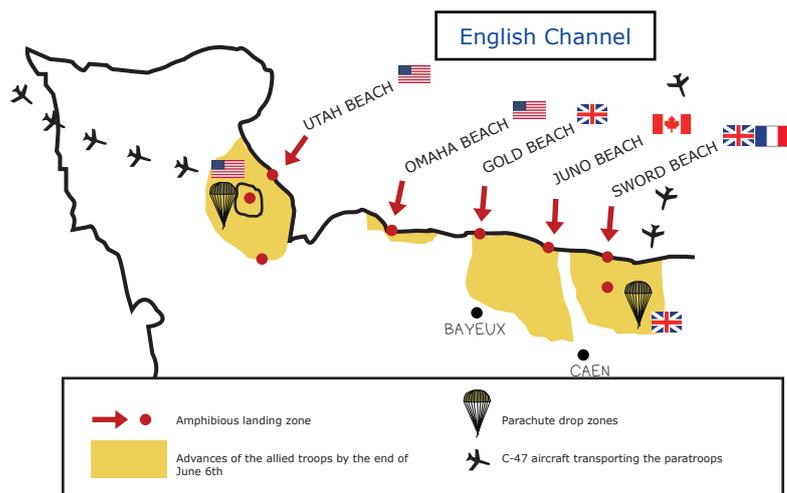


# Answers - 12 to 15 years old

1.



2. A few hours after the paratroopers, gliders landed bringing heavy equipment (jeeps, artillery), rations and supplies, medical supplies and also reinforcements (soldiers).

3. Many of the gliders were destroyed or damaged during the landing. The small meadows surrounded by hedgerows were not suitable for landing. Also, the Germans had built obstacles (some were known as « Rommels Asparagus ») in the fields.

4. The Americans brought Coca Cola to Europe during WW2.

5. First aid equipment is used for the treatment of wounds as quickly as possible, directly on the spot.

6. Each soldier wore 2 identification tags. If they were killed in action, one remained with the victim for identification and the other was taken for official procedures.

7. The paratroops who landed around Sainte-Mere-Eglise were part of the 82<sup>nd</sup> or 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Divisions.

8. In the photograph and the display, the soldiers are wearing black facial camouflage ready for combat. In the display, they are wearing their equipment and are about to board the aircraft. All around them, are preparations for the mission.

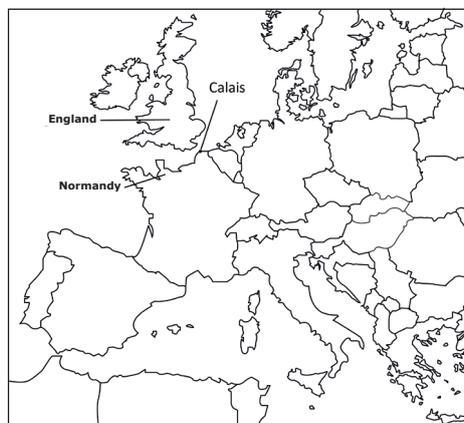
9. General Dwight D. Eisenhower came to boost the morale of the paratroopers before going into combat. He thought that approximately 60% of them would be killed in the first few days.

10. These soldiers are part of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division.

11.

12. You could say: "The Germans expected the invasion to land at Calais because it is the nearest point to England (distance)".

The Allies chose Normandy because its wide beaches would enable the landing of large numbers of soldiers and equipment. Also because the « Atlantic Wall » fortifications were not as substantial here.



13. The objective of Operation Titanic was to mislead the Germans over the true location of the airborne troops landing zones. Canvas puppets (nicknamed « Dummy » or « Rupert ») were ejected from airplanes in various places to trick the Germans.

14. The town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise is situated in between the coast (amphibious landings) and the main north/south roads and railway lines of the peninsula. So the missions were to deny the Germans access to the east coast and to take control of the main routes and bridges over rivers in the area.

15. Many of the paratroopers landed in the wrong location and were disorientated. The battle seemed to get off to a bad start for the Americans as they were unable to join up with their units and carry out their missions.

16. The flooded marshlands were a deadly danger for the paratroopers. From the air they could not always see the depth of the water. Consequently many landed where it was too deep and, held down by the weight of their equipment (80 to 130 lbs) and parachute, were drowned.

17. We can imagine that the soldiers must have felt frightened by the noises they could hear in the plane and the jump out into the night (as you were able to experience) as well as the prospect of landing in the dark in unfamiliar territory perhaps in flooded marshlands or under enemy gunfire.

18. The man who got caught up on the church tower was called John Steele.

19. It was important to take the port of Cherbourg as quickly as possible to enable the larger ships, bringing the Allies equipment and reinforcements, to dock. As the only two deep water ports in Normandy, the Germans were well aware of the strategic importance of Cherbourg and Le Havre and did their utmost to delay their recapture. While waiting for the liberation of Cherbourg, the Allies built makeshift harbours along the beaches, the one constructed at Arromanches in 1944 is the most famous.

20. The battle of the hedgerows : Cherbourg peninsula is a patchwork of small fields and meadows surrounded by hedgerows. The progress of the American troops was very slow in this terrain as every bush and tree could conceal an enemy soldier. The battle of the hedgerows cost many lives to both Allies and Germans.

21. The dress is made from a parachute canopy. This shows us that during WW2, everything was in short supply for the civilians: food, equipment, material, clothing etc. Rationing was in place (people were issued with coupons).

22. In France, the civilians were very much involved in the war. Many towns were bombed and destroyed and in western Normandy 20 000 civilians were killed. This is total war.

23. It is important to remember what happened in 1944. Many thousands of soldiers, mostly young, fought and often died to win back freedom in Europe. Remembering is a way to thank them and pay tribute to them but also to ensure that it will never happen again.

24. 1 : ENGLAND 2 : GLIDER 3 : AIRBORNE 4 HEDGEROWS 5 : EISENHOWER  
6 : TOTAL WAR 7 : NORMANDY

Many soldiers died to win back our LIBERTY.