

Good evening. It's 6 o'clock on Sunday the 8th of May. I'm Angela Morrison and here are today's headlines.

Celebrations have been taking place up and down the country as Britain celebrates the end of the Second World War.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill broadcast news of Germany's formal surrender over the radio this afternoon. While a cease fire is already in place, hostilities will end officially at one minute past midnight tonight.

From London to Edinburgh and beyond, the bunting has been put up and the parties don't look to be stopping any time soon.

Fighting continues in the Pacific as the United States lead the Allies in their attempts to oust controlling Japanese forces from the region.

Australian troops continue to attack the Japanese Army in Borneo. Raids have been taking place since the 1st of May.

Britain is looking to consolidate its capture of Rangoon, having arrived at the Burmese capital five days ago.

It appears that fighting could cease shortly in the final active theatre of this great war.

Our top story tonight: the British public have been celebrating Victory in Europe Day today following Germany's formal surrender in Berlin.

----- VOICEOVER -----

Declared a national holiday, VE Day has been enjoyed by young and old the length and breadth of this great country.

Street parties have been held in virtually every town and village in Britain, with some public houses reporting that they have

already run out of beer.

Friends, family and neighbours have decorated their streets with bunting and Union Jacks. Highly coveted rationed foods such as sugar and fresh fruit have been shared to bring joy to celebrations, in a demonstration of the communal spirit the people of Britain have shown during this war.

----- VOICEOVER END -----

In London, where the full might of the German Air Force was focused during the dark days of the Blitz, thousands of merry-makers and spectators crammed into the Mall to witness an appearance by King George, Queen Elizabeth, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Margaret and Prime Minister Churchill. Gregor Monks has this report.

----- REPORT -----

Prime Minister Churchill formally announced the German surrender at approximately 3pm today.

A ceasefire was already in place in Berlin, but hostilities in the German capital officially end at one minute past midnight tonight.

----- VOICEOVER -----

Following Hitler's suicide on the 30th April, it has been considered just a matter of time until Germany offered its surrender. Berlin has been ravaged during this final battle, including the German Parliament building which sustained serious damage.

Battered by artillery fire and pockmarked with bullet holes, the Reichstag is an empty shell. Once housing the Nazi government, it now stands as a grim reminder of how all people must guard their countries from despicable governments.

The Nazi regime came to an end in the hands of Karl Donitz (Hitler's successor) who, as acting president, signed the official documents of surrender.

----- VOICEOVER END -----

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8th May 1945: Today's News – Y6/P7/G5 – Text

While Britain, France and the rest of Europe celebrate, the war in the Pacific is ongoing.

British troops are consolidating the capture of Rangoon, having reached the Burmese capital just a few days ago.

Our Asia correspondent, Philip Hagerty, is in Burma with British troops. He brings us this report.

----- REPORT -----

Section A

1. What is the name of the person reporting on the appearance of the Royal Family and the Prime Minister?

2. What do you think would follow in the script after the report about the war in Asia? Why?

Section B

3. What does the word ‘oust’ mean?

4. Once you have read the first three sections of the script, stop and answer the following question: what topics are you expecting to be covered in the news bulletin? Give reasons for your answers.

5. What does ‘VE’ stand for?

6. What does the use of the word ‘ravaged’ convey to those watching the broadcast?

Section C

7. ‘...hostilities will end officially at one minute past midnight tonight’; are the two sides still fighting each other? How do you know?

8. What do you think is the purpose of the dashes (-----)? Give a reason for your answer.

9. By using the phrase ‘From London to Edinburgh and beyond’ what is the scriptwriter telling an audience?

10. Compare and contrast how this news broadcast script presents the British and German governments.

11. Summarise the report on Germany’s surrender using quotations from the script.

12. What does the word ‘pockmarked’ mean and what do you think it is describing?

Section D

13. What does the word ‘theatre’ mean in this context?

14. What would a viewer see in the section between ‘-----VOICEOVER-----’ and ‘-----VOICEOVER END-----’?

15: What would the appearance of ‘-----REPORT-----’ tell a newsreader?

Section A

Determine which reporter said the following statements in their reports:

	Angela Morrison	Gregor Monks
Prime Minister Churchill formally announced the German surrender at approximately 3pm today.		
From London to Edinburgh and beyond, the bunting has been put up and the parties don't look to be stopping...		
Battered by artillery fire and pockmarked with bullet holes, the Reichstag is an empty shell.		
Good evening. It's 6 o'clock on Sunday the 8 th of May.		
Britain is looking to consolidate its capture of Rangoon, having arrived at the Burmese capital five days ago.		
Berlin has been ravaged during this final battle...		

Section B

Tick the correct answer.

Britain was celebrating the end of...

World War 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
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World War 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The Plague	<input type="checkbox"/>
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winter	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Celebrations followed which country's surrender?

England	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Berlin	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Germany	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The Prime Minister's last name was...

Churchill	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Monks	<input type="checkbox"/>
-------	--------------------------

George	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Winston	<input type="checkbox"/>
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On what date did Hitler die?

30 th April	<input type="checkbox"/>
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13 th April	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1 st May	<input type="checkbox"/>
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8 th May	<input type="checkbox"/>
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While celebrating, people in Britain reportedly ran out of...

wine	<input type="checkbox"/>
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cider	<input type="checkbox"/>
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beer	<input type="checkbox"/>
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tea	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Section C

Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

Statement	True	False
Germany's formal surrender took place in Berlin.		
While Britain, France and the rest of Europe celebrated, the war in the Pacific was still happening.		
Hostilities in the German capital were scheduled to end at one minute to midnight.		
After his death, Hitler was succeeded as president of the Nazi regime by Karl Donitz.		
Hitler died while fighting during a battle.		

Section D

Imagine you are waiting on the Mall during the celebrations as an on-the-scene news reporter. Using the information in the text as a guide, write your own report about what you witness while it happens.