

Lesson 8  
READ THIS STORY #2, Basic

## Dunkirk

**Dunkirk is a coastal town in the northern part of France. It was the setting for one of the most momentous and emotional stories of the Second World War.**

**Germany had invaded France. Members of the British army had been sent to help France resist and defeat the German invaders. Despite their efforts, the German army surged forward and overthrew the French government.**

**The Germans forced the British back to Dunkirk, where they were stranded against the ocean. Their position seemed hopeless. If they were to survive, they had to be saved in a hurry.**

**British citizens were determined to rescue their men. So they mustered a fleet of privately-owned boats. Hundreds of these tiny ships sailed back and forth across dangerous ocean waves to bring the men home. Ordinary people worked day and night for seventy-two hours to complete the rescue.**

**It was one of the most remarkable and successful efforts in the war.**