**Fall of France Reading Questions**

Read the web page below and answer the following questions:

[Fall of France Reading - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/modern-history/mod-fall-of-france-reading/)

1. On which date did Germany invade Poland, marking the beginning of World War II?
2. What was the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) sent to do in the winter of 1939-40?
3. What name was given to the period when there was no fighting during the winter of 1939-40?
4. Why were the German forces not fighting against the Allies during late 1939 and early 1940?
5. Which two countries did Germany invade in the spring of 1940?
6. What was Hitler's reaction when Britain and France declared war in September 1939?
7. What is the meaning of the term "Blitzkrieg"?
8. What was the primary purpose of the Blitzkrieg strategy?
9. Name the two main defensive structures along France's border with Germany that the Allies relied upon.
10. On which date did the German army launch their attack into the Netherlands and Belgium?
11. What strategic movement did the Germans use to surround the Allied forces?
12. By which date had all the French and Belgian ports, except Dunkirk, been captured by the Germans?
13. What was the name of the operation to evacuate the BEF and the French army from Dunkirk?
14. Who coordinated 'Operation Dynamo'?
15. How many British and Allied troops were successfully evacuated to England by the end of 'Operation Dynamo'?
16. What is the significance of 'Operation Dynamo' in wartime history?
17. What was the consequence of the successful evacuation at Dunkirk for the defense of France?
18. On which date did Paris fall to the German forces?
19. When did France formally surrender to Hitler?
20. Where was the new French government, that had to follow German orders, based after the surrender?

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you learnt in your reading, answer the following question in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*What were the important events that led to the German conquest of France?*