Blowing up trains
Assassinating German soldiers
- Resistance made up of mainly Gaullists on one hand, and Communists on the other
- November 1942: Occupation of whole of France
- June 1943: Jean Moulin, leader of the Resistance, arrested and killed
- So Paris became the capital of Resistance
- Spring 1942: British bombing of France
- This encouraged Resistance activity
- Meetings in cafes where owner was sympathetic to Resistance
- Good access to printing presses
- People who could operate these, write articles and bulletins
- People who knew about explosives
- Artists who produced false newspapers
- People could exchange bundles on the Paris metro and go off in different directions
- Possible to do acts of sabotage and disappear into the crowd
- Crowds are a feature of Paris
- May 1941: Germany invaded Soviet Union
- Communist Party, neutral until then, joined Resistance
- USSR called for all Communist Parties to fight against Nazis
- Communist Party was very effective
- It had history of sympathetic orientation towards struggling people
- Leninism preached strict discipline
- They were prepared to take up arms
- Good at writing and working printing presses
- Many worked in factories with access to explosives
- By end of war, many Communists rounded up and shot
- Active members of Resistance estimated at 30,000
- Includes women

Liberation and beyond
- April 1944: allied bombing became intense
- Parts of Paris were bombed
- Life became particularly difficult in Paris
- Many air raid alerts each day
- Metros very often stopped
- Gas and electricity cuts
- Food sparser than ever
- 25 August 1944: Liberation
- Resistance did play a serious part
- De Gaulle marched down the Champs-Élysées on 26 August 1944
- Many resistors and Germans were killed
- Police amongst first to strike
- Keen to show they were no longer on the side of the German Occupier
- Train drivers slowed down escape of German soldiers