



AN ABC OF D-DAY

A Teacher resource
by Tom Dykes
(C) 2015

ABC OF D-DAY

CONTENTS

THE ABCS OF D-DAY

ABC FOCUS POINTS

CANADIAN VETERANS POEM

D-DAY DIARY

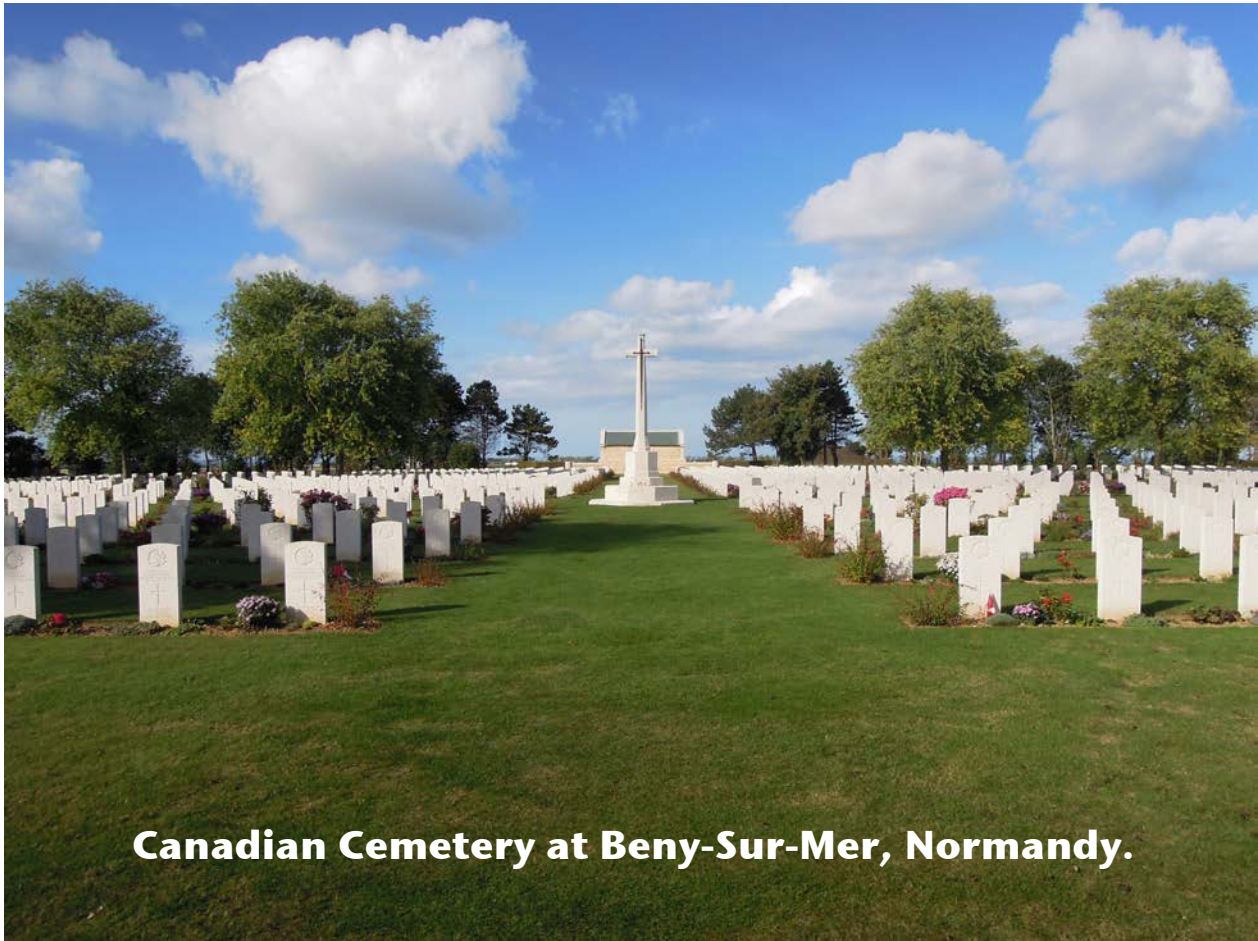
JUST-A-MINUTE

AN ABC OF D-DAY

A CLASS RESOURCE



ABC OF D-DAY



Canadian Cemetery at Beny-Sur-Mer, Normandy.

The Primary aim of the ABC series relating to WWI and WWII is to provide a study vehicle or guide that invites each student to undertake research of ONE element of the theme. This individual work will then combine with the research done by other class members thus producing a student researched introduction to the overall study.

This individual/class undertaking can serve as an introduction or wrap-up to the specific unit.

The study topics also lend themselves for use as assigned in-depth research units.
Tom Dykes, 2015

Presentation of research can vary

**Multi-discipline
Display Board
Poster
Models
Illustrated Poetry
Statistical Analysis**

ABC OF D-DAY



UTAH Beach



Pointe du Hoc



OMAHA Beach



GOLD Beach



JUNO Beach



SWORD Beach



Ste. Mere Eglise



Mulberry on Gold Beach



Guns at Longues-sur-Mer



Pegasus Bridge



German La Cambe



American Colleville-sur-Mer,



British Bayeux



Canadian Bény-sur-Mer

ABC OF D-DAY

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THE ABCS OF D-DAY

THE ABC FOCUS POINTS

JUST A MINUTE

ABC OF D-DAY

A is for ALLIES

American, British, Canadian, Free-French.

B for BOCAGE

Hedgerows that helped German defence.

C is for CAEN

Capital city, battered and bloodied by war

D for D-DAY

Start of France's Liberation, June 6, 1944

E is for EISENHOWER

Supreme Commander, to 'Go' was his call.

F for FESTUNG EUROPA

Germany's fortress; a fortified Atlantic Wall.

G is for GOLD

A beach the British attack.

H for the HORSAS

Glider, silent on track..

I is for INVASION

Overlord, a Great Crusade.

J for JUNO

Landings the Canadians made.

K is for KRIEGSMARINE

the Allied Armada got by.

L for the LUFTWAFFE

Swept from the sky.

M is for MULBERRY

Man made harbour, towed.

N is for NEPTUNE

the Armada's name, a code.

O is for OMAHA

A 'Bloody' American Beach.

P for the PARATROOPS

The Allied Airborne reach.

Q is for the QUESTION

"When do we Go?"

R for ROMMEL

German Field Marshall, the Allies old Foe.

S is for SWORD

A Beach under British control.

T for the TANKS

Some called 'Funnies' played a role.

U is for UTAH

On Cotentin, another American beach

V for V1 and V2

Weapons of revenge, Hitler's final reach.

W is for WEATHER

What will meteorologists say?

X in eXpectations

on that decisive day.

Y is for YOUNG,

those men who fought and died.

Z for the ZEAL

of all who committed and tried.

ABC OF D-DAY

A IS FOR **ALLIES**

AMERICAN, BRITISH, CANADIAN, FREE-FRENCH.



W5

WHO were the principal planners of D-Day?

WHAT were the major obstacles they faced?

WHERE was the Headquarters of this team?

WHEN did planning begin?

WHY were there some disagreements about the preparations?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

B FOR **B**OCAGE

**HEDGEROWS THAT HELPED GERMAN
DEFENCE.**



W5

WHO constructed the Bocage?

WHAT was the original function of the Bocage?

WHERE was the Bocage mostly located?

WHEN was this structure first constructed?

WHY did it pose such a problem to the Allies?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

C IS FOR **CAEN**

**CAPITAL CITY, BATTERED AND
BLOODIED BY WAR**



W5

WHO decided on Caen as an objective?

WHAT was the original plan?

WHERE is Caen located relative to the Beaches?

WHY was Caen so important to the Allies?

WHEN was Caen finally captured by the Allies?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

D FOR **D**-DAY

**START OF FRANCE'S LIBERATION,
JUNE 6, 1944**



W5

WHO participated in the D-Day landings?

WHAT was the first objective of D-Day?

WHERE did the landings take place?

WHY was this invasion so important?

WHEN did they take place?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

E IS FOR **EISENHOWER**

SUPREME COMMANDER, TO 'GO' WAS HIS CALL.



W5

WHO was General Eisenhower?

WHAT was his role in D-Day?

WHERE was his HQ?

WHEN did the D-Day planning start?

WHY was Eisenhower chosen to be the Supreme Commander?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

F FOR **F**ESTUNG EUROPA

**GERMANY'S FORTRESS; A FORTIFIED
ATLANTIC WALL.**



W5

WHO was responsible for building 'Festung Europa'?

WHAT was the function of 'Festung Europa'?

WHERE was 'Festung Europa' located?

WHEN was construction started?

WHY was it necessary?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

G IS FOR **G**OLD

A BEACH THE BRITISH ATTACK.



W5

WHO were the defenders of Gold Beach?

WHAT British Division landed at Gold?

WHERE was Gold Beach located in the plan?

WHEN did the British troops land?

WHY was Gold Beach chosen?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

H FOR THE **H**ORSA

GLIDER, SILENT ON TRACK..



W5

WHO landed in the Horsas?

WHAT was the objective?

WHERE was the landing zone?

WHEN did they land?

WHY were Horsas used?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

I IS FOR **I**NVASION

OVERLORD, A GREAT CRUSADE.



W5

WHO created the code name Overlord?

WHAT was the total force?

WHERE was the HQ of Overlord?

WHEN was the planning started?

WHY were code names used?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

J FOR **J**UNO

LANDINGS THE CANADIANS MADE.



W5

WHO commanded the Canadians?

WHAT division landed?

WHERE did they land?

WHEN did they land?

WHY did they land late?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

K IS FOR **K**RIEGSMARINE
THE ALLIED ARMADA GOT BY.



W5

WHO was commander of the Kriegsmarine?

WHAT were their limitations?

WHERE did they operate from?

WHEN did they first learn of the landings?

WHY were they so ineffective?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

L FOR THE LUFTWAFFE
SWEPT FROM THE SKY.



W5

WHO commanded the Luftwaffe on D-Day?

WHAT was its strength?

WHERE did it operate from?

WHEN did it fly sorties against the Allies?

WHY did it fail to have an impact?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

M IS FOR **M**ULBERRY

MAN MADE HARBOUR, TOWED.



W5

WHO constructed the Mulberry harbours?

WHAT was their function?

WHERE were they located?

WHEN were they put in place?

WHY were they needed?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

N IS FOR **N** EPTUNE

THE ARMADA'S NAME, A CODE.



W5

WHO were the planners of Neptune?

WHAT were the aims of Neptune?

WHERE was Neptune's HQ

WHEN was Neptune first conceived?

WHY was Neptune critical to D-Day?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

O IS FOR **O**MAHA

A 'BLOODY' AMERICAN BEACH.



W5

WHO landed on Omaha Beach?

WHAT US Division was the lead outfit?

WHERE is Omaha beach located in the landing zone?

WHEN did they finally break out?

WHY was this the most difficult beach?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

P FOR THE **P**ARATROOPS

THE ALLIED AIRBORNE REACH.

W5

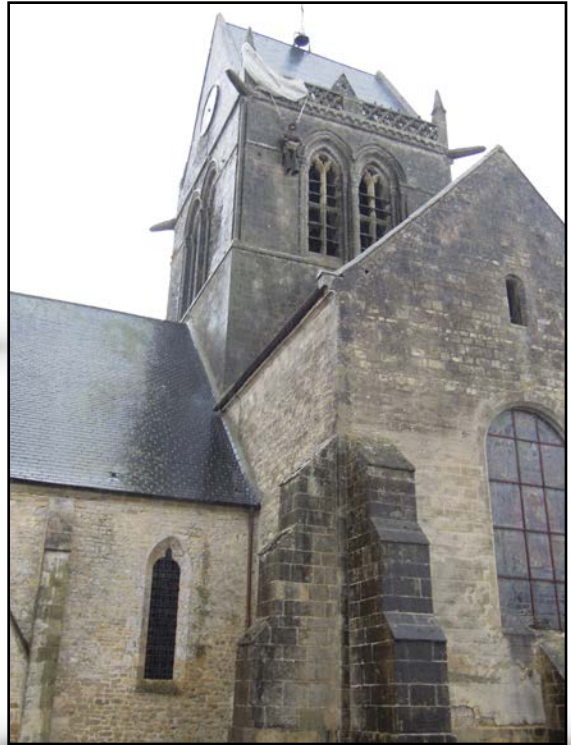
WHO were the allied troops involved?

WHAT were the objectives?

WHERE did they land?

WHEN were the drops made?

WHY were airborne troops used?



RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

Q FOR THE QUESTION

“WHEN DO WE GO?”



W5

WHO made the final decision to ‘Go’?

WHAT factors were important?

WHERE was the decision made?

WHEN was the decision made?

WHY was it made so late?

ABC OF D-DAY

R IS FOR **R**OMMEL

GERMAN FIELD-MARSHALL, OLD FOE.

W5

WHO was Rommel?

WHAT did he command?

WHERE was he based?

WHEN was he appointed to build the defenses?

WHY was he chosen?



RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

S IS FOR **S**WORD

A BEACH UNDER BRITISH CONTROL.



W5

WHO was the commander of the landings?

WHAT was the Sword Beach objective?

WHERE is Sword Beach in the D-Day zone?

WHEN did they land?

WHY was Sword Beach chosen?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

T FOR THE **T**ANKS

SOME CALLED 'FUNNIES' PLAYED A ROLE.

W5

WHO developed the “Funnies”?

WHAT were the ‘funniest’ of the Funnies?

WHERE did they see action?

WHEN were they deployed?

WHY were they developed?



RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

U IS FOR **U**TAH

**ON COTENTIN, ANOTHER AMERICAN
BEACH.**



W5

WHO commanded the Utah landings?

WHAT were the objectives?

WHERE did they land?

WHEN did they achieve the first objective?

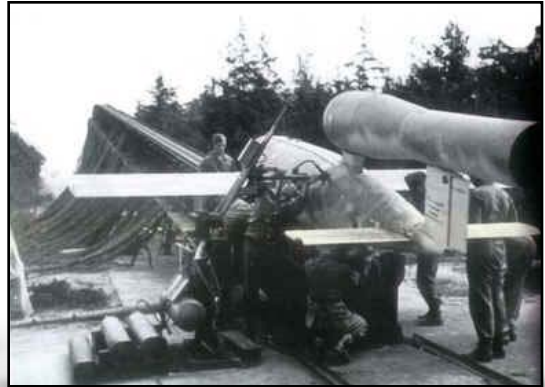
WHY was this beach area chosen?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

V IS FOR **V1** AND **V2**

**WEAPONS OF REVENGE, HITLER'S FINAL
REACH!**



W5

WHO designed the V weapons?

WHAT was Hitler's objective?

WHERE were the V1 sites?

WHEN where the V weapons first used?

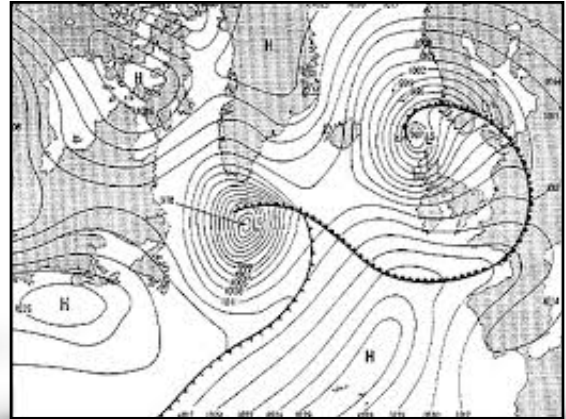
WHY did Hitler use them on England?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

W IS FOR **W**EATHER

WHAT WILL METEOROLOGISTS SAY?



W5

WHO was the allied chief meteorologist?

WHAT was his role?

WHERE did he get his information?

WHEN did he make his final prediction?

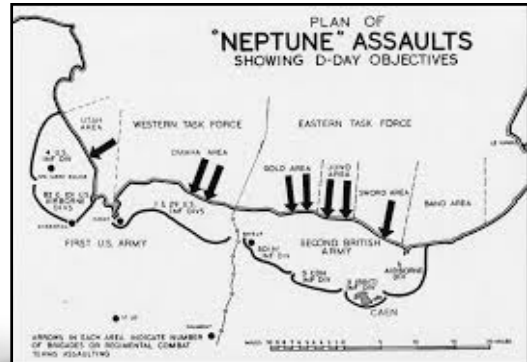
WHY was the weather so important to D-Day?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

X IN E~~X~~PECTATIONS

ON THAT DECISIVE DAY



W5

WHO established the d-day expectations?

WHAT parameters did they use?

WHERE were most challenges faced?

WHEN were the first day expectations met?

WHY weren't all first day expectations met?

RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

Y IS FOR **Y**OUNG

THOSE MEN WHO FOUGHT AND DIED

W5

WHO were most in harms way?

WHAT were the Allied casualties on D-Day?

WHERE did most of the casualties occur?

WHEN did the casualty rates drop?

WHY was the landing area the most dangerous?



RESEARCH NOTES

ABC OF D-DAY

Z FOR THE **Z**EAL

OF ALL WHO COMMITTED AND TRIED.



W5

WHO served on D-Day?

WHAT was required of all who served on D-Day?

WHERE were most servicemen on D-Day?

WHEN was it safe to commit the support troops?

WHY are so many required to support one fighting man?

RESEARCH NOTES