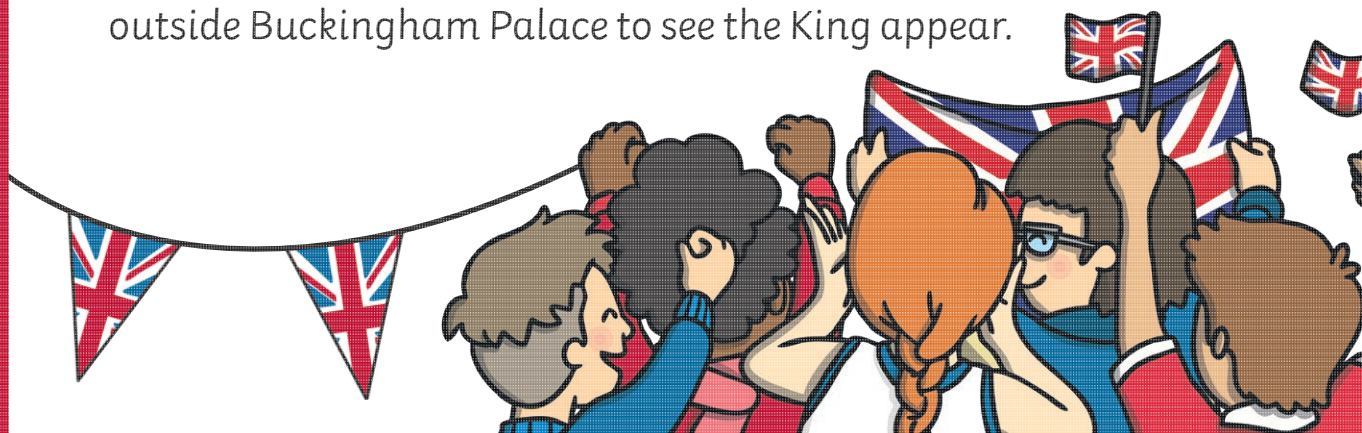
# 75th Anniversary of VE Day

On 8th May 2020, it will be the 75th anniversary of the first VE Day in 1945. VE Day is short for Victory in Europe Day. The day is marked to remember the end of the Second World War in Europe. People also remember the bravery and hardships of those who lived during the time as well as the soldiers who fought.

**Victory in Europe**

On 7th May 1945, Germany **surrendered** and agreed to end the war. The next day was Tuesday 8th May and this became a day of celebration called Victory in Europe Day. It marked the end of many hard years of war so people were overjoyed.

**How Did People Celebrate the First VE Day?**

• People gathered in the streets. They hung bunting and banners.

• Everyone made food to share with each other at street parties. They sang songs, danced and waved flags.

• People even wore red, white and blue which are the colours of the British flag.

• The capital city became very busy on VE day. Anyone who could get to London did so. They watched parades and celebrated together. Crowds of people filled Trafalgar Square. Others waited outside Buckingham Palace to see the King appear.
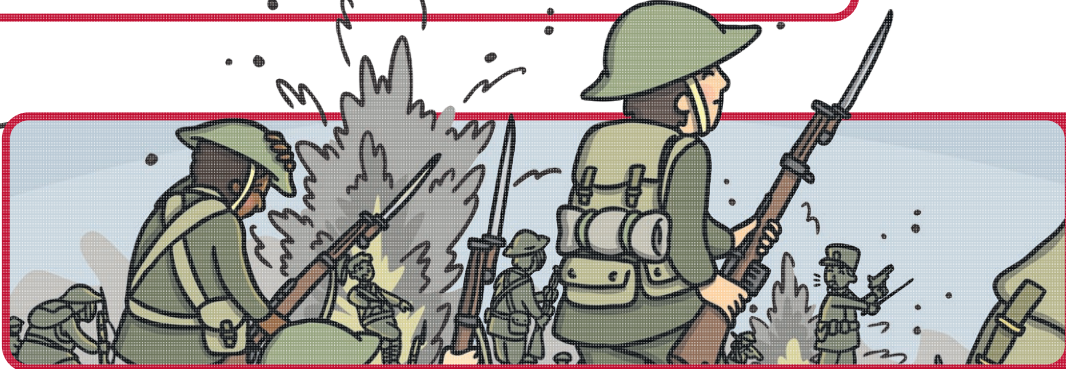
- Some people believe that Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret even slipped out of Buckingham Palace to join in with the celebrations in London.

- At 3 o'clock, people listened to the Prime Minister on the wireless. Winston Churchill said, "My dear friends, this is your hour. It's a victory of the great British nation."

- Church bells rang across the entire country to share the good news.

- People also set off fireworks and lit bonfires.

**Did You Know...?**
The war may have been over in Europe but it continued in other parts of the world for a number of months until September 1945.

**Glossary**

**surrendered:** Gave up fighting against the enemy.

# Questions

1. Fill in the missing words:

**On 8th May 2020, it will be the 75th** _____ **of the**

_____ **VE Day in 1945.**

2. What do we remember on VE Day each year? Tick one.

○ the end of the First World War in Europe
○ the end of the Second World War in Europe
○ the end of the Third World War in Europe

3. What happened on 7th May 1945?

_____

4. Which of these colours did people wear on VE Day? Tick **two**.

○ red
○ green
○ white

5. What is a wireless?

_____

6. Describe **two** ways that people celebrated on the first VE Day.

_____

_____

_____

# Answers

1. Fill in the missing words:

   On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020, it will be the 75<sup>th</sup> **anniversary** of the **first** VE Day in 1945.

2. What do we remember on VE Day each year? Tick one.

   ◯ the end of the First World War in Europe
   ✓ **the end of the Second World War in Europe**
   ◯ the end of the Third World War in Europe

3. What happened on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1945?

   **On 7<sup>th</sup> May 1945, Germany surrendered and agreed to end the war.**

4. Which of these colours did people wear on VE Day? Tick **two**.

   ✓ **red**
   ◯ green
   ✓ **white**

5. What is a wireless?

   **A wireless is a radio.**

6. Describe **two** ways that people celebrated on the first VE Day.

   **Accept any two points which relate to the text, such as: People celebrated the first VE Day by making food to share at street parties and by singing songs.**