



**A spitfire after it had crash-landed**



**A Spitfire coming into land**



**Pilots after the battle**

### Your Challenge

This week, we are finishing the story. In my model, the Spitfire will struggle to make it back to base as it has been damaged. This will be an exciting section; I want the reader to feel like the pilot only just made it back to base. After the landing, I will try and create an atmosphere of celebration. However, the pilots will also realise that they could be asked to go back into that dangerous situation at any moment.

### Old Teacher's Model

The Spitfire's engine gave a mighty roar as it hurtled down the runway and into the sky. Soon, David was joined by his fellow pilots, James and Arthur, and set out for London. Suddenly, David's radio crackled as Albert told them about their mission, "German bombers have been seen heading towards London, they are trying to drop bombs on Buckingham palace, our mission is to intercept and stop them."

"Roger that." David replied.

After ten minutes, the three British pilots were over London and could see the German bombers. There were three German aircraft and each one looked as if it was carrying a forest of machine guns! David took a deep breath and started his attack. He came from above the Germans, out of the clouds so they couldn't see him. Fire from the German guns screamed past his Spitfire. Suddenly, David's plane lurched downwards. He had been hit! He pulled back on the control stick, luckily the damage was not too bad and he could still fly. With shaking hands, David lined up the German bombers and pressed the red button to fire his own machine guns. A burst of bullets shot from the Spitfire and hit the bombers engine! Black smoke started to appear from the German aircraft, then fire and finally it began to fall to the ground. "Yes!" David cried in relief and as he looked out of the cockpit window he could see Arthur and James had shot down the other two enemy bombers as well. "Time to go home boys," said Arthur over the radio.

### Characters / Location

David - The pilot who I will be writing about

James - Another Pilot and David's friend

Arthur - The pilot leader, he is called the squadron commander

Albert - The Spitfire's mechanic, he gets the aircraft ready for David to fly and fixes it after battle

Duxford Air Base - this is the 'airport' where the pilots live and take off from

London - Capital city of England and the target for the enemy German bombers.

### Teacher Model

David looked out of his cockpit window to the right hand side of his Spitfire. He could see a plume of smoke coming from the engine where the German bullets had hit. He felt a bead of sweat running down his forehead. This was going to be close. He looked at the dial that should have told him how much fuel he had. It read empty. David really hoped it was wrong. Suddenly, the engine started to stutter. He was losing altitude fast. He could see the airstrip now; a glimpse of hope. He aimed the nose of his Spitfire towards the landing strip, which was now no more than one kilometre away. Then, the engine cut out. . .

It was surreal; normally, the Spitfire was full of noise and sounds. Now, he was gliding towards the base with no control over his aircraft. He pulled back hard on the control stick and pointed the nose of the aircraft as high as he could. "Almost there...almost there," he said to himself. It seemed to go on for an eternity and then suddenly there was an almighty crash as the aircraft hit the ground. David held his breath as he slid across the ground leaving a furrow in the earth behind him. Finally, the Spitfire shuddered to a halt. David threw open the cockpit, which had somehow survived the crash, and leapt out of the plane. Arthur was running towards him, "You made it!" he exclaimed with his hands in the air, "I saw you take down that bomber over London. We saved a lot of lives today." All David could do was smile but he knew that tomorrow he would be in the air again.