

St Paul's Cathedral during the Blitz

What do you see?



Look at the photograph of St Paul's Cathedral above and write down 5 words or phrases that describe what you can see.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Examine the image again for 30 seconds and try to write 5 new things you noticed.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Look Again

Extended Thinking

What do you think about the photograph?

What is happening? How is this happening?

What do you wonder about the image?

What was damaged? Who was there?

Without knowing any other details, write a newspaper headline to go with this image.

(What do you think is the most important information to share?)

Discover the details



This photograph became very famous the world over. It was taken by a photographer called Herbert Mason. The photograph was taken during the height of the Blitz in December 1940 - a time that was described as the 'second great fire of London.'

The Cathedral's iconic dome is seen standing tall and strong emerging out of the fire and smoke - out of the destruction which had become such a common sight in London during the Second World War. This night, like many others, people were killed and injured, and homes were destroyed as the bombs fell on London.

The Cathedral was seen as a place of great importance; it was a place of worship, a sacred space, and now a symbol of strength for the nation.

After this photograph was spread widely in the newspapers, it reinforced St Paul's status as an icon and the Cathedral took on new meaning for the nation.

What do you think this photograph symbolised for the nation?

Circle your answers below and ask an adult or use a thesaurus to discover what some unknown words mean.

Resilience Survival Morale Weakness Defeat Unity

Strength Sadness Hope Determination Faith Resistance

Has discovering this information changed your headline? Write your new headline here.

'St Paul's Cathedral must be saved at all costs'

Winston Churchill

Winston Churchill was worried that the destruction of St Paul's Cathedral would result in a loss of **morale** for the British public. What do you think **morale** means? Solve the word search below and see if you can find other words similar to **morale**.

n	u	s	p	i	r	i	t	f	t	n	i	w	n	i
t	d	e	t	e	r	m	i	n	a	t	i	o	n	c
q	r	h	e	a	s	t	k	m	k	o	m	a	o	w
a	i	x	j	c	e	h	l	m	z	f	v	e	v	b
m	v	w	q	f	n	j	s	r	x	l	k	e	f	f
l	e	e	h	r	i	e	j	a	u	m	p	o	f	m
n	t	r	a	e	h	a	d	y	s	o	j	u	n	o
q	c	s	k	g	k	f	o	i	h	f	g	h	e	p
f	v	q	y	u	j	c	m	y	f	n	m	i	a	e
f	m	t	o	v	p	i	n	z	e	n	t	c	v	d
w	j	d	i	k	t	n	v	f	y	d	o	d	q	p
i	j	e	a	p	i	p	k	j	u	f	m	c	g	h
e	v	l	o	s	e	r	r	t	s	p	t	z	v	r
o	f	k	q	y	t	f	n	c	g	x	a	i	j	s
n	g	l	l	s	s	s	p	z	f	r	e	e	h	c

Words to find

confidence
spirit
heart
optimism
hope
determination
drive
cheer
vigour
resolve

Reflect

*After you have finished all of your activities, sit quietly for a few seconds. Think carefully about some of the people in the world that are still living in conflict, war and danger. Think about how their daily lives are being affected by destruction like the destruction Britain witnessed in the Blitz. In your moment of quiet think about **hope**, and how you will bring hope to your community and to the world.*

List three hopes you have for the world in the future:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Use the following page to **make an artistic creation** about hope! Maybe a drawing, a collage, or a poem. Include words, symbols or signs that remind you of hope and happiness.

Artistic Creation

Share your creation with us on twitter [@stpaulsedu](https://twitter.com/stpaulsedu) and next time you visit St Paul's Cathedral, think about what it symbolises for you.