

Answers

1. Which negative words have been used to describe some of the effects of the fighting in Europe?
The negative words used to describe some of the effects of fighting in Europe are suffering and misery.
2. What prompted the German surrender, and why do you think this was?
The Germans surrendered because Hitler had died. He was the leader of the Germans, and had started the Second World War, so once he had died I think they knew they would not win so they had to surrender.
3. Explain what it means when it says the bell ringers were “put on stand-by”.
When it says the bell ringers were “put on stand-by”, it means they were ready and waiting to ring the bells to let everyone know the good news.
4. What were some of the lasting effects on Britain, from the war?
Some of the lasting effects on Britain from the war were, half a million homes were destroyed, thousands of civilians killed and millions of lives had been disrupted.
5. Explain how Stalin affected Churchill.
Stalin affected Churchill because he would not announce the surrender as he was reluctant to admit it had happened. This meant that Churchill could not announce the end of the war in Europe and celebrate VE Day.
6. What word has been used that means ‘unplanned’, and how does it relate to the sentence it is used in?
The word which has been used that means ‘unplanned’ is ‘impromptu’. It relates to the sentence it has been used in because people were not expecting VE Day, so the parties would have been unplanned and unexpected.
7. Explain what the paragraph in italics is about.
The paragraph in italics is explaining that some people did not feel completely happy about VE Day because their families or friends might have been killed, which meant the event was bittersweet.
8. Why do you think it unusual that the princesses ‘mingled with the crowd’?
Answers will vary.
9. What two things did Churchill do on VE Day?
On VE Day Churchill had a celebratory lunch with King George VI and talked to the nation, reminding them that the war wasn’t over, but that for one day, the British people could allow themselves a “brief period of rejoicing”.
10. How do you think people felt on the 9th May? Explain your thoughts.
Answers will vary.