

***Chartwell Bulletin* #87, Churchill Quiz, 2015 Q3.**

There are 24 questions in each Churchill Quiz — four questions in six categories: Contemporaries, Literary matters, Miscellaneous, Personal details, Statesmanship, and War . The easier questions first.

For information on sources, or for any other questions, send an email to the *Chartwell Bulletin Churchill Quiz* editor, Jim Lancaster: jimlydtom@gmail.com

Keyboard shortcuts for viewing options:

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- Press the F9 key to hide the menu-bar
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START OF THE QUIZ

Question 1

Who wrote about his colleagues in February 1942: “All I wanted was compliance with my wishes after reasonable discussion.”?

[See the answer to question 1](#)

[Return to question 1](#)

Answer to Question 1

Winston Churchill
without a hint of parody.

27 February 1942: extract from volume IV of Churchill's *The Second World War* :

My personal authority even seemed to be enhanced by the uncertainties affecting several of my colleagues or would-be colleagues. I did not suffer from any desire to be relieved of my responsibilities. **All I wanted was compliance with my wishes after reasonable discussion.** Misfortunes only brought me and the Chiefs of Staff closer together, and this unity was felt through all the circles of the Government. (page 78 in the Cassell edition, page 89 in the Houghton Mifflin edition)

[Go to question 2](#)

Question 2

In a letter dated April 18, 1955, Churchill wrote: “I regard it as the most direct mark of God’s favour, we have ever received in my long life, that the whole structure of our new-formed Commonwealth has been linked and illuminated by a sparkling presence at its summit.” To whom did he express these sentiments?

[See the answer to question 2](#)

[Return to question 2](#)

Answer to question 2

Queen Elizabeth II



Queen Elizabeth II, leaving 10 Downing Street on 4 April 1955 after the farewell dinner with Sir Winston and his wife Clementine.
(Martin Gilbert *Official Biography* volume VIII, plate 24)

[Go to question 3](#)

Question 3

In which year did Churchill die?

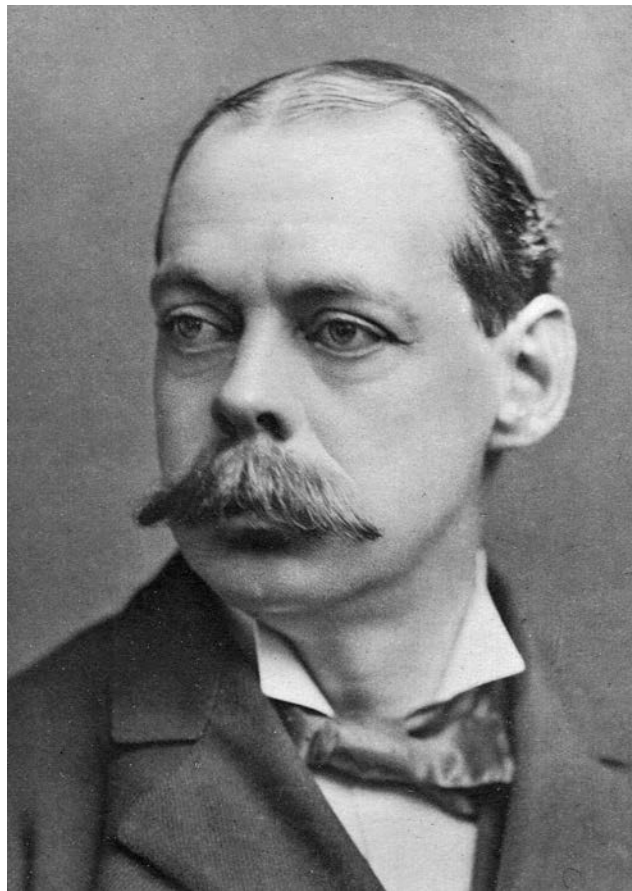
[See the answer to question 3](#)

[Return to question 3](#)

Answer to question 3

He died on 24 January 1965, at the age of 90.

By coincidence, his father died the same day in 1895, at the age of 46.



Extract from page 484 in the second volume of Winston's life of his father (The Macmillan and Co. 1906 edition)

“For a month, at his mother's house, he lingered pitifully, until very early in the morning of January 24 the numbing fingers of paralysis laid that weary brain to rest.”

[Go to question 4](#)

Question 4

Where and when did Churchill first learn about (1) taking a siesta in the afternoon, and about (2) the joys of a handmade cigar?

[See the answer to question 4](#)

[Return to question 4](#)

Answer to question 4

In Cuba in 1895.

Winston sailed, with his friend Lieutenant Reginald Barnes, from Florida on the steamer *Olivette*, arriving in Havana, Cuba, on 20 November 1895 — ten days before Winston's twenty-first birthday. Reporting from Cuba for the *Daily Graphic*, for five guineas a letter, was his first journalistic venture.

Extract from Winston's book *My Early Life* (page 91 in the 1930 first edition, and page 77 in the first American edition *A Roving Commission*, 1941):

The city and harbour of Havana thirty-five years ago presented a spectacle which...was in every respect magnificent.... We took up our quarters in a fairly good hotel, ate a great quantity of oranges, and smoked a number of cigars...

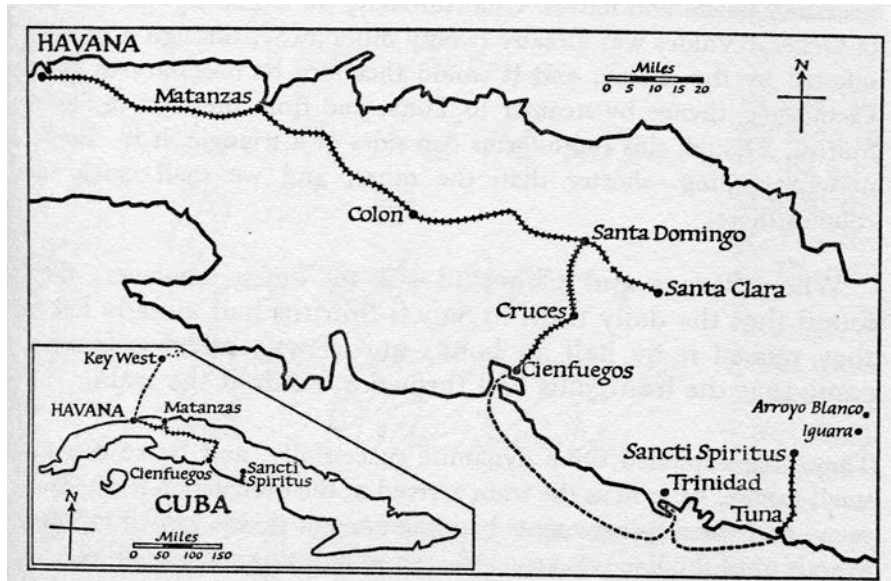
My Early Life, page 94:

We marched about eight miles... fairly open country having been reached, a halt was called for the siesta.... everyone slept in the shade for about four hours.... The rest and the spell of sleep in the middle of the day refresh the human frame far more than a long night...We ought to break our days into two.

When I was at the Admiralty in the War, I found that I could add nearly two hours to my working effort by going to bed for an hour after luncheon.

Extract from Winston's despatch from Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, on November 23, 1895 to the *Daily Graphic*:

Cuba practically monopolizes the entire manufacture of cigars.



Extract from Winston's despatch from Tampa, Florida on December 18, 1895:

It may be that future years will see a Cuba free and prosperous, throwing open her ports to the commerce of the world, sending her ponies to Hurlingham,... exchanging the cigars of Havana for the cottons of Lancashire... At least, let us hope so.

[Go to question 5](#)

Question 5

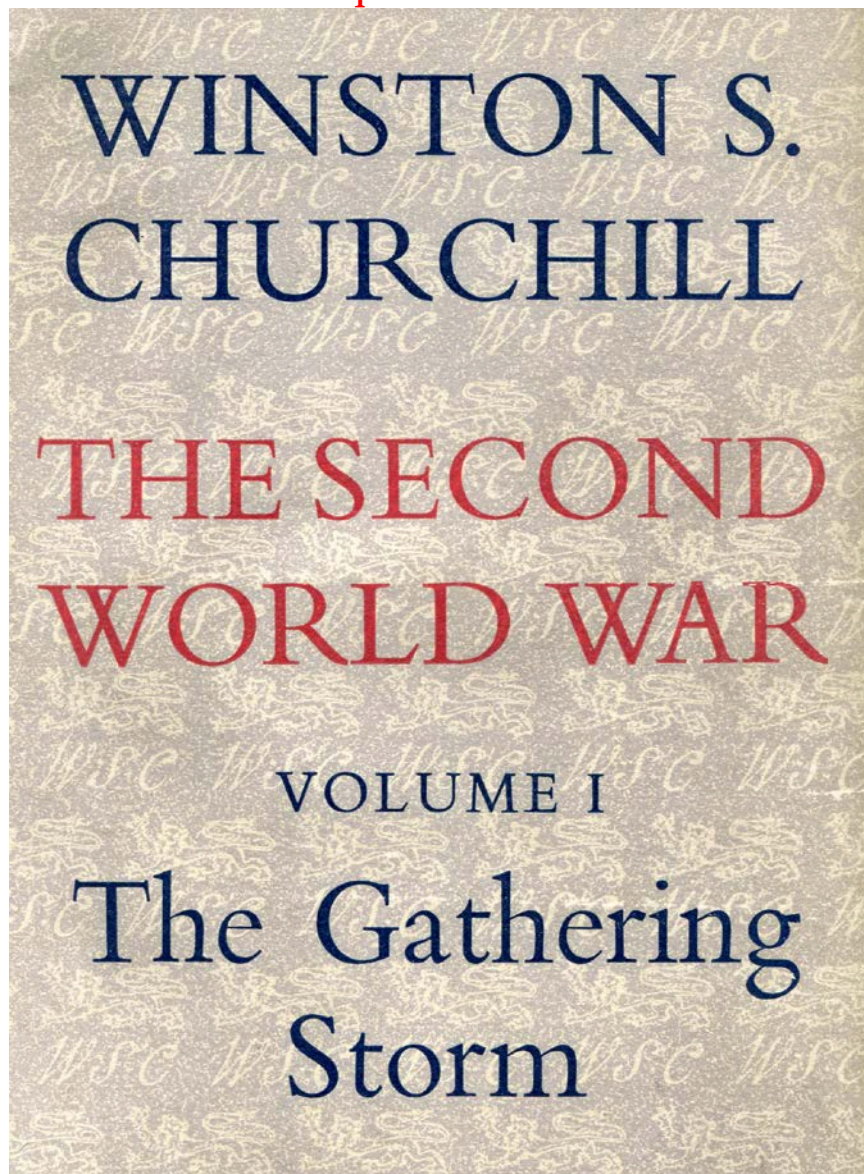
As I went to bed at about 3 a.m. [the morning of May 10, 1940], I was conscious of a profound sense of relief. At last I had the authority to give directions over the whole scene. I felt as if I were walking with destiny, and that all my past life had been but a preparation for this hour and for this trial.

These well-known sentiments are at the end of which of Churchill's books?

[See the answer for question 5](#)

[\[Return to question 5\]](#)

Answer for question 5



Churchill's *The Second World War* volume 1,
pages 526-7 in the Cassell edition,
page 667 in the Houghton Mifflin edition

[Go to question 6](#)

On which occasion did Churchill address the crowds from the balcony of the Ministry of Health building in Whitehall with these words: “God bless you all. This is your victory” the crowd roared back: “No — it is yours”. Churchill continued: “It is the victory of the cause of freedom in every land. In all our long history we have never seen a greater day than this. Everyone, man or woman, has done their best. Everyone has tried. Neither the long years, nor the dangers, nor the fierce attacks of the enemy, have in any way weakened the independent resolve of the British nation. God bless you all.”

[Return to question 5](#)

Answer to question 5



Winston Churchill addressing the crowds in Whitehall on VE-Day
(Victory in Europe Day, May 8, 1945)

(editorial note: page 185 in Elizabeth Longford's book *Winston Churchill*)

Question 6

He was slim, slightly reddish-haired, pale, lively, frequently plunging along the deck with neck out-thrust.

Who was the *Manchester Guardian*'s correspondent writing about in 1899?

The answer to question 6

[Return to question 6](#)

The answer to question 6

Winston Churchill,

fellow journalist and adventurer.

(source: J. B. Atkins *Incidents and Reflections* pages 121-125, London 1947. J. B. Atkins (John Black Atkins, an English journalist who fought with the American army in Cuba in 1895, and reported from South Africa in 1899)

(extract from his book *Incidents and Reflections*, page 122

In October 1899, C. P. Scott (editorial note: the venerable Charles Prestwich Scott, editor of the *Manchester Guardian*, 1872-1924, and its owner from 1907 until his death in 1932.) asked me to go to South Africa, the Boer War having already opened with small preliminaries. I sailed in the ship which carried Sir Redvers Buller and his staff. (editorial note: Sir Redvers Buller VC, 1839-1908, was Commander of the Natal Field Force on the outbreak of the Second Boer War)...

I had not been many hours on board (the RMS *Dunottar Castle*) before I became aware of a most unusual young man. He was slim, slightly reddish-haired, pale, lively, frequently plunging along the deck 'with neck out-thrust', sometimes

sitting in meditation... not nervously but as though helping himself to untie mental knots. Soon we conversed... It was obvious that he was in love with words. He would hesitate sometimes before he chose one, or would change one for a better...

He told me that the *Morning Post* had given a good deal of space to his speeches, and had even allowed him to visit the office to revise proofs. On one occasion the Editor of the *Morning Post* was surprised when the young man struck out 'Cheers', and substituted 'Loud and prolonged applause'...



Winston Churchill in 1899.

(J. B. Atkins *Incidents and Reflections*, facing page 122)

[Go to question 7](#)

Question 7

Munich 1932. Churchill's advice to Ernst Hanfstaengel, the son of a leading Munich art dealer.

“Tell your boss from me that anti-Semitism may be a good starter, but it is a bad sticker”.

Who was Hanfstaengel's boss?

[See the answer to question 7](#)

[Go to question 8](#)

[Return to question 7](#)

Answer to question 7

Adolf Hitler

The full extract from Martin Gilbert's volume V of the Official Biography, page 448: Hanfstaengel recalled:

We sat down about ten for dinner, with myself on Mrs Churchill's right and my host on the other side. We talked about this and that, and then Mr Churchill taxed me about Hitler's anti-Semitic views. I tried to give as mild an account of the subject as I could, saying that the real problem was the influx of eastern European Jews and the excessive representation of their co-religionists in the professions, to which Churchill listened very carefully, commenting: **"Tell your boss from me that anti-semitism may be a good starter, but it is a bad sticker."**

[Go to question 8](#)

Question 8

What was Churchill referring to when he said on 26 July 1945

“I won the race — and now they have warned me off the turf”?

[See the answer to question 8](#)

[Return to question 8](#)

Answer to question 8

Churchill's defeat in the July 1945 General Election.

Excerpt from volume VI of Churchill's *The Second World War* page 583, and page 675 in the Houghton Mifflin edition:

By noon [on July 26] it was clear to me that the Socialists would have a majority. At luncheon my wife said to me: "It may well be a blessing in disguise." I replied: "At the moment it seems quite effectively disguised."

Churchill's wife Clementine was entirely correct. Churchill's defeat in the July 1945 election made it possible for him to write the six volumes of his memoirs of *The Second World War*. The final volume was published in September 1953. In October 1953 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.



Churchill proofing his Second World War Memoirs.

[Go to question 9](#)

Question 9

In which decade did Churchill write about the Secret Service in a magazine article :

In the higher ranges of Secret Service work the actual facts, in many cases, were in every respect equal to the most fantastic inventions of romance or melodrama. Tangle within tangle, plot and counter-plot, ruse and treachery, cross and double-cross, true agent, false agent, double agent, gold and steel, the bomb, the dagger and the firing party were interwoven in many a texture so intricate as to be incredible and yet true. The Chief and the high officers of the Secret Service revelled in these subterranean labyrinths, and amid the crash of war pursued their task with cold and silent passion.?

[See the answer to question 9](#)

[Return to question 9](#)

Answer to question 9

In the 1920s

Winston's article *My Spy Story* was first published in the September 1924 edition of *Cosmopolitan* magazine.

It was subsequently reprinted in *Thoughts and Adventures* (*Amid These Storms* in America)

[Go to question 10](#)

Question 10

For several months in 1938, while writing volume IV of *Marlborough*, Winston was working on another big book project.

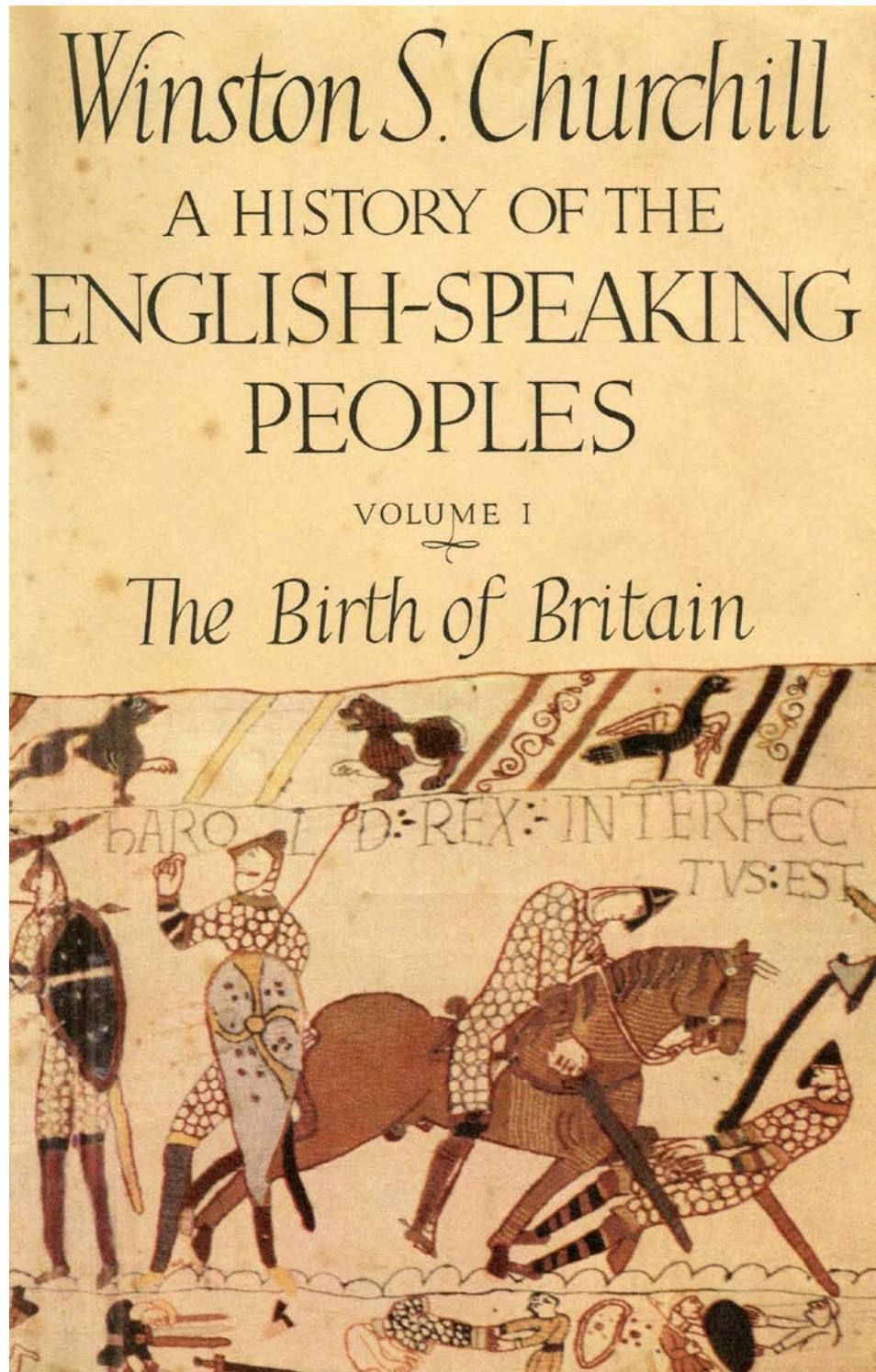
What was it?

[See the answer to question 10](#)

[Return to question 10](#)

Answer to question 10

A History of the English-Speaking Peoples



On July 10 1938 Winston wrote to his friend, the Oxford historian Keith Feiling:

I have definitely plunged into the 'English-Speaking Peoples', and am now rollicking with the 'Pitdown Man', Cassivalanus, Julius Caesar, the Scribe Gildas, the Venerable Bede and other hoary figures. How to make anything out of this that is (a) readable, (b) original, (c) valuable and (d) true, is known only to the presiding genius of Britain who has not yet imparted his secrets to Yours most sincerely, Winston S. Churchill

(Martin Gilbert *Official Biography* volume V, page 959)

[Go to question 11](#)

Question 11

On which occasion did Churchill address the crowds from the balcony of the Ministry of Health building in Whitehall with these words: “God bless you all. This is your victory” the crowd roared back: “**No — it is Yours**”.

Churchill continued: “It is the victory of the cause of freedom in every land. In all our long history we have never seen a greater day than this. Everyone, man or woman, has done their best. Everyone has tried. Neither the long years, nor the dangers, nor the fierce attacks of the enemy, have in any way weakened the independent resolve of the British nation. God bless you all.”

[See the answer to question 11](#)

[Return to question 11](#)

Answer to question 11

VE-Day May 8 1945



Churchill on the balcony of the Ministry of Health building
VE-Day May 8, 1945.

[Go to question 12](#)

Question 12

To whom did Churchill refer, in his tribute in the House of Commons on 12 November 1940 ?

History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days... Whatever else history may or may not say about these terrible, tremendous years, we can be sure that he acted with perfect sincerity according to his lights, and strove to the utmost of his capacity and authority, which were powerful, to save the world from the awful, devastating struggle in which we are now engaged.

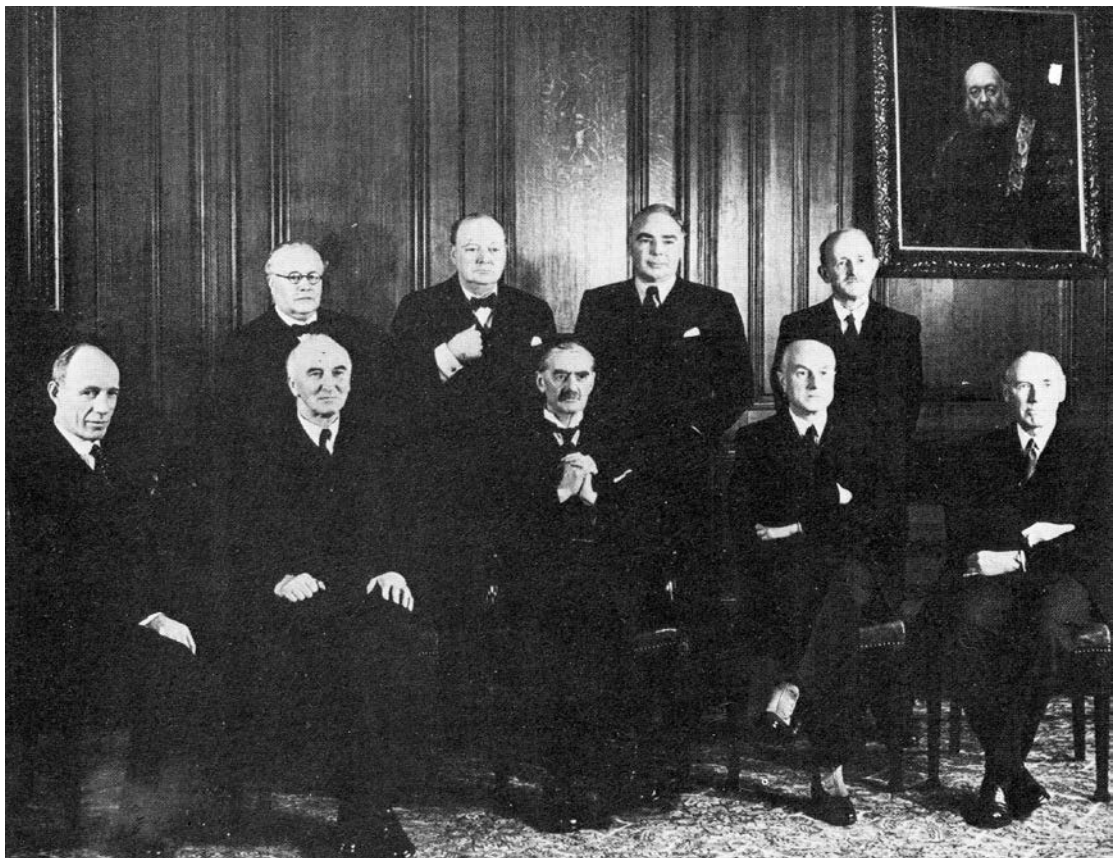
[See the answer to question 12](#)

[Return to question 12](#)

Answer to question 12

Neville Chamberlain,

The former Prime Minister,
who had died a few days before, on November 7, 1940



A photograph of the War Cabinet taken on 8 November 1939
(Martin Gilbert *Churchill A Photographic Portrait*, plate 234)

[Go to question 13](#)

Question 13

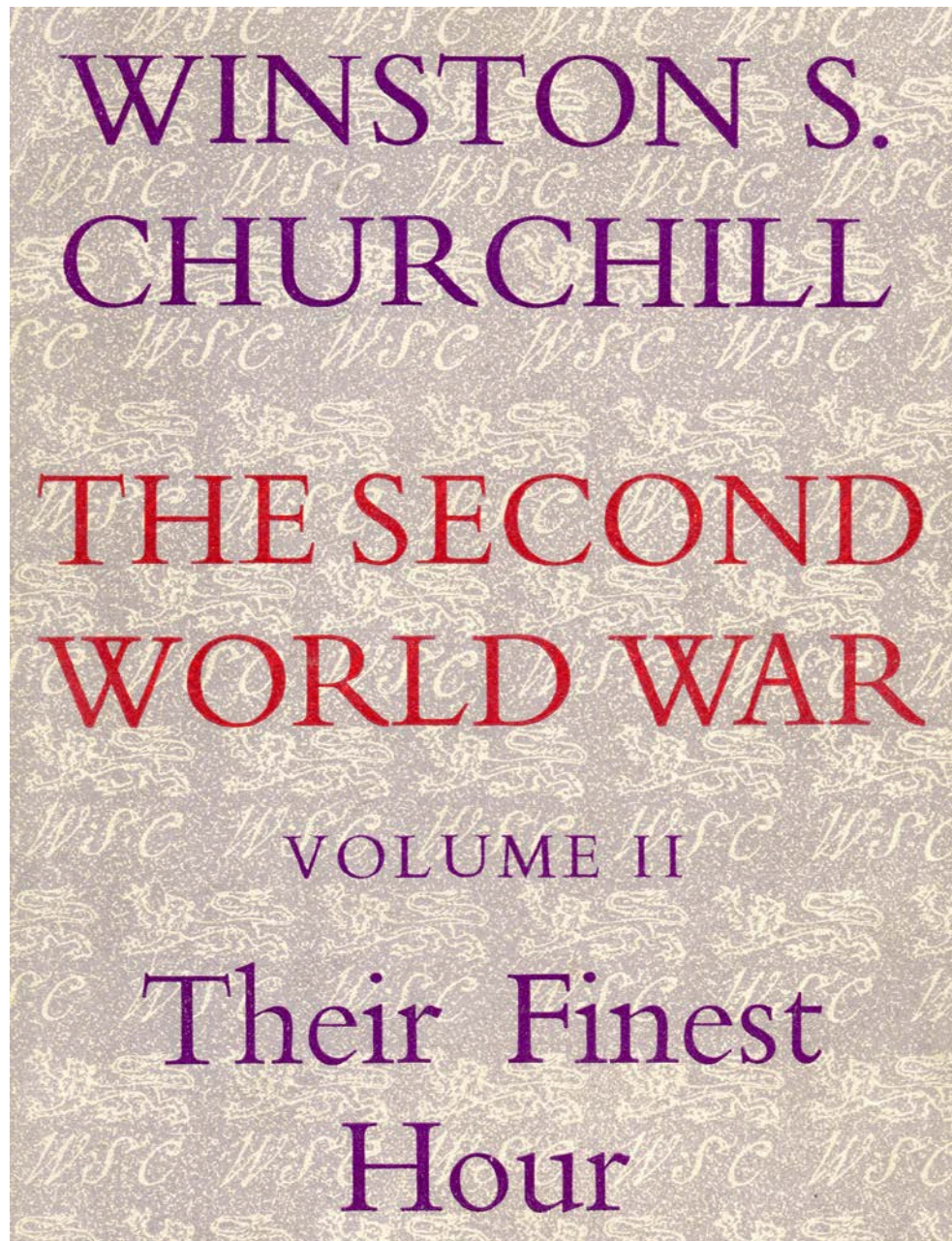
‘HOW THE BRITISH PEOPLE
HELD THE FORT
ALONE
TILL THOSE WHO HITHERTO HAD
BEEN HALF BLIND
WERE HALF READY’

is the theme of which volume of Churchill’s 6-vol *The Second World War*?

[See the answer to question 13](#)

[Return to question 13](#)

Answer to question 13
Volume II *Their Finest Hour*



[Go to question 14](#)

Question 14

Where was Winston on his 21st birthday [30 November 1895] when

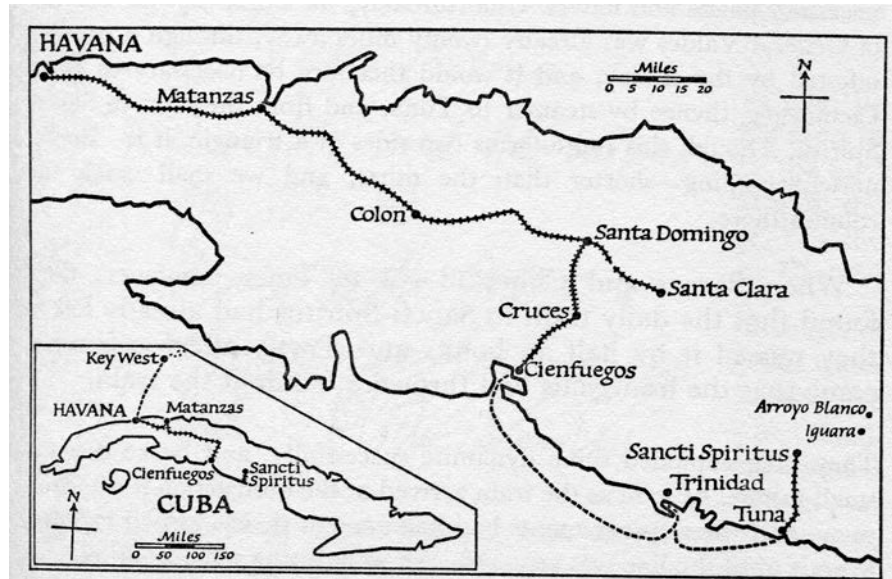
‘For the first time I heard shots fired in anger, and
heard bullets strike flesh or whistle through the air.?’

[See the answer to question 14](#)

[Return to question 14](#)

Answer to question 14

In the fortified village of Arroyo Blanco in Cuba
(North East of Sancti Spiritus)



[Go to question 15](#)

Question 15

Whose death did Churchill describe in 1935 with these words?:

He was an archæologist as well as a man of action. He was an accomplished scholar as well as an Arab partisan...(from Churchill's article in *Great Contemporaries*, first published on May 26, 1935 in the *News of the World*.)



[See the answer to question 15](#)

[Return to question 15](#)

Answer to question 15

T. E. Lawrence — Lawrence of Arabia
(Thomas Edward Lawrence, 1888-1935)

Excerpt from Churchill's tribute:

I always felt that he was a man who held himself ready for a new call.

It was not to be. The summons which reached him, and for which he was equally prepared, was of a different order. It came as he would have wished it, swift and sudden on the wings of Speed. (editorial note: Lawrence was killed in an accident involving his Brough Superior motorcycle in Dorset in May 1935). He had reached the last leap in his gallant course through life: (editorial note: Churchill ended his tribute by quoting the following lines from Adam Lindsay Gordon's poem *The Last Leap*)

All is over! Fleet career,
Dash of greyhound slipping thongs,
Flight of falcon, bound of deer,
Mad hoof-thunder in our rear,
Cold air rushing up our lungs,
Din of many tongues.

The first verse of *The Last Leap* by Adam Lindsay Gordon, the Australian poet, jockey and politician (1833-1870)

[Go to question 16](#)

Question 16

Churchill in the House of Commons on a Vote of Confidence on 27 January 1942 (editorial note: the Vote was carried 464 votes to 1):

When we parted he wrung my hand, saying, “We will fight this through to the bitter end, whatever the cost may be.”

Who gave Churchill this assurance?

[See the answer to question 16](#)

[Return to question 16](#)

Answer to question 16

President Roosevelt

The President's remark to Churchill when Winston left Washington for London on January 14, 1942. The first part of the journey was in a BOAC Boeing 314 Clipper, the 'Berwick', from Norfolk, Virginia to Bermuda. Churchill decided to return in the Boeing all the way to England.

The Boeing reached Plymouth after a flight of 17 hours and 35 minutes; distance covered: 3,363 miles. From Plymouth, Churchill sent a cable to the President: "We got here with a good hop from Bermuda and a thirty-mile wind." (Churchill's *The Second World War* volume III pages 628-9)



Plate 4 in Martin Gilbert's *Official Biography* volume VII
([Good web page](#) with more details about the flight)

[Go to question 17](#)

Question 17

About which occasion did Churchill write in volume II of his memoirs of The Second World War:

There was a white glow, overpowering, sublime, which ran through our Island from end to end.?

[See the answer to question 17](#)

[Return to question 17](#)

Answer to question 17

The Deliverance of Dunkirk, May 26 - June 4, 1940.

Excerpt from volume II of Churchill's war memoirs, Chapter V *The Deliverance of Dunkirk*, page 88

I thought it right to have a meeting in my room at the House of Commons of all Ministers of Cabinet Rank other than the War Cabinet members. We were perhaps twenty-five around the table. I described the course of events...Then I said quite casually: "Of course, whatever happens at Dunkirk, we shall fight on."

There occurred a demonstration which...surprised me. Quite a number seemed to jump up from the table and come running to my chair...There is no doubt that had I, at this juncture, faltered at all in the leading of the nation I should have been hurled out of office.

I was sure that every Minister was ready to be killed quite soon, and have all his family and possessions destroyed, rather than give in... It fell to me in these coming days and months to express their sentiments on suitable occasions.

This I was able to do because they were mine also. **There was a white glow, overpowering, sublime, which ran through our Island from end to end.**

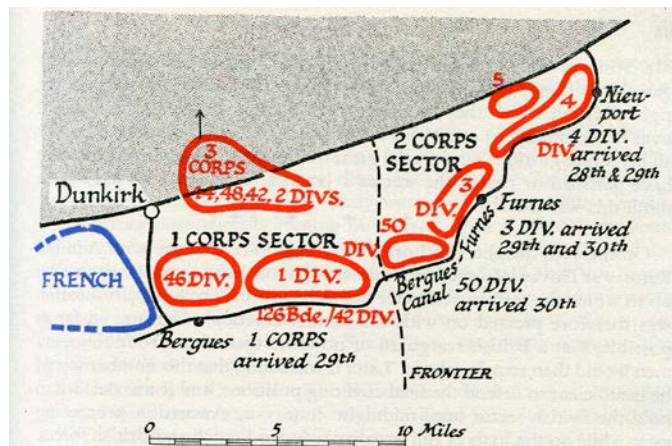


Diagram of DUNKIRK PERIMETER 29 & 30 May

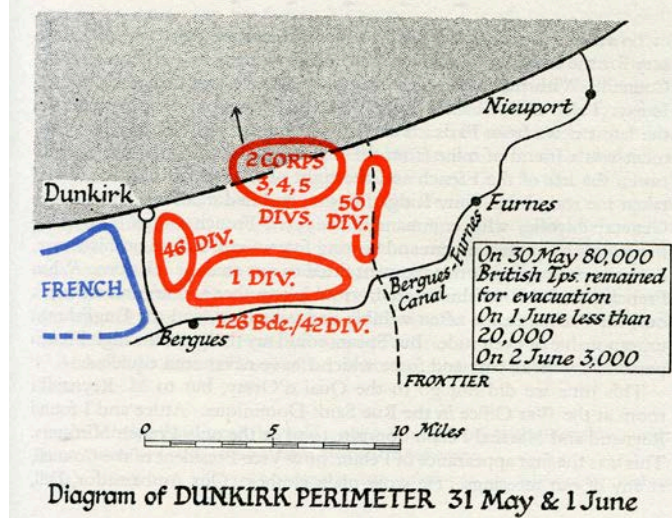


Diagram of DUNKIRK PERIMETER 31 May & 1 June

[Go to question 18](#)

Question 18

How old was Churchill when he wrote of the Pharisees in his essay *Palestine in the time of John the Baptist*. 'Their faults are many. Whose faults are few?'

[See the answer to question 18](#)

[Return to question 18](#)

Answer to question 18

Thirteen years old.

He wrote this remarkable essay on 26 May 1888, while he was at Harrow.



Winston is on the left leaning against the ladder
(editorial note: This essay is reprinted unabridged in the
Official Biography Companion Volume 1, Part 1, pages. 164-5.)

[Go to question 19](#)

Question 19

In *My Early Life* (*A Roving Commission* in America) Winston wrote:

I could not contemplate toiling at Greek irregular verbs after having commanded British regular troops; so, after much pondering, I had, to my keen regret, to put the plan aside.

What plan did he put aside?

[See the answer to question 19](#)

[Return to question 19](#)

Answer to question 19

To sit the Oxford University Entrance Examination

(editorial note: *My Early Life*, page 217 in the first edition.
A Roving Commission, the Charles Scribner's Sons 1941 edition, page 203)

[Go to question 20](#)

Question 20

In which decade did Winston write

My marriage was much the most joyous and fortunate event which happened to me in the whole of my life.?

[See the answer to question 20](#)

[Return to question 20](#)

Answer to question 20

The 1930s

(editorial note: The Centenary Edition of *The Collected Essays of Sir Winston Churchill*, volume III, page 176)

[Go to question 21](#)



[Go to question 21](#)

Question 21

Churchill ended his broadcast on September 30, 1940, with these words:

Be of good cheer. 'The hour of your deliverance will come. The soul of freedom is deathless; it cannot, and will not, perish.'

This message of good cheer was addressed to the people of which country?

[See the answer to question 21](#)

[Return to question 21](#)

Answer to question 21

To the People of Czechoslovakia.

(editorial note: Robert Rhodes James
Winston S. Churchill, His Complete Speeches
Volume VI, page 6284)

[Go to question 22](#)

Winston S. Churchill
A HISTORY OF THE
ENGLISH-SPEAKING
PEOPLES

VOLUME IV

The Great Democracies



Question 22

In which year did Churchill include these words in a world broadcast?

Here at the gateway of Canada, in mighty lands which have never known the totalitarian tyrannies of Hitler and Mussolini, the spirit of freedom has found a safe and abiding home.

Here that spirit is no wandering phantom. It is enshrined in Parliamentary institutions based on universal suffrage and evolved through the centuries by the English-speaking peoples.

[See the answer to question 22](#)

[Return to question 22](#)

Answer to question 22

1943

August 31, 1943, at the end of the Quadrant Conference in Quebec



Onwards to Victory, facing page 183.
(editorial note: on the Terrace of the Citadel, Quebec)

[Go to question 23](#)

Question 23

The first volume of Churchill's war speeches was published by Cassell in 1941 with the title *Into Battle*.

The title *Into Battle* was inspired by the poem *Into Battle* written by Julian Grenfell (1888-1915) when he was based on the front in Ypres. On 13 May 1915 Grenfell was wounded by a shell splinter while monitoring enemy troop movements. He died on May 26. When *The Times* published the announcement of his death, it also published all nine verses of his poem *Into Battle*.

When Churchill's son Randolph compiled the first volume of war speeches *Into Battle*, the second verse of Grenfell's poem was printed on the frontispiece:

*The fighting man shall from the sun
Take warmth, and life from the glowing earth;
Speed with the light-foot winds to run,
And with the trees to newer birth;
And find, when fighting shall be done,
Great rest, and fullness after dearth.*

What was the title when the first volume of Churchill's war speeches was published in America and Canada?

[See the answer to question 23](#)

[Return to question 23](#)

Answer to question 23

Blood, Sweat and Tears

This title was inspired by the well-known words which Churchill used in his first speech in the House of Commons as Prime Minister, on 13 May 1940:

“I would say to the House, as I said to those who have joined this Government: ‘I have nothing to offer, but blood, toil, tears and sweat.’”

[Go to question 24](#)

Question 24

In which decade did Churchill tell the House of Commons:

“It may well be that we shall, by a process of sublime irony, have reached a stage in this story [the development of the hydrogen bomb] where safety will be the sturdy child of terror, and survival the twin brother of annihilation.”?

[See the answer to question 24](#)

[Return to question 24](#)

Answer to question 24

The 1950s

Churchill's speech on Defence in the House of Commons
on 1 March 1955. (*The Unwritten Alliance* page. 230)

END OF THE QUIZ

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