



**Begin by watching *Doreen's War: Keep Smiling Through* on [www.truetube.co.uk](http://www.truetube.co.uk)**

On September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1939, Neville Chamberlain announced the start of the war. Doreen describes a feeling of "excitement as well as fear" as she heard the news and then she became "more fearful" and started feeling "very much alone" as the enemy soldiers got closer.

Can you compare this to how you felt when you first heard about the Covid-19 in Asia and then, as it got closer, and began affecting you and your friends and family, how your feelings changed?

When I first heard about it in Asia, I felt...

As it started moving across Europe, I felt...

Now it is all over my country, I feel...

"The unknown enemy" would be as familiar to children in WW2 (with the Germans) as it is to children today (with Covid-19) - an enemy that put a stop to their normal lives, but they could do nothing about.

Either thinking about children in WW2, or yourself today, create a poem called "**The Unknown Enemy**". This could be created with a series of similes and metaphors or you could even write a list poem - the things the enemy has taken away!

In times of war or uncertainty, people look to their leaders to guide and support them. People listened to **Neville Chamberlain** and later **Winston Churchill**'s announcements on the wireless (radio). We listen to **Boris Johnson**'s announcement on the television for updates on Covid-19.



Write a speech in role as either Neville Chamberlain as he gets ready to announce to the country that the children need to be sent away from the large cities OR as Boris Johnson as he gets ready to announce to the county that schools are to close and people have to stay in their homes.

**REMEMBER** – people need to be persuaded that this is the right thing to do and that they can **TRUST** you as their leader, so you need to appear confident and be seen to believe in what you are saying.



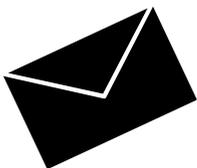
Doreen was separated from all her school friends during the war as they were evacuated to Weymouth. She kept in touch with her best friend by writing letters.

Why do you think she had to write letters?

How does this compare to how you are able to keep in touch with your friends during the Covid-19 pandemic?

## Similarities

## Differences

Imagine you were Doreen (or a different child) left in London while your friends from your school were evacuated. Write a letter to them, telling them what life has been like for you in London, especially now the Blitz has started.

Now write a letter to a friend from school that you have not seen since the schools were closed. Tell them what life has been like for you and what it has been like trying to do your school work at home with your family. Maybe you can tell them about some of the new skills or fun things you have been doing as a result.

