



# Britain at War

## Key question

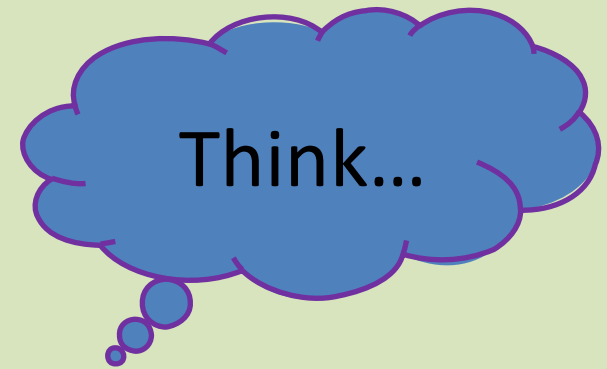
- Why was it necessary for children to be evacuated throughout the war?
- What was the experience of evacuation really like?

# Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021

WALT raise historical questions

S2S: I can

- use data on a graph to raise inquiry questions
- use photographs to raise inquiry questions



What can I see?

What I can work out/what I think is happening.

What I don't understand.

What questions I want to ask.

Now complete the activity on the next slide.

What I don't understand. What questions I want to ask

What I can work out/ what I think is happening

What I can see



# Evacuation

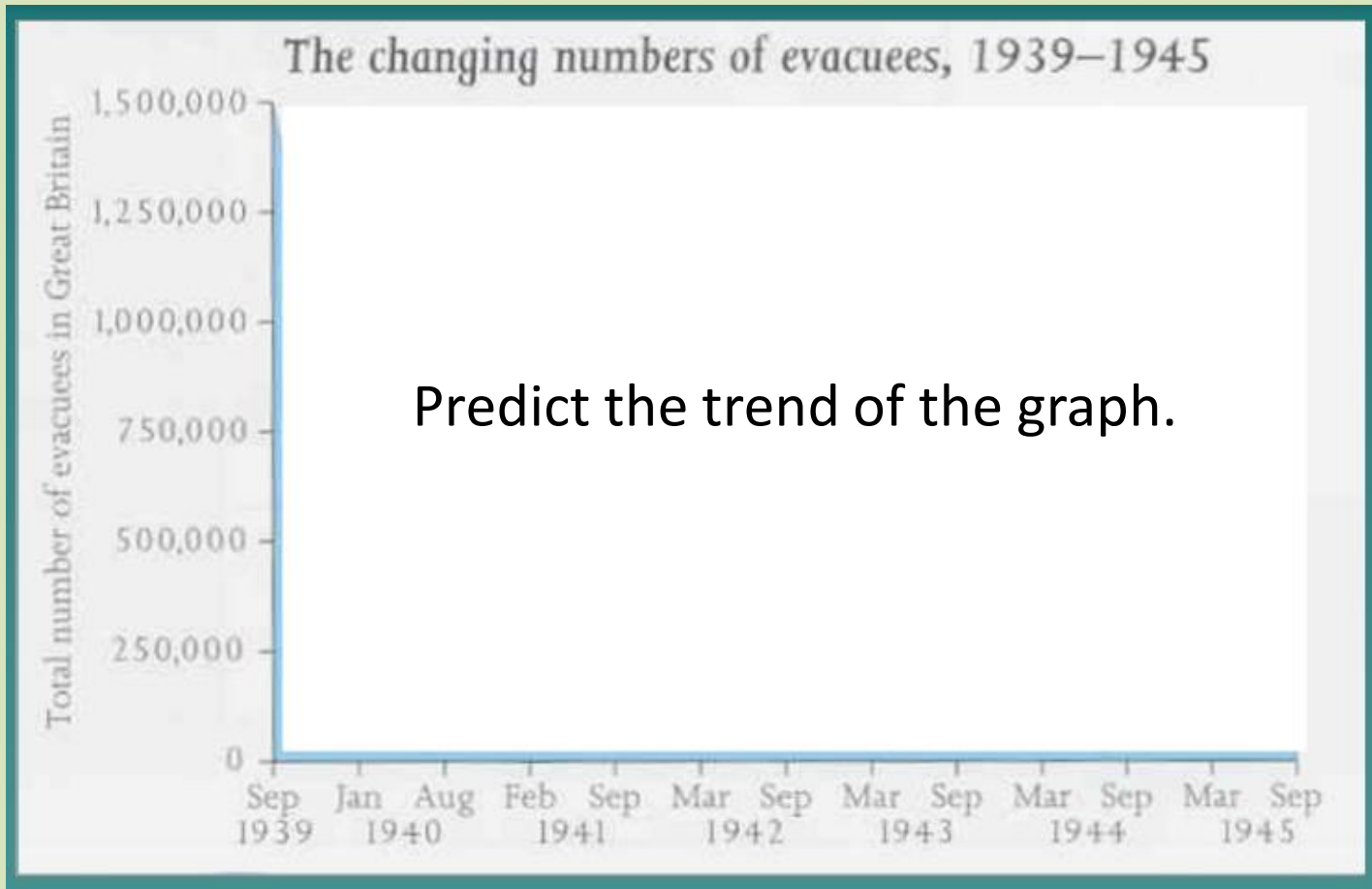
Pace at which evacuation would have proceeded.



Think...

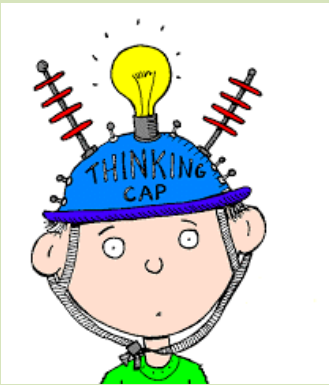
Would the number of evacuees  
go up, or down, or stay the  
same, during the war?

**What would you expect a graph of evacuation numbers throughout the war to look like?**



Graph 1

Write your answer in your book or draw your prediction on the graph.



What question would you like to ask?

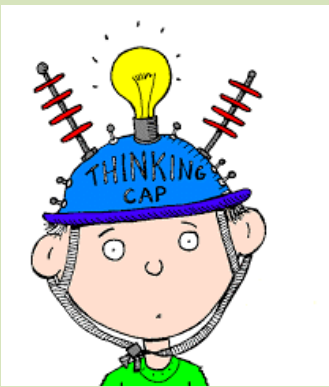
The changing numbers of evacuees, 1939–1945



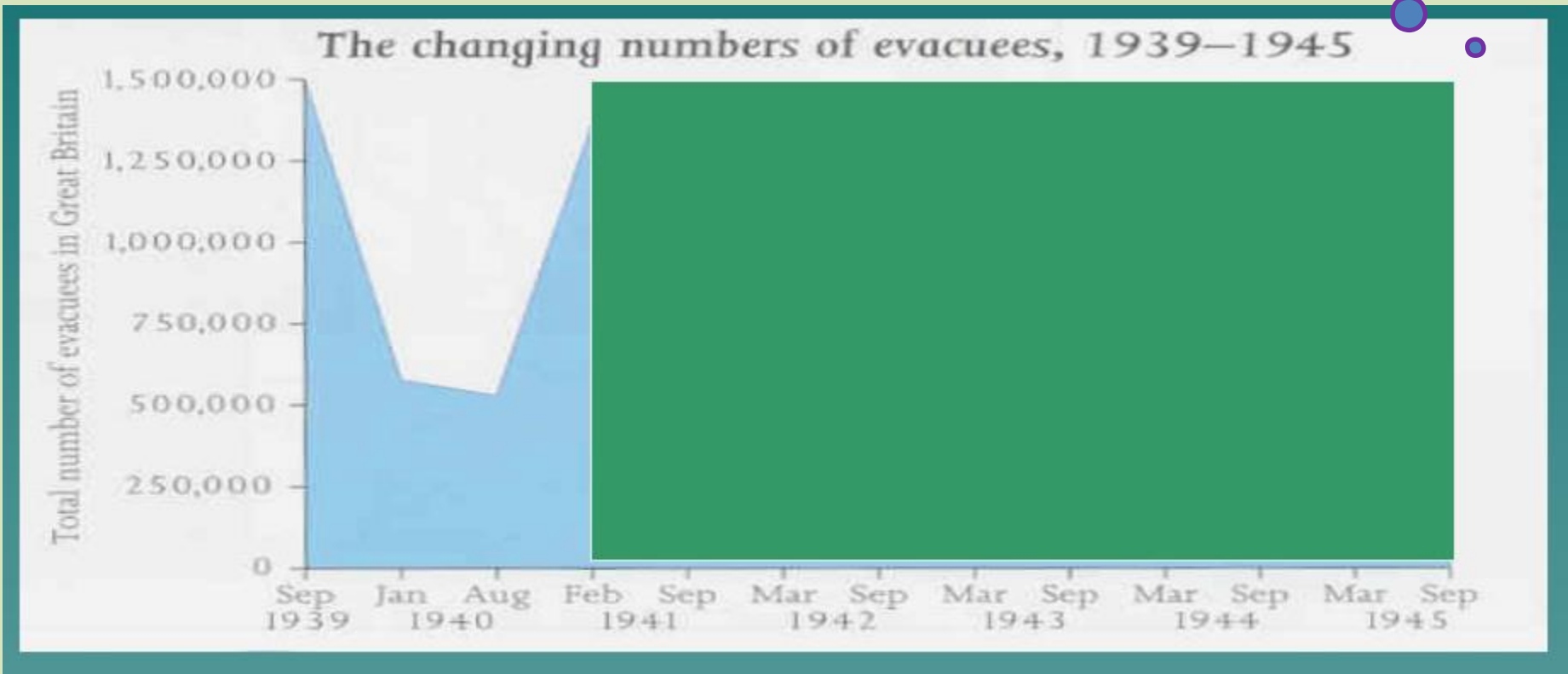
Graph 2: Write your answer in your book.

For example: why were so many evacuated even before the war began?





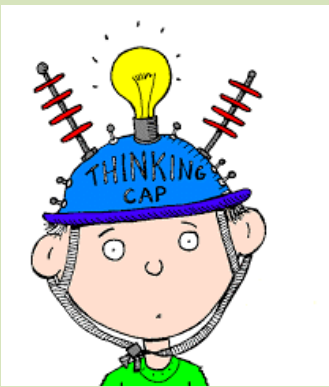
What question would you like to ask?



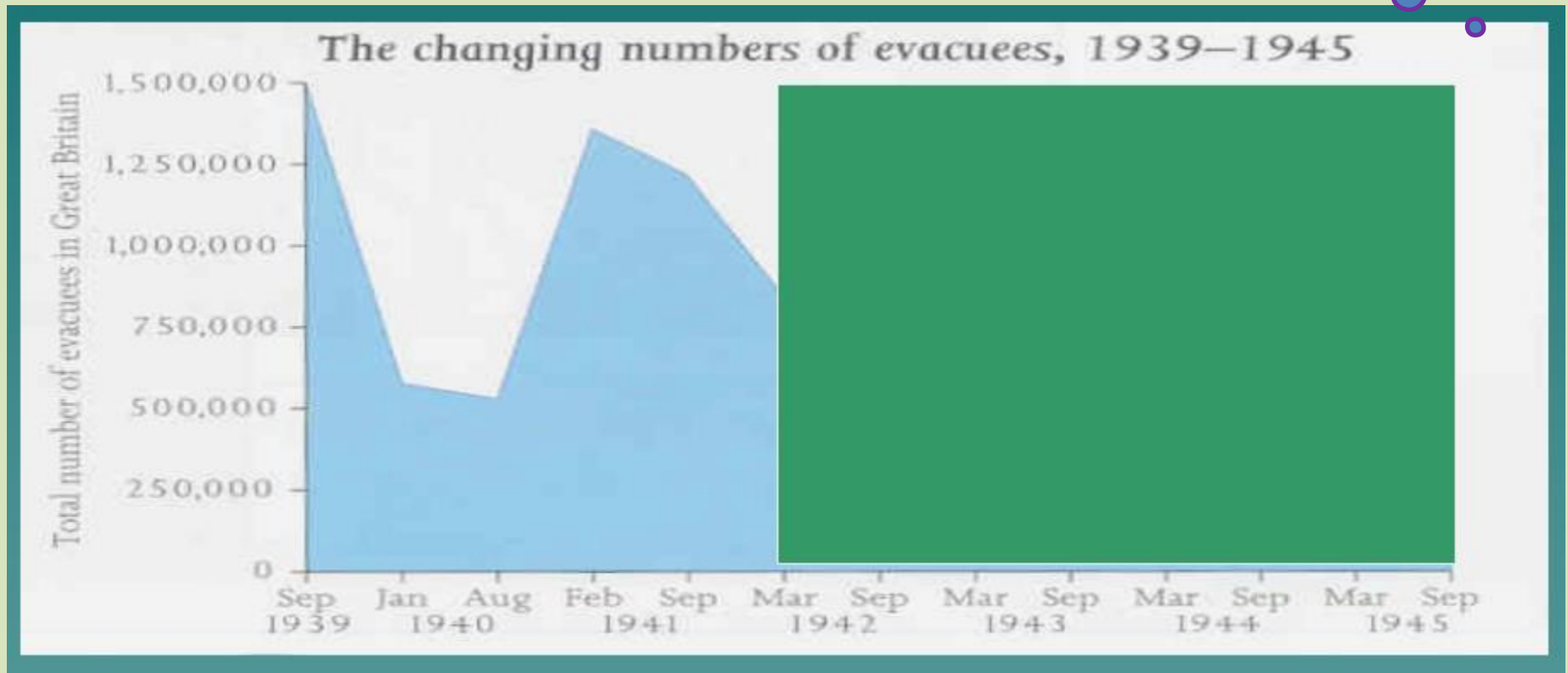
Graph 3

Write your answer in your book or on a piece of paper.



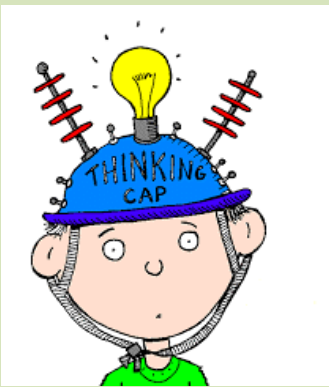


What question would you like to ask?

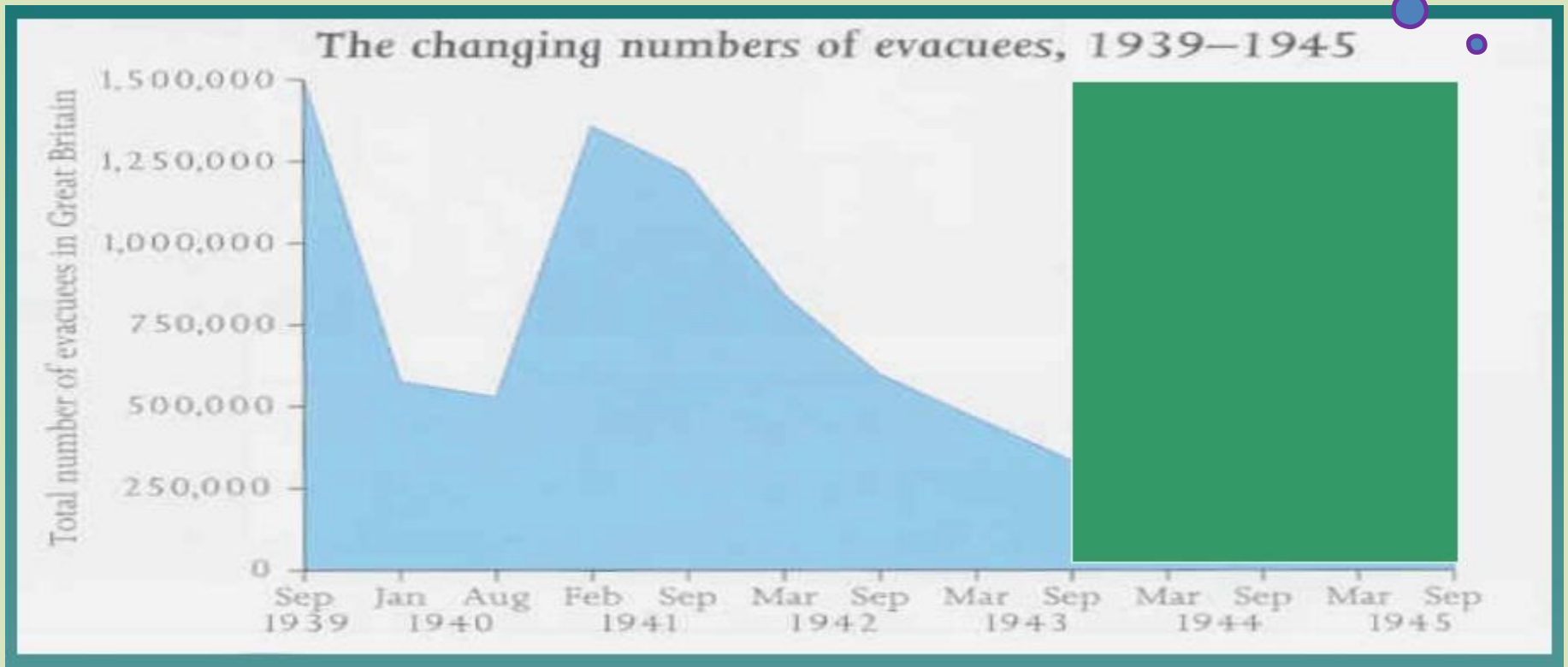


Graph 4

Write your answer in your book or on a piece of paper.

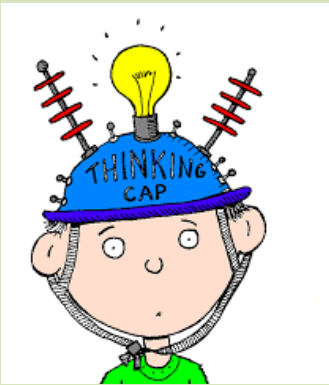


What question would you like to ask?



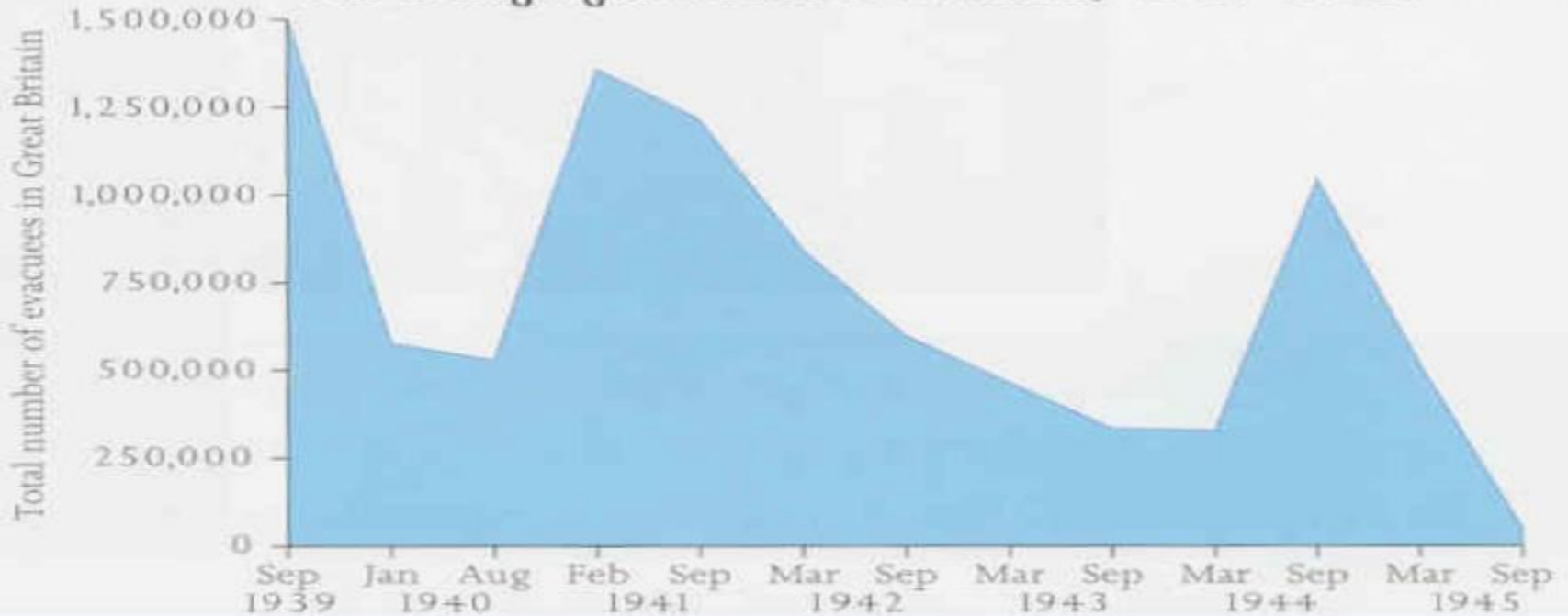
Graph 5

Write your answer in your book or on a piece of paper.



What question would you like to ask?

The changing numbers of evacuees, 1939–1945



Graph 6

Write your answer in your book or on a piece of paper.

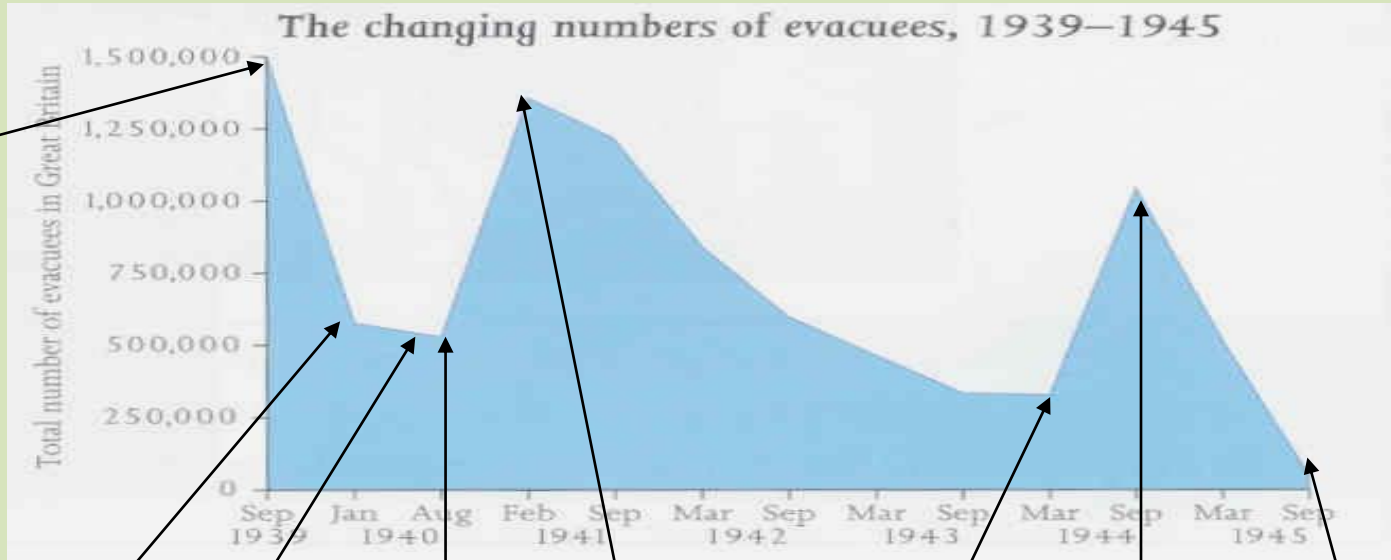
# Questions you could have asked:

## Do you have similar questions?

- Why were so many people evacuated before war even started?
- Why did so many children return to the cities just as the war was starting to warm up?
- What happened in August 1940 – nearly a year after the war started to cause a huge increase in evacuation?
- Why was there a gradual drop between February 1941 and March 1944?
- What event caused a sharp rise between March and September 1944?
- Why was there a sharp decline after September 1945.

Let's try and answer those questions!

# What we have found out!



Memories of gas warfare in WW1 led to the fear of aerial attacks and bombing with poison gas within the first 24 hours of war being declared. Plans to evacuate the cities were already in place.

The Phoney War

France falls to Germany. The British army is rescued from Dunkirk. The Germans are just across the English Channel.

The Blitz – Sept.'40-May '41

The Battle of Britain rages over the South of England

V-1 Flying bombs and V-2 rockets cause much destruction in London.

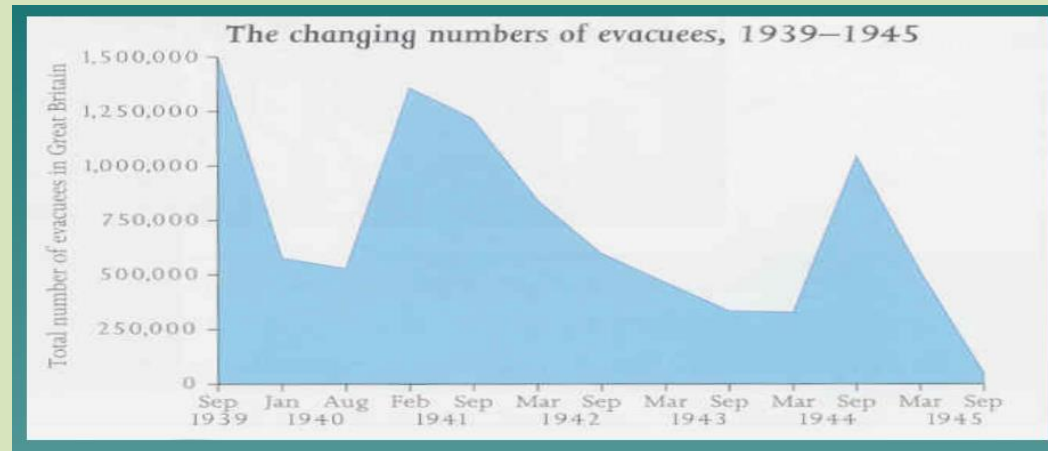
British and Americans invade Northern France and begin to push the German forces back.

8<sup>th</sup> May 1945 - War in Europe ended.

# Where would you place the production of this propaganda poster on this graph?



© Imperial War Museum



**Production** means the process of making something in this case we are talking about the poster.

**Propaganda** means information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote a political cause or point of view.

*We will be learning about propaganda in detail later on.*



Answer

1940

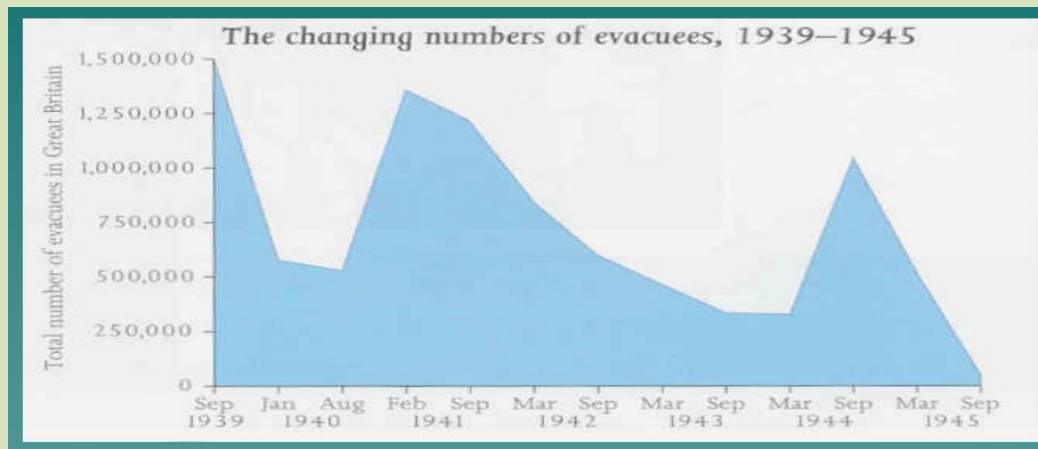


*DON'T do it,  
Mother—*

**LEAVE THE CHILDREN  
WHERE THEY ARE**

ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

© Imperial War Museum



Were you right?



# Why the propaganda poster was produce

- Children were not being evacuated during the Phoney War.
- Instead many children drifted back into the towns.
- Because they drifted back into towns the propaganda poster was produced.
- The government hoped the poster would encourage mothers to keep their children away from the towns and instead evacuate them to the countryside.

Copy the link into your browser to read about the Phoney War.  
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/war/phoneywar.htm>



This picture was also taken in 1940.

If pictures were censored, why was this one released at this time?

**Censor** means examine (a book, film, etc.) officially and cut out or delete unacceptable parts of it.

# Answer

To remind mothers of the danger their children faced if they remained in areas liable to bombing. Evacuation was being encouraged once more.



Were you right?

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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**So now we know!**

We are able to raise historical questions and answer them.