

# "We Shall Never Surrender" - House of Commons speech, June 4, 1940

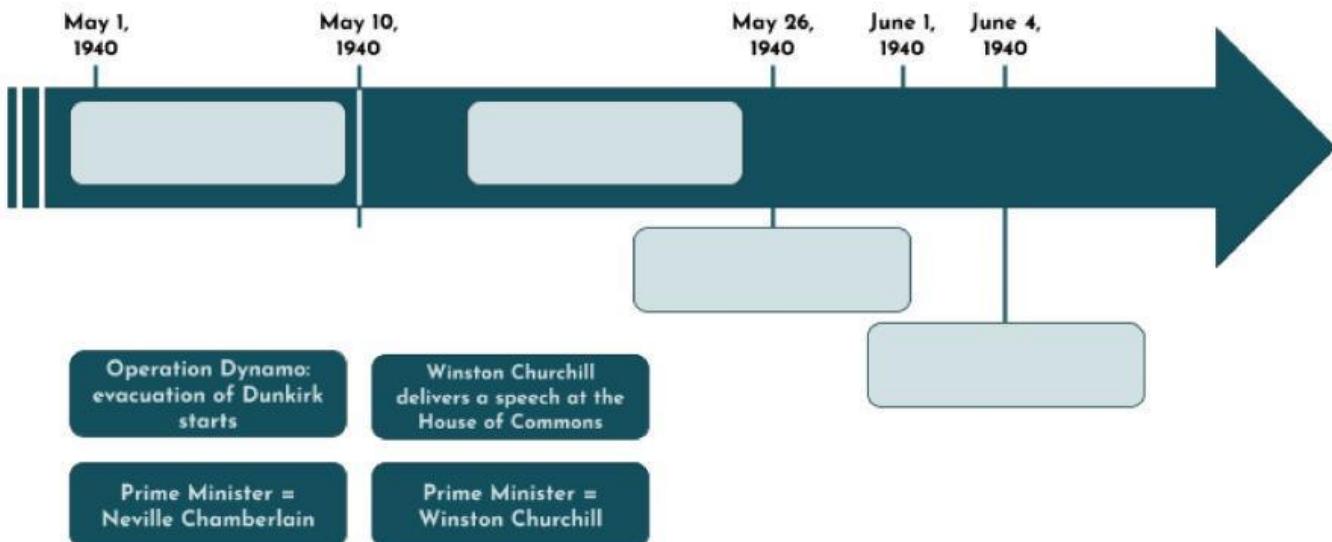
## QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TEXT

### Part 1: Introduction

➤ Read the introduction and link the words to their synonym, definition or translation.

galvanised	•	• gave courage
endure	•	• elected House of the British Parliament
the outset	•	• excited into taking action
House of Commons	•	• the beginning
heartened	•	• experience

➤ Drag the elements to complete the timeline:



➤ Fill in the chart:

26,000	338,000	45,000
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Number of men the British planned to evacuate from Dunkirk:	
Number of allied soldiers the British eventually evacuated from Dunkirk:	
Number of French soldiers the British eventually evacuated from Dunkirk:	

➤ Operation Dynamo was...

a success  a failure

### Part 2: The speech

➤ Read paragraph 1: what risk(s) is Churchill the People on?

serious raids  being over confident  invasion

➤ Read paragraph 2 and drag the following elements into the chart:

duty ride out outlive large tracts to flag confidence to fail surrender

British Fleet

faiblir		surmonter		le devoir	
confiance		survivre à		se rendre	
échouer		la flotte britannique		une grande partie	

➤ Tick the right answers:

On June 4, 1940, France...

has already surrendered       is about to surrender       is on the verge of victory

Churchill encourages the British to go on fighting....

alongside the French       to defend their territory       in the rest of the world  
 if the French surrender       even if it means perishing       even if Britain is invaded

What strategy does Churchill use to galvanise the Parliament and the British people?

Lie to make them believe that they are safe on their island.  
 Tell them the truth and explain the risks of invasion.

What concept lies behind this conception of war?

Totalitarianism       Total war       Extremism

➤ Link the extracts from the speech to the right box corresponding to Churchill's messages:

if all do their duty	•	Every single man and woman is needed	•	the menace of tyranny
if necessary for years	•	Nazi Germany is incompatible with democracy	•	That is the will of Parliament and the nation
British Empire and the French Republic, linked together	•	Britain needs allies but is ready to fight alone	•	will defend to the death their native soil
large tracts of Europe and many old and famous States have fallen or may fall	•	Britain and the British Empire shall prevail	•	odious apparatus of Nazi rule
we shall not flag or fail	•	It will be a very hard fight and total war	•	fall into the grip of the Gestapo
if necessary alone	•		•	our Empire beyond the seas would carry on the struggle
subjugated and starving	•		•	we shall fight on the beaches [...] in the hills

➤ Apart from galvanising his People, Churchill also has international messages: he wants to...

Scare the Germans away       Convince the French not to surrender  
 Appeal to the Americans       Appeal to the British colonies

➤ Link the figures of speech Churchill uses to be more convincing to the examples

Anaphora and enumeration	•	"if all do their duty [...] are made"
Metaphor	•	"ride out the storm of war"
	•	"we shall fight..."