Session 1

During the first reading session, you need to read the discursive text on evacuation during WWII. Read it carefully, underlining any words you are not sure about. Read it again, aloud, thinking about the tone of the text and taking note of the punctuation. Complete the vocabulary work, using a dictionary or looking the words up online, along with any other words you were not sure about.

How to share your work:

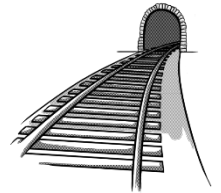- Type your responses **directly** into this document.

Once you've completed the work, submit your work to Google Classroom following this set of instructions:

1. Go to classroom.google.com
2. Click the class - Classwork - the assignment.
3. To attach an item, click 'Add or create' and select 'Google Drive', 'Link' or 'File' depending on what type of file you have created.
4. The status of your work will change to 'Turned in'.

In the late 1930s, there was a growing realisation that war was coming. Nazi Germany, led by Adolf Hitler, had been acting aggressively and there was fear across the UK that this country would get caught up in the conflict. Along with a threat of invasion came a new danger. Aircraft had been developing rapidly over the first four decades of the twentieth century and there were now bombers capable of reaching cities deep inside enemy territory.

Anxious for the fate of its citizens, the British Government launched Operation Pied Piper on the 1st September 1939 - two days before war broke out. Hundreds of thousands of children were assembled with only a handful of possessions and loaded onto trains and buses and evacuated into the countryside. Within the first few days of this extraordinary undertaking, over one and a half million children had been evacuated. The question is, was it the right thing to do?

The authorities certainly believed it was necessary. Any Government has a duty to safeguard its people and the first thing you can do for those at risk is to remove them from danger. No one would have claimed that removing children from their parents would be painless, but they had to consider the bigger picture.

Nor could anyone say that the Government was crying wolf. Most of the country's major cities were, indeed, attacked by waves of bombers, night after night. Some areas, such as Coventry and the East End of London, were absolutely devastated with thousands of people losing their lives. No matter what hardships the evacuees might have faced, at least they were spared the main horrors of war. Some even enjoyed it and gained probably their first experience of living in the countryside.

On the other hand, you might wonder whether this ambitious plan was properly thought through. Physical injuries are often obvious but some scars cannot be seen and we are only just beginning to appreciate the damage that can be caused by separation. What's more, it wasn't just the children who suffered: the parents also hated seeing their little ones being taken away.

Furthermore, there wasn't time to assess whether they were being sent to suitable homes with caring, sympathetic people. It is clear that some of those who were told to accept the evacuees really did not want their lives disrupted by the arrival of strange children so we can imagine how awkward it might have been.

We can all be wise in hindsight. In the end, most of the children were safely reunited with their families as the threat of German invasion faded. Some, however, returned to find that their parents had perished and their communities had been destroyed. Was it worth the pain? More importantly, if we ever find ourselves in a similar situation, should we attempt another programme of widespread evacuation?

Session 1 - Vocabulary Work

Look up each of the words in the grids below and write a definition which makes sense to you.
Then try to find both a synonym and antonym for the word. Sometimes there is no exact word,
so use a couple to try to get the meaning. Finally, write the word in a sentence, remembering
to punctuate it properly.

word	aggressively
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	conflict
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	invasion
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	assembled
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	undertaking
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	ambitious
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	sympathetic
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.

word	hindsight
definition	Click or tap here to enter text.
synonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
antonym	Click or tap here to enter text.
sentence	Click or tap here to enter text.