

**МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ, МОЛОДІ ТА СПОРТУ УКРАЇНИ
ЧЕРКАСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ
ІМ. Б. ХМЕЛЬНИЦЬКОГО**

Кафедра фонетики та граматики англійської мови

Аліфанова С.А.

**КРАЇНОЗНАВСТВО. ВЕЛИКА БРИТАНІЯ.
ЗАВДАННЯ ДЛЯ САМОСТІЙНОЇ РОБОТИ
Науково-методичний посібник для студентів 2 курсу**

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Рецензенти:

Дегтярьова Л.П., кандидат філологічних наук, доцент кафедри романо-германської філології та перекладу Черкаського Державного Технологічного університету

Кравченко Т.М., кандидат філологічних наук, доцент кафедри фонітики та граматики англійської мови Черкаського національного університету ім. Б.Хмельницького

Аліфанова С.А.

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ВІД АВТОРА

Даний посібник призначений для студентів II курсу стаціонарного відділення профільних факультетів іноземних мов та для осіб, які поглиблено вивчають англійську мову.

Мета посібника – забезпечити систематизоване вивчення матеріалу з теми «Географічне положення Великої Британії», «Історія Великої Британії», «Політична система Великої Британії».

Основний матеріал посібника розділений на 3 частини, що містять аутентичні інформативні тексти ілюстративно-аналітичного характеру, які дають змогу ознайомитися з соціокультурними реаліями Великої Британії та дослідити їх формування, послідовно вивчаючи перебіг історичних подій, та вплив найвидатніших історичних фігур на хід британської історії.

У кінці основних підрозділів наведені вправи, спрямовані на детальне опрацювання матеріалу, крім того кожний великий розділ завершується комплексом узагальнюючих вправ, що стимулюють студентів детально проаналізувати та систематизувати опрацьований матеріал, що забезпечує якісне оволодіння студентами цим важливим матеріалом.

Автор-укладач висловлює подяку рецензентам: кандидат філологічних наук, доцент прикладної лінгвістики Черкаського державного технологічного університету Л. П. Дегтярьовій за допомогу в роботі над посібником.

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AN OUTLINE OF ENGLISH HISTORY

Prehistoric Britain



The British Isles were cut off from the Continent by melting ice around 6000 BC.

Most famous prehistoric monuments: stone circles in Stonehenge and Avebury, and the Uffington

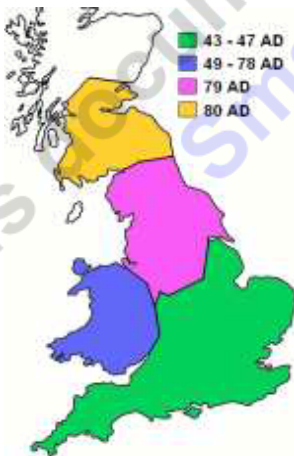
White horse

Stonehenge: built in several stages ~3000 BC - 1500

BC (much before Druidism spreads in Britain)

Celtic invasions from Southern Europe (6th c. BC → 2nd c. AD tribes from Gaul migrate)

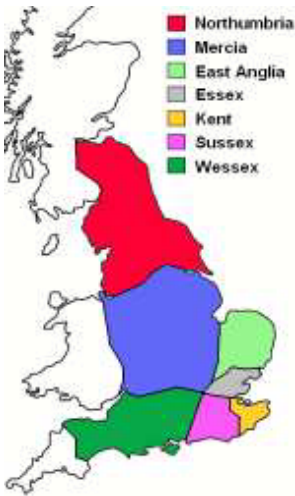
Roman Britain 1st c. - 4th c.



Britain's written history begins with the Romans who occupied Britain for some 350 years.

- Legacy (What remained after the Roman colonization of Britain):
- Roads (no hard roads in England again until the 18th c !! → better roads in Roman times than in Tudor or Stuart times!!)
- Christianity (many “Welsh” Celts became Christians)
- Fortresses, public buildings, villas and walls (Roman baths in Bath, York city walls, Hadrian’s Wall, etc.)
- City sites (Many towns and cities were established by the Romans: London, York, Chester, Bath)

Anglo - Saxon Invasion 5th c. - 6th c.



Around the mid-5th century Angles and Saxons (Germanic people with a Germanic language) began to raid Britain.

The legendary King Arthur led the British resistance to the Anglo-Saxon invasion in the early years of the 5th c.

7 Anglo-Saxon kingdoms were established in England:

- 7th c.: Northumbria dominates: pagan Anglo-Saxons convert to Christianity
- 8th c.: Mercia dominates (Saxon literature: Beowulf – written in Old English)
- 9th c.: Wessex - King Alfred the Great fights off Viking attacks
- 10th c.: England is united under the kings of Wessex

Viking Invasion 9th c.



Vikings from Norway, Denmark: 1st only raids → permanent immigration (for the Vikings England was south!)

- 842 Vikings raid London
- 878 Alfred the Great beats the Vikings: kingdom of Wessex remains independent
- Saxon-Viking power struggle:

Danelaw: N-Eastern England ruled/colonized by the Danes (Vikings) for 130 years

Viking kings ruled all England for 30 years in the 11th c.

(An interesting fact: Europe was raided by 3 different peoples in the 9th century: the Vikings from the North, the Moors from the South and the

Magyars from the East. Moors were pushed out from the Iberian Peninsula in the late 15th century, but the Magyars have kept their culture and language and are an independent country in the 21st century!

Norman England - The Middle Ages



An incredible fact: **The Norman Conquest marks the last time that England was successfully invaded!**

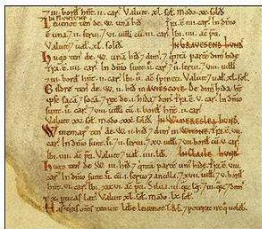
(What a contrast with the history of the other European countries and nations!)

- Norman Conquest: 1066-70 (The Normans were Norsemen, Vikings who had established a colony in Northern France. In fact, William the Conqueror was the grandson of one of the Viking chieftains who occupied Normandy.)

- A country of ~1.5 million was overran by an army of 5000...
- New aristocracy (“Change of regime”): 4000 Saxon landowners replaced by 200 Norman landlords!! →
- Feudalism introduced! William the Conqueror: owned all the lands of England but gave land to his vassals.

The native Anglo-Saxons were forced into serfdom.

- Norman-French law was introduced
- French is spoken by the ruling class until the 13th century



- 1086 Domesday Book : a record of all land + the owners + the number of servants, animals, tools, crop, income → 1st economic survey in Europe, compiled on the orders of William the Conqueror

for taxing purposes

(Gives us a faithful picture of early Norman England!)

Hundred Years' War



(1337-1453)

(A series of wars between England and France fought in France with intervals of relative peace during 116 years)

(French-Scottish Alliance against the English-Burgundian alliance)

- England fighting to get her old French territories back, at first English successes: Crecy (1346) + Poitiers (1356) (Shakespeare's Agincourt, movie: Jean D'Arc)

1348 Black Death (pestis - 1/3 of the society is killed) → not enough peasants → situation of peasants improves

new taxes → Peasant's Revolt

End of the war: English Crown lost all its possessions in France (except for the port city of Calais)

- John Wycliffe translates the Bible into English in 1390! (Severe censorship laws issued against it.)
- Chaucer writes the Canterbury Tales (1390s)



Wars of the Roses

(1455-85)

- War between the royal Houses of York and Lancaster for the throne for 30 years (Shakespeare: Henry VI)
- Only about ten per cent of the population was involved in the fights
- Entire noble families die out → their lands are inherited by the king then sold to the new merchant class → creation of a new nobility of lesser gentry and merchants (powerbase of the Tudor House!)
- Henry VII (Henry Tudor - from Wales) is the final victor (defeated and killed Richard III of the House of York)

End of the Medieval Period in England – Modern England

Tudor England (1585-1603)

- End of serfdom, feudalism (men were no longer tied to the land)
- Growth of the middle classes (power of towns increased through trade)
- Printing press! (ends the Church's monopoly on learning)
- Higher classes start speaking English (instead of French)
- Strengthening national identity
- Military successes (against Scotland, Ireland, Spain, etc)



Henry VIII (1509-47)

- Henry is desperate for a son to ensure the throne! (The memory of the Wars of the Roses was all too recent...) He wants to divorce Catherine of Aragon (she is the aunt of the Spanish Emperor) and to marry a new wife to bear him a son. The pope refuses to allow the divorce. (Henry had 6 wives all together.) → (movie: Anne of the Thousand Days)
- Political break with the pope →
- Establishes the Anglican Church → appoints himself as the head of the Church (Act of Supremacy approved by Parliament in 1534) (→ Becoming the enemy of the Pope entails a change in political alliances and enemies!)
- Not real reformation! → Henry continues to burn Protestants (However, a positive development is that an English translation of the Bible replaces the Latin Bibles in every church.)

- Independence from the pope → church tax stayed in England! (The pope was “controlled” by the Spanish Emperor: Charles V English church tax had been going straight into his pockets...It Henry VIII made sense to stop that.)
- Henry closed and sold the monasteries and church lands → incredible wealth for the king (e.g. financed his foreign policy)! (502 monasteries, 136 cloisters, 187 friaries = 825...) Affected every village in England! Referred to as the “greatest act of official destruction in English history”. (The monasteries used to be the centres of religious life, education, and poor relief. Closing them down was a major set back in the lives of millions.)

Foreign policy:

- Defeats the Scottish (but cannot conquer Scotland)
- Direct rule of Ireland begins (first English king to become king of all Ireland)
- Union with Wales (1536)
- Foundation of the Royal Navy



Elizabeth I - Golden Age (1558-1603) (movie: Elizabeth)

- A mild form of protestantism (little different from Catholicism) spreads under Elizabeth. (Main differences from the Roman Catholic Church: Does not acknowledge the pope, ministers are allowed to marry, images were banned from churches, and only 2 sacraments: Holy Communion, Baptism)

- Huge sheep farms + textile industry → factories; Textile industry a very profitable business → to increase pasture lands: enclosures of common lands begin → peasants are helpless (many become landless, no longer self-sufficient, emigration, consumer society...) → factories
- Renaissance in arts: (Literature: William Shakespeare (the Globe Theatre is built), Edmund Spenser, John Milton, Christopher Marlowe, Sir Philip Sidney, etc. Music: Thomas Ravenscroft, Thomas Morley; Philosophy: Sir Thomas More, Sir Francis Bacon)
- Spain is the big rival → 1588 Spanish Armada (130 ships with 30,000 soldiers) is defeated by the English → Balance of power changes → England becomes a world power!
- Great trading companies are established (East India Company: tea, spices, cotton, etc, Levant Co. with the Turks, Africa Co: slave trade, Eastland Co. with Japan)
- England soon dominates the world's trade routes (Pirate ships: Sir Francis Drake, Sir John Hawkins, etc.)



Stuart England (1603-1714)

James I (1603-25)

James Stuart, the king of Scotland, was a nephew of Elizabeth I. He inherited the English throne, becoming the joint ruler of Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales.

- Personal union with Scotland (Common king but separate Scottish parliament, judiciary and church)

- Wants to rule by “Divine Right” (without Parliament)
- Survived several assassination attempts (e.g. Gunpowder Plot, 1605. Staged by Catholics who wanted to bring back Catholicism and do away with the Anglican Church. Failure of the attempt is celebrated every November 5th as Guy Fawkes Night or Bonfire Night.)
- Strong Puritan Revival in England among Members of Parliament and wealthy, literate classes! → Change in thinking in all fields of life (about political rights, how church services should be changed – purified..., etc.) → Conflict with the establishment! → they ask for Anglican bishops to be removed to reform the church → the king refused saying: “No bishop, no king.” (The only effective way to control, inform and manipulate the people was through an authoritarian church hierarchy subject to the king. The Puritans wanted to do away with that very system.)
- Puritans flee to America to have freedom of religion! (Mayflower ship, 1620) → First English colonies in America; New translation of the Bible into English: King James Version (1611) (Károli Gáspár translation: 1590)

New colonies / territories:

Virginia

Bermuda

Ulster

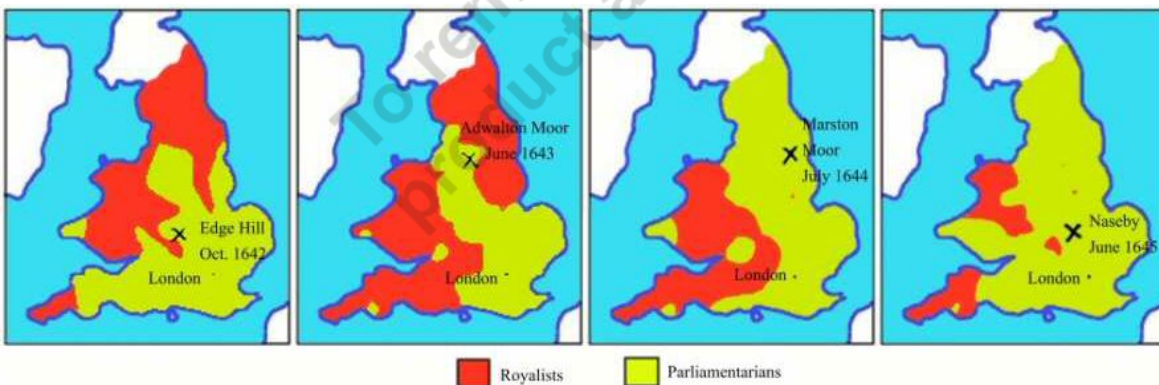
New England – James town

Protestant settlements in Northern Ireland



Charles I (1625 - 49)

- Ruled without convening the Parliament (*taxed the Irish + borrowed money from English bankers and wealthy aristocrats*)
- Tries to force the **Scots** to submit to the Anglican Church → war → beaten by the Scots → needs money from Parliament to pay the Scots in return for peace (11 years of absolute rule ends, king convenes parliament to raise money for the Scots)
- Ireland explodes in rebellion against the Protestant English and Scottish settlers: King quarrels with Parliament over who should control the army (the king or parliament? Many MPs feared the king would turn the army against them first and invade Ireland only afterwards...)
- 1642 Civil War: Royalists v. Parliamentarians → The king fled North to gather an army to defeat the rebellious MPs. Royalists (Cavaliers) controlled the northwest, Parliamentarians ('Roundheads') controlled the southeast with the capital, and the navy. It is estimated that only about 10% of the population became involved in the fightings.



1645 Royalist army is defeated, King is captured 1649. Charles is executed → England is a Republic (for the 1st and last time) 1649 - 60

Cromwell: (1649 - 58) (the head of the Parliamentarian Army)



- Dissolves the House of Lords
- Got rid of the Anglican Church → Extreme Puritan rule (closed theatres, etc) through a military government
- Invades Ireland (massacres the entire population of 2 towns for rebelling against the Protestants, pays his soldiers with the best Irish lands)
- Invades Scotland (to punish them for declaring the son of Charles, Charles II king - most of Edinburgh Castle is destroyed)

New colonies / territories:

expansion in America

Jamaica

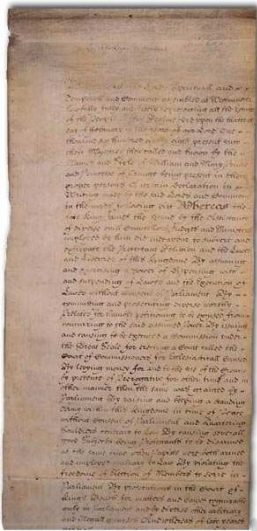
Restoration → Struggle over Catholicism (The 2 sons of Charles I: Charles II and James II were both Catholic and wanted to put Catholics in government. This understandably led to trouble.)



Charles II (1660-85) (son of Charles I, grew up in Catholic France)

- Acts of Cromwell's government cancelled
- Black Plague (70.000 dead in London alone, 1665)
- 1666 London on fire: most of the city is destroyed
→ rebuilding the capital starts (Christopher Wren rebuilds 50 churches: e.g. St Paul's Cathedral)
- King wants to allow freedom of religion to Catholics + Puritans → (reaction of the Parliament: Test Act 1673 - 1829)

- Test Act (1673) passed by Parliament: great discrimination against Catholics. It prevented any Catholic from holding public positions.



- Parliament becomes the overall power in the state: Bill of Rights (1689): made Britain a constitutional monarchy: Real power belongs to the Parliament and not to the king!
 - The king cannot raise taxes or an army without the consent of Parliament
 - Catholics cannot vote
 - No Catholic can be king in England
- 1690 (Battle of the Boyne) King William defeats James's army in Ireland (The Irish were awfully punished by William of Orange for siding with James II: Penal laws introduced) The victory of William of Orange (King Billy) is commemorated every year as The Twelfth in Northern Ireland with Orangemen marching often through Catholic neighbourhoods, causing great tensions on the 12th of July.
- War of Spanish Succession (1701-14) King William entered the war with his English-Dutch armies against the French King Louis XIV (and his grandson) to make sure that they would not inherit the entire Spanish Empire (as the dying Spanish king had bequeathed it to the duc d'Anjou). The European Balance of Power was at stake!

(King William sided with the Hapsburg Emperor and Hungarian King Leopold I who was also fighting to protect his dynastic claims to the Spanish throne. The Treaty of Utrecht 1713 gave the Austrians the Spanish dominions in Italy and the Netherlands, and the Spanish Empire to the duc d'Anjou under the condition that he could not inherit the French

throne. Thus the danger of the unification of France and Spain was averted and the balance of power preserved. England was given Gibraltar and Minorca.)



Queen Victoria (1837-1901) Empress of India (1877-1901)

- Great industrial + colonial expansion: a period of important social, economic, and technological change
- Britain is the workshop of the world: (like China is today... "Made in China" on every second product)

the British could produce goods so cheaply and effectively that they would even undersell locally made products in foreign countries...

- New Imperialism : new colonies founded especially in Africa in order to supply cheap raw Queen Victoria materials for Britain and also to become the markets of the goods made in England
- Chartist movement: millions of workers signed charters demanding further reform of the electoral process (vote for all adults - not just middle class males, secret vote, equal and fair electoral districts, salary for poor MPs, etc) → mass demonstrations, chartist leaders are arrested (The vote was not given to urban working-class men until 1867)
- Railway boom → Trains revolutionized transport of goods and of people, making it much quicker and cheaper - greatly impacting society from opening new horizons in the economy to how leisure time was spent as well as helping political reform to spread.



- Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, Crystal Palace (1851): (1st world expo) "Britain is the workshop of the world!", exhibitions from every country,

especially from the British Empire (6 million visitors thanks to the railways and cheap entrance fees. The profit went to found the Victoria and Albert Museum and endowed several colleges.)

- 1st underground in the world (London 1863) → 2nd: Budapest (1896)!

Liberalism and humanitarian legislation:

- Working class lived and worked in awful, unhealthy conditions: children age 5 and 6 were already made to work 12 to 16 hour a day in mines and factories (PM Peel: “Britain wouldn’t survive on a 10 hour workday.”) → reports made public → parliamentary committees →
- Abolition of child and woman labour in mines
- Sanitation reforms
- Working class gets the vote (male householders in towns, 1867), farmers can vote (1884)
- Free compulsory education (1870) (up to age 11)
- Secret voting introduced (1872)

Imperial ambitions (shameful wars):

- Opium wars with China: very profitable for Britain
- Invading Afghanistan (British fought 3 bloody battles there, losing each one against Russo-Afghan forces)
- India comes under direct rule (after a mutiny in 1857, instead of being governed by the East India Company)
- Crimean War fought against Russia (1853-56) to keep Russia from making advances in Asia (threatening British interests if occupying parts of Afghanistan and India) The British-French-Turkish forces won, (but more than 25.000 British soldiers died - mainly of starvation and cold...)

- Suez Canal (1875): PM Disraeli buys half of the Suez shares to secure Britain's waterway to India → British occupation of Egypt in 1882.
- Boer Wars (1899-1902) → enormously extended Britain's influence in Africa (but half a million soldiers were needed to beat the Boers, Dutch settlers north of Cape Colony, S. Africa)

New colonies / territories:

New Zealand

Gambia

Hong Kong

India (incl. Pakistan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, 1857)

Ghana

Cyprus (1878)

Egypt (1882-36-56)

Sudan

Uganda

Zimbabwe

South Africa (1885)

Kenya, Botswana

Malawi

Kuwait

Burma

Afghanistan

Became a Dominion:

Canada (1867)

1931 (Statute of Westminster) The British Commonwealth of Nations is set up for ex-British colonies and dominions: an association of equal,

independent nations (and of British dependencies: Bermuda, Falklands, Gibraltar). Members have special links with Britain and each other:

- Trade: Special trade agreements and privileges (kept Britain from joining the EEC)
- Sports: Commonwealth Games every 4 years (~Olympics on a smaller scale)
- Politics: Commonwealth Forces in World War II, today heads of government meet every 2 years

George VI (1936-52)

Appeasement of Germany (German expansion tolerated in order to avoid war - until September 1939)

World War II: Britain fighting to save the balance of power in Europe

- British Empire was left alone fighting Germany after France is occupied by Hitler (May 1940 until 1941)
- Germans bomb British cities in preparation for an invasion (the Blitz/Battle of Britain: Aug 1940-41 May): millions of homeless, but British war casualties are much fewer than in WWI
- Britain was one of the Big Three – Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin – to redraw the map of Europe
- World War II undermined Britain's already weakened commercial and financial leadership → it is too expensive to keep up the Empire
- UN Charter (1945) calls for progress toward self-government for the colonies – The British Empire can't last very long →

Dismantling of the British Empire begins in 1945 (Decolonization)

Labour Government: (1945 - 51)

- Rebuilding the economy and infrastructure from Marshall Aid from the USA (Out of the 15 countries that received the \$12 billion Marshall Aid Britain received the most: \$ 3300 million.)

Immigrants were welcome from the Empire to help in the rebuilding

- Welfare state established: National Health Service (free medical and hospital care for everyone regardless of their income)
- Nationalization (Coal, Steel, Transportation)
- Free secondary education for all
- NATO (1949): Britain leads space research, nuclear weapons design, builds the 1st nuclear power station in the world

Lost colonies / territories:

Iraq (1945)

India (1947)

Pakistan

Myanmar

Bangladesh

Palestine (1948)

Sri Lanka



Elizabeth II (1952 -)

- 1956 Suez crisis: turning point! (Britain, France and Israel attack Egypt for nationalizing the Suez Canal = oil + route to India) USA forces Britain to back out from Egypt, Britain is humiliated → Britain is no longer viewed as superpower, an equal

with the USA and Queen Elizabeth II the USSR !!

→ Many countries begin to challenge Britain's authority

→ Political debate in Britain on its new international role



- 1957 European Economic Community (EEC) is created - but Britain refuses to join! (Not wanting to surrender any control over her own affairs such as giving up preferential trade with the Commonwealth or Britain's overseas military bases ...Britain later regrets not having joined, and 10 years later applies for membership, only to be rejected by the French.)

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GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

Great Britain is a group of islands lying off the western coast of Europe, comprising the main territory of the United Kingdom. Great Britain is also used as a political term describing the combination of England, Scotland, and Wales, the three nations which together make up all the main island's territory.

The flag of the UK is sometimes wrongly called the the Union Jack, but Union Flag is actually the correct name as it only becomes a "Jack" when flown from a ship's jack mast.

There are many coats of arms used in the UK and GB - in theory the arms of Queen Elizabeth should be used for the UK, but Scotland uses its own version and many English regions as well as Wales and Northern Ireland present their own version.

There are two major symbols of Britain, Britannia and John Bull.

In Renaissance times, Britannia right came to be viewed as the personification of Britain, in imagery that was developed during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. Both Royal and popular pageants have depicted her to symbolize Britain since then. The most likely origin of this symbol is Queen Boudicca.

Britannia has appeared on many British coins and banknotes, but is currently only on the back of the 50 pence coin.

John Bull is a literary and cartoon character created to personify Britain by Dr. John Arbuthnot in 1712 and popularized first by British printers and then overseas. Bull is usually portrayed as a stout man in a tailcoat with breeches and a Union Jack waistcoat. He also wears a low topper (sometimes called a John Bull topper) on his head and is often accompanied by a bulldog, as on the pub sign left.

With an area of 229,850 km², the main island of Great Britain is the largest of the British Isles, an archipelago that comprises 6000 islands. The main island is the largest in Europe, and ranks either eighth or ninth in size among the islands in the world (depending on whether Australia is classified as an island or a continent). As well as the main island, Great Britain includes the Isles of Scilly, Anglesey, the Isle

of Wight, the Hebrides, and the island groups of Orkney and Shetland but does not include the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. The part of the island of Ireland that includes Northern Ireland is also shown -this territory together with Great Britain is the United Kingdom.

"Great Britain" is also widely used as a synonym for the country properly known as the "United Kingdom". This is wrong as the United Kingdom includes Northern Ireland in addition to the three countries of Great Britain. This use of Great Britain is thought by some to derive from usage as an abbreviation of the correct full name of "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland".

The prefix "Anglo", historically meaning English, is sometimes used to denote the UK, as in the Anglo-Irish Agreement or Anglo-French relations. Some people feel that this usage should be avoided, however, as it may cause offence to people from the other three nations which make up the UK. In the case of Anglo-English, used to describe language, it is much more precise, as it differentiates that form of English from the Scottish, Welsh, Irish and other dialects lumped together as "British English".

The origin of the name "Britain" is unclear. Some historians say that when the Romans took over the southern part of Great Britain they named the island after the Brigantes, one of the largest Celtic tribes living there. The Romans gave it the name "Britannia". The earlier Celtic inhabitants became known as "Britons" and the island as Britain. After the fall of the Roman Empire, the name Britannia largely fell out of use, only to be used in a historical sense, referring to the Roman possessions. During medieval times, the British Isles were referred to as "Britannia major" and "Britannia minor". The term "Bretayne the grete" was used by chroniclers as early as 1338, but it was not used officially until King James I proclaimed himself "King of Great Britain" on 20 October 1604 to avoid the more cumbersome title "King of England and Scotland". Over the centuries, Great Britain has evolved politically from three independent states (England, Scotland, and Wales) through two kingdoms with a shared monarch (England and Scotland), a single all-island Kingdom of Great Britain, to the situation following 1801, in which Great Britain together with the whole island of Ireland constituted the larger United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland (UK). The UK then became the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the 1920s, when Ireland regained independence. The name

"Great Britain" is used rather than just "Britain" as there are two Britains: the island of Britain in the British Isles and the land of Britain in France. In French these are known as "Grande Bretagne" and "Bretagne", in English as "Great Britain" and "Brittany". The word "great" in this context has its old meaning of "big". Likewise, the ending "-y" on the end of "Brittany" has the meaning "little", as in "doggy", meaning "small dog", or "Jimmy", meaning "little Jim".

Flags and National Symbols

The English flag is the St. George's Cross, a thin red cross on a white field. A red cross acted as a symbol for many Crusaders in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries AD. It became associated with Saint George, and England claimed him as their patron saint, along with other countries such as Georgia, Russia and the Republic of Genoa, using his cross as a banner. This flag remained in national use until 1707, when the Union Flag (which English and Scottish ships had used at sea since 1606) was adopted for all purposes to unite the whole of Great Britain under a common flag.

The most important national symbol is the Lions of Anjou. The three lions were first used by Richard I (Richard the Lionheart) in the late twelfth century. Many historians feel that the Three Lions are the true symbol of England.

Alternative name sometimes used for England is "Albion," an ancient name popularised by Pliny the Elder and Ptolemy in the 1st century, supposedly in reference to the white (Latin alba) cliffs of Dover. (In its origins, however, the name applied to the whole island of Great Britain.) More poetically, England has been called "this scept'red isle...this other Eden" and "this Green and Pleasant Land", quotations respectively from the poetry of William Shakespeare (in "Richard II") and William Blake ("And did those feet in ancient time"). Slang terms sometimes used for the English include "Sassenachs" (from the Scots Gaelic and used by the Scots) and "Limeys" used by Americans, in reference to the citrus fruits carried aboard English sailing vessels to prevent scurvy, and "Les Rosbifs" used by the French, as the English traditionally eat a lot of Roast Beef.

"God Save The Queen" is the national anthem for the UK as a whole, but England does not have an official anthem of its own. "Jerusalem" (incorporating the Blake

phrase quoted above) and "Land of Hope and Glory" are all widely regarded - unofficially - as English national hymns (although the last more properly refers to Great Britain, not just England). English and British symbols often overlap at sporting events. "God Save The Queen" is played for the England football team, although Land of Hope and Glory has been used as the English anthem at the Commonwealth Games (where the four nations in the UK face each other independently).

Human Geography and Demographics

England is both the most populous and the most ethnically diverse nation in the United Kingdom with around 49 million inhabitants, of which about a quarter live in the greater London area. There are 24m male and 25m female inhabitants. 90.7 % were born in the UK. Roughly a tenth are from non-white ethnic groups.

The population of England is mostly made up of, and descended from, immigrants who have arrived over millennia. The principal waves of migration have been in:

c. 600 BC Celts

55 BC-400 AD the Roman period (garrison soldiers from throughout the Empire)

350-550 Angles, Saxons, Jutes

800-900 Vikings, Danes

1066 Normans

1650-1750 European refugees and Huguenots

1880-1940 Jews

1950-1985 Caribbeans, Africans, South Asians

1985- citizens of the European Community member states, East Europeans, Kurds, refugees.

The general prosperity of England has also made it a destination for economic migrants particularly from Ireland and Scotland. This diverse ethnic mix continues to create a diverse and dynamic language that is widely used internationally.

England has 39 "traditional counties" which are not equivalent to contemporary local government territories. These counties came from the Shires that were formed after the various Kingdoms, (such as Mercia, Wessex, Northumbria and Kent), that made up the Territory of England, were assimilated into one united Kingdom. The first

shires were created by the Anglo-Saxons in what is now England and south eastern Scotland. Shires were controlled by a royal official known as a "shire reeve" or sheriff.

From Anglo-Saxon times, from about the 7th century to the late 19th century, the original "shires" all gradually became Counties as the boundaries were moved with changes in population and demographic profiles. Simply, a County was made up of Hundreds, which themselves were made up of Tithings.

A hundred is an administrative division which historically was used to divide a larger region into smaller geographical units. The name is derived from the number hundred. It was a traditional Germanic system described as early as AD 98 by Tacitus. In England a hundred was the division of a shire for administrative, military and judicial purposes under the common law. Originally, when introduced by the Saxons between 613 and 1017, a hundred was supposed to contain approximately one hundred households headed by a hundred-man or hundred colder. He was responsible for administration, justice, and supplying military troops, as well as leading its forces. Hundreds were further divided into Tithings which contained ten households.

Counties were formed from Shires when the number of households in an area was counted and aggregated. Although later some counties had an Earl or a Duke allocated to them, they were never feudal territories ruled by a "Count" as the British has never even had the title "Count". The concept of a "граф" ruling a "графство" was a common misconception. The translation of "County" must be "область".

Scotland

Scotland, or in Gaelic, Alba, is a country and former independent kingdom of northwest Europe, and one of the three nations comprising Great Britain. Scotland occupies the northern third of the island of Great Britain. Alba is both the ancient and the modern Gaelic name for Scotland. Originally it was the name given to the kingdoms of the Picts and the Scots (Pictavia and Dalriada), north of the rivers Forth and Clyde, unified by Kenneth Mac Alpin. As time passed, that kingdom incorporated others to the south, until the modern borders were reached.

Flags and National Symbols

The national flag of Scotland features a white saltire, (X-shaped cross) representing the cross of the Christian martyr Saint Andrew, Scotland's patron saint on a blue field. The Scottish saltire and field is one of the components of the Union Flag. The Scottish flag is one of the oldest flags in the world, dating back to the 9th century. Legend has it that in 832 AD King Hungus (or Angus) led the Picts and Scots in battle against the Angles under Athelstan. Hungus and his men were surrounded and he prayed for deliverance. During the night Saint Andrew, who was martyred on a diagonal cross, appeared to Hungus and assured him of victory. On the morrow a white saltire against the background of a blue sky appeared to both sides. The Picts and Scots were heartened by this but the Angles took fright and were defeated. The saltire has been the Scottish national flag ever since. There is however a "second" national flag, used as an alternative symbol and at many sporting events, especially against England, since the saltire is part of the Union Flag.

King William I 'The Lion' (1143 to 1214), adopted a heraldic device showing a Rampant Lion, the king of beasts, rearing up with three paws stretched out. This became the royal coat of arms in Scotland. The lion was also incorporated into the Great Seal of Scotland which was placed on all official documents. When the British Royal coat of arms was being designed, the lion rampant was incorporated, with the Latin motto "Nemo me impune lacessit" meaning "No one attacks me with impunity". In Scots, that became "Wha daur meddle wi' me?"

Physical Geography

Scotland comprises the northern third of the island of Great Britain; it is bordered on the south by England. The country consists of a mainland area plus several island groups, including Shetland, Orkney, and the Hebrides, divided into the Inner Hebrides and Outer Hebrides. Three main geographical and geological areas make up the mainland: from north to south, the generally mountainous Highlands, the Central Lowlands and the hilly Southern Uplands.

The Grampian Mountains are on the whole less rugged than the mountains of the northwest, being more rounded and grassy with wider plateau areas. But the area contains Britain's highest mountains, reaching a maximum elevation of 1,343 metres

at Ben Nevis. Scotland has a temperate oceanic climate, milder than might be expected from its latitude. Despite its small area, there is considerable variation. Rainfall is greatest in the mountainous areas of the west, as prevailing winds, laden with moisture from the Atlantic, blow from the southwest. East winds are common in winter and spring, when cold, dry continental air masses envelop the east coast. Hence, the west tends to be milder in winter, with less frost and with snow seldom lying long at lower elevations, but it is damper and cloudier than the east in summer. The Inner Hebrides off the west coast have a mean temperature in winter of 5° in the coldest month, as high as southeastern England, whereas Dundee, on the east coast, has 3°. Dundee's mean temperature in the warmest month is 15°. There is a smaller range of temperatures over the year in Scotland than in southern England.

There are 29 major rivers, including the Forth, Tay, Dee, Don, Tweed, Spey, Ness and the Clyde. Of over 400 freshwater and sea lochs, the most famous are Lochs Lomond, Ness, Leven, Awe and the Holy Loch. As if those were not enough, Victorian engineers also built four major canals, the Caledonian Canal, Crinan Canal, Forth & Clyde Canal and the Union Canal.

Human Geography and Demographics

The majority of the Scottish population of 5,062,000 lives in the Central Belt, which contains three of the country's six cities, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Stirling. Most of the remaining population lives in Aberdeen and Dundee. The final city, Inverness, is situated where the River Ness meets the Moray Firth, on the fault between the North-West Highlands and the Cairngorms.

The Council areas of Scotland form the local government areas of Scotland, all of them unitary authorities. They have been in use since April 1, 1996, under the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994.

Scotland has 33 Unitary Authorities but for simplicity, the regions are very frequently grouped together into four areas and these are shown left.

Wales

Flags and National Symbols

The flag of Wales is The Red Dragon. It consists of a red dragon, passant, on a green and white field. The exact representation of the dragon is not standardised and many different interpretations exist. The flag was only granted official status in 1959, but the red dragon has been associated with Wales for centuries; indeed, it is claimed to be the oldest national flag still in use.

The origin of the adoption of the dragon symbol is now lost in history and myth. A plausible theory is that the Romans brought the emblem to what is now Wales during their occupation of Britain, but it could be even older. The green and white stripes of the flag were additions by the House of Tudor, the Welsh dynasty that held the English throne from 1485 to 1603.

The oldest recorded use of the dragon to symbolise Wales is from the *Historia Brittonum*, written around 820 AD, but it is popularly supposed to have been the battle standard of Arthur and other ancient Celtic leaders. Many legends are associated with the Welsh dragon. The most famous is the prophecy of Myrddin (or Merlin) of a long fight between a red dragon and a white dragon. According to the prophecy, the white dragon would at first dominate but eventually the red dragon would win. This is an allegory of the historical struggle between the Welsh and the English.

Physical Geography

Wales is situated on a peninsula of Great Britain. It is bordered by England to the east, the Bristol Channel to the south, and the Irish Sea to the west and north. Its area is 20,779 km². Much of Wales is mountainous, particularly North Wales and Mid Wales. The Brecon Beacons in the south and Snowdonia in the north are joined by the Cambrian Mountains. The highest mountain in Wales is Snowdon, shown (right), located in the Snowdonia National Park in the county of Gwynedd. Its summit rises to 1,085 m and is known as Yr Wyddfa from the old Welsh: "the grave/tomb". The whole park is very popular with tourists, especially for hiking, and Snowdon is

understandably the greatest attraction. There are several islands off the north and west coasts, with Anglesey being the largest.

Parts of Wales have been heavily industrialised since the eighteenth century. Coal, copper, iron, lead, and gold have been mined in Wales, and slate has been quarried. Ironworks and tinplate works, along with the coal mines, attracted large numbers of immigrants during the nineteenth century, particularly to the South Wales Valleys north of Cardiff.

Human Geography and Demographics

The population of Wales is 2,903,085 (Male: 1,403,782 Female: 1,499,303) For local government purposes, Wales is divided into 22 unitary authorities. There are 9 counties, 3 cities, and 10 county boroughs, although all have equal status. Collectively these are known as the principal areas of Wales. They came into being on April 1, 1996. The major cities are: Newport, Cardiff and Swansea all of which are located on the south coast and all historically associated with coal mining. Cardiff is the capital and largest city. Large areas of Wales are populated by sheep and the English never seem to tire of joking about this.

History

Almost nothing is known of prehistoric Wales, although there are some barrows and funerary sites. The major megaliths at Stonehenge were mined in Wales which may suggest a link between the ancient English and Welsh tribes. Up to and during the Roman occupation of Britain, Wales was not a separate country, but all inhabitants of Britain and Ireland spoke their version of the Celtic languages and were essentially of the same ethnic origin. The Romans occupied the whole of Wales, where they built roads and forts, mined gold and conducted commerce, but their interest in it was limited, because of the difficult geography and shortage of flat agricultural land. They established only one town in Wales, Caerwent. Caradoc was thought of by some as a King of the Britons (right). The Silures were the major tribe of south-east Wales. Their military leader, Caradoc, sometimes called Caratacus or Caractacus, had joined them from another, defeated, tribe.

Northern Ireland

Flag

Northern Ireland is a region of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and is the smallest of the Home Nations. There is currently no official flag of Northern Ireland. The Union Flag of Great Britain is used instead. From 1953 to 1973 Northern Ireland used a flag, called the 'The Red Hand Flag of Ulster', showing a red St. George's cross on white (the Flag of England), with a crowned six-pointed white star with a red hand in its centre. This was based on the traditional flag of Ulster (which includes nine counties as opposed to the six in Northern Ireland), which was a red cross on yellow, with the red hand inside a white shield in the centre. As this flag is associated with the unionists and loyalists, it is extremely unlikely to be reintroduced, although it is displayed at the Commonwealth Games. Nationalists and republicans use the Irish tricolour, arguing that as they do not recognise Northern Ireland as a separate political entity, they see no grounds for it having a flag of its own.

Physical Geography

Northern Ireland has an area of 14,139 square kilometres and has a population of 1,685,000. Six of the counties of Ulster, Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Tyrone and Londonderry or Derry, formed the country. These traditional counties are no longer used for local government purposes; instead there are 26 districts of Northern Ireland.

Lake Neath is the largest lake in the United Kingdom. It is about 29 kilometres long and about 18 kilometres wide. It has an area of about 390 square kilometres.

Several large bays cut into the coast. Bay Foyle and Belfast Bay provide excellent harbours for Londonderry (Derry) and Belfast.

Northern Ireland was covered by an ice sheet for most of the last ice age and on numerous previous occasions, the legacy of which can be seen in the large number of drumlins in Counties Fermanagh, Armagh, Antrim and particularly Down. There are substantial uplands in the Sperrin Mountains (an extension of the Caledonian fold mountains) with extensive gold deposits, granite Mourne Moun-

tains and basalt Antrim Plateau, as well as smaller ranges in South Armagh and along the Fermanagh/Tyrone border. None of the hills is especially high, with Slieve Donard in the dramatic Mourne's reaching 848 metres, Northern Ireland's highest point.

The volcanic activity which created the Antrim Plateau also formed the eerily geometric pillars of the Giant's Causeway, which is an area of 40,000 tightly packed basalt columns resulting from a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago.

Left a close-up of some of the hexagonal columns comprising the Causeway. The tops of the columns form stepping stones that lead from the cliff foot and disappear under the sea. Most of the columns are hexagonal, however there are some with four, five, seven and eight sides. The tallest are about 12 metres high, and the solidified lava in the cliffs is 27 metres thick in places. It is a World Heritage Site and is located on the North Antrim Coast of Northern Ireland. While recent scientific research suggests the columns were formed as a natural consequence of lava cooling, legend has it that the giant Finn MacCumhaill (Finn Mc-Cool) built the causeway to walk to Scotland without having to get his feet wet

The whole of Northern Ireland has a temperate maritime climate, rather wetter in the west than the east although cloud cover is persistent across the region. The weather is unpredictable at all times of the year, and although the seasons are distinct they are considerably less pronounced than in interior Europe or the eastern seaboard on North America. Average daytime maximums in Belfast are 6.5°C in January and 17.5°C in July. The damp climate and extensive deforestation in the 16th and 17th Centuries results in much of the region being covered in rich green grassland.

Human Geography and Demographics

About two-thirds of the people of Northern Ireland live in urban areas. Many live in or near the cities of Belfast and Londonderry/Derry. Bloody rioting and numerous acts of terrorism have disrupted life in Belfast and Londonderry since the 1960's. However, British government aid has helped make the cities modern-and more peaceful-urban centres. In Belfast, for example, new hotels, offices, and shopping precincts have been built, and extensive home-building projects have eased the worst housing problems.

About a third of the people of Northern Ireland live in rural areas. Most of them earn their living by farming.

The people of Northern Ireland enjoy simple meals of meat, potatoes, vegetables, and bread. They also eat large amounts of poultry, eggs, dairy products, and fish. Tea is the most popular hot drink in Northern Ireland. The favourite alcoholic beverage is beer.

1. **Mast** - щогла
2. **Pageant** - пишне видовище
3. **Cumbersome** - обтяжливий (обременительный)
4. **Evolve** - розвиватися
5. **Scurvy** - цинга
6. **Overlap** - частково збігатися
7. **Populous** - густонаселений
8. **Ethnically diverse** - етнічно різноманітна
9. **Aggregated** - приєднаний
10. **Martyr** - мученик
11. **Deliverance** - порятунок
12. **Rampant** - нестримний, лютий
13. **Impunity** - безкарність
14. **Rugged** - нерівний, кострубатий
15. **Plausible** - правдоподібний
16. **Prophecy** - пророцтво

General Revision

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. What alternative names for England and the English do you know? What do they mean?
2. What are the national anthem and the unofficial national anthems of England?
3. What is the population of England and what were the principal waves of migration to the island of Great Britain?
4. How is the flag of the UK sometimes wrongly called? What is its correct name?
5. What are the two major symbols of Britain?

6. Why is England sometimes called “Albion”?
7. How many traditional counties are there in England?
8. What is the ancient and modern Gaelic name for Scotland?
9. Where is Scotland located and what are the specifics of its landscape?
10. How old is the Scottish flag?
11. What are the main geographical and geological areas that make up the mainland of Scotland?
12. What does the Central Belt consist of?
13. What is the flag of Wales called? Describe it.
14. What is the most popular legend associated with the Welsh dragon?
15. What is the highest mountain in Wales?
16. What are the main cities of Wales? What is its capital called?
17. Was Wales occupied by Romans? Why didn't they find it particularly interesting?
18. What does The Northern Ireland Flag look like?
19. What is the capital of Northern Ireland?
20. What is the Northern Ireland highest point?
21. What is the climate of the Northern Ireland?

II. Supply the word or phrase from the vocabulary list which correctly completes the sentence:

The Union Jack, the Highlands, Tithings, shires, the Giants Causeway, Uplands, St. George's Cross, The Union Flag of Great Britain, Albion, Slieve Donard, The Welsh Dragon, Snowdonia, Caerwent, Union Flag, Lowlands, the Central Belt, Scotland, Alba.

1. The traditional counties come from the ... that were formed after the various Kingdom, such as Mercia, Wessex, Kent, etc. 2. A county was made up of ..., which themselves were made up of hundreds. 3. The flag of the UK is sometimes wrongly called ..., but ... is actually the correct name. 4. The English flag is the ..., a thin red cross on a white field. 5. Alternative name sometimes used for England is ..., an ancient name popularized by Pliny the Elder and Ptolemy in the 1st century, supposedly in reference to the white cliffs of Dover. 6. Three main geographical and geological areas make up the mainland: from north to south, the generally mountainous ..., the Central ... and the hilly Southern 7. The majority of the Scottish population lives in 8. ... is both the ancient and the modern Gaelic name

for Scotland. 9. ... occupies the northern third of the island of Great Britain. 10. The highest mountain in Wales is located in ... National Park. 11. Many Wales's legends are associated with 12. The Romans established only one town in Wales, 13. Northern Ireland hasn't official flag and uses ... instead of it. 14. ... in the dramatic Mourne is the Northern Ireland highest point. 15. The most unusual geographical feature of Northern Ireland is believed to be

III. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The flag of the UK is sometimes wrongly called the Union Flag, but Union Jack is actually the correct name. 2. There are two major anthems of Britain, Britannia and John Bull. 3. John Bull was a real person who personified Britain in the 18th century. 4. The main island of Great Britain is not the largest in Europe, but it ranks either eighth or ninth in size among the islands in the world. 5. After the fall of the Roman Empire, the name Britannia largely fell out of use. 6. The English flag St. George's Cross remained in national use until 1907. 7. The first shires were created by the Romans in what is now England and south-eastern Scotland. 8. Scotland occupies the southern third of the island of Great Britain. 9. The Orkneys, the Shetlands and the Hebrides are islands belonging to Scotland. 10. Originally Alba was the name given to the kingdoms of the Picts and the Scots. 11. The Scottish saltire and field is one of the components of the St. George's Cross. 12. The minority of the Scottish population lives in the Central Belt. 13. Wales is mostly a flat country. 14. Anglesey is the largest Welsh isle. 15. Wales is divided into 23 unitary authorities, all having equal status. 16. Ulster is the name of one of the four original provinces of Ireland. 17. 'The Red Hand Flag of Ulster' of the Northern Ireland is associated with the unionists and loyalists. 18. Lake Neath is the smallest lake in the United Kingdom.

IV. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) Britannia has never appeared on any British coins and banknotes.
b) Britannia appeared on many British coins and banknotes, but is currently only on the back of the 50 pence coin.
c) Britannia is currently on many British coins and banknotes.

2. a) John Bull is a literary and cartoon character created to personify Britain.
b) John Bull is a real person who personified Britain.

- c) John Bull is a serial character created to personify Britain.
3. a) During medieval times, the British Isles were referred to as “Britannia”.
- b) During medieval times, the British Isles were referred to as “Britannia major” and “Britannia minor”.
- c) During Renaissance times, the British Isles were referred to as “Britannia major” and “Britannia minor”.
4. a) The Union Flag remained in national use until 1707, when the St. George’s Cross was adopted for all purposes to unite the whole of Great Britain under a common flag.
- b) The Union Flag remained in national use until 1907, when the St. George’s Cross was adopted for all purposes to unite the whole of Great Britain under a common flag.
- c) The St. George’s Cross remained in national use until 1707, when the Union Flag was adopted for all purposes to unite the whole of Great Britain under a common flag.
5. a) England has 39 traditional counties which are not equivalent to contemporary local government territories.
- b) England has 49 traditional counties which are equivalent to contemporary local government territories.
- c) England has 39 traditional counties which are equivalent to contemporary local government territories.
6. a) Shires were controlled by a royal official known as a “shire reeve” or sheriff.
- b) Shires were controlled by a royal official known as a warrant officer.
- c) England was controlled by a royal official known as a “shire reeve” or sheriff.
7. a) Alternative name sometimes used for England is “Albion”, an ancient name popularized by Pliny the Elder and Ptolemy in the 11st century, supposedly in reference to the white cliffs of Dover.

b) Alternative name sometimes used for England is “Albion”, an ancient name popularized by Pliny the Elder and Ptolemy in the 1st century, supposedly in reference to the white cliffs of Dover.

c) Alternative name sometimes used for England is “Albion”, a Roman name popularized by Pliny the Elder and Ptolemy in the 1st century, supposedly in reference to the white cliffs of Dover.

V. Match the following words and word combinations to their correct meaning:

Shires	A mountain range in South Wales
Silures	The national anthem for the UK as a whole.
St. George’s Cross	The modern English flag.
Snowdonia	A National Park in the county of Gwynedd
God Save The Queen	The plateau that was created by volcanic activity
Great Britain	The English flag which remained in national use until 1707.
The Giant’s Causeway	The name given to Great Britain by the Romans.
The Brecon Beacons	A major tribe of south-east Wales in Middle Ages
The Union Flag	A group of islands lying off the western coast of Europe, comprising the main territory of the United Kingdom.

Britannia	The most unusual geographical feature of Northern Ireland
The Antrim Plateau	The name of old administrative units controlled by a sheriff.

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INVASIONS AND CONQUESTS

The Romans

Why Britain?

Why did the Romans invade Britain in 43 AD? Their empire already extended from the Channel coast to the Caucasus, from the northern Rhineland to the Sahara. The invasion of Britain was a war of prestige. The 'mad' emperor Caligula had been assassinated in 41 AD, and an **obscure** member of the imperial family, Claudius, had been elevated to the throne. The new emperor faced opposition from the Senate, Rome's House of Lords. Claudius needed a quick political fix to secure his throne. What better than a glorious military victory in Britain?

The army was the core of the Roman state. In a few centuries, it had transformed Rome from a small city-state into the greatest empire of **antiquity**. Its conquests more than paid for themselves in **booty**, slaves and tribute. War was highly profitable.

Invasion and Conquest

A century before, in both 55 and 54 BC, Julius Caesar had invaded Britain with the aim of conquest. But revolt in Gaul (modern-day France) had drawn him away before he had beaten down determined British **guerrilla** resistance. For the Claudian invasion, an army of 40,000 professional soldiers - half citizen-legionaries, half auxiliaries recruited on the wilder fringes of the empire - were landed in Britain under the command of Aulus Plautius. Then, in the presence of Claudius himself, they stormed the enemy capital at Camulodunum (Colchester).

Wales took decades to **subjugate**. Before it was done, the east of Britain exploded in 60-61 AD. Bitterness against Roman oppression had driven Boudicca, queen of the Iceni tribe, into a revolt that came close to expelling the invaders.

Occupation

After the occupation the part of the Roman army was brought to a line that stretched across modern Northumberland from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Carlisle on the Solway. This was the line along which Hadrian's Wall was constructed in 120s and

130s AD. On one side was 'civilisation', on the other '**barbarians**'. The line stretched for 73 miles across northern Britain – a ditch, a **thicket of spikes**, a stone wall, a sequence of forts, milecastles and observation **turrets**, and a permanent garrison of perhaps 8,000 men. The rest of the Roman army was also stationed in the west and the north - in lonely auxiliary forts in the Welsh mountains, the Pennines, or the Southern Uplands of modern Scotland; or in one of the big three legionary fortresses at Isca Silurium (Caerleon), Deva (Chester) and Eboracum (York).

Through some 350 years of Roman occupation, the army remained dominant. Settlements of craftsmen and traders grew up around the forts, sustained by army contracts and soldiers' pay. Local farms supplied grain, meat, leather, wool, beer, and other essentials. But change was limited. The land was impoverished and sparsely populated.

Romanisation

When the army moved forward, the politicians took over. Iron Age tribal centres were redesigned as Roman towns, with regular street-grids, forums (market squares), basilicas (assembly rooms), temples, theatres, bathhouses, amphitheatres, shopping malls and hotels. The models of town planning and public architecture were Roman, but the people in charge were not. The towns were built by local **gentry**, who, in the space of a generation or two, converted themselves from Celtic warriors and druids into Romanised gentlemen.

Britain's upper classes had found a new style. Blue paint and chariots were out. Gaulish wine and the Greek myths were in. To be successful, to look **sophisticated**, you now had to project rank and status in the 'empire' fashion. For the rulers of the empire, changing the culture of conquered elites was good politics. The empire was ruled from the towns, where councils formed of local gentry were responsible for tax-collection and keeping order in the surrounding countryside. It was government on the cheap, but it was still highly successful.

Instead of an **influx** of foreign overlords stirring up resentment, the native elite ran things on Rome's behalf. And in gratitude for having their power and property preserved, they proved loyal servants. The evidence is in the enthusiasm with which they Romanised. Most of the twenty or so Roman towns had a full set of public buildings by the mid-second century AD. Already many of the gentry had started

building town houses and country villas. From this time onwards there was a full-scale housing boom at the top end of the market. Big towns like Verulamium (St Albans) and Corinium (Cirencester) soon had fifty or more grand houses and dozens of villas within a day's ride of the centre.

The Fall

The Roman Empire began its decline at the end of the reign of Marcus Aurelius (A.D. 161–180). Since the empire's expansion had come to an end, there were no new sources of precious metals. The wealthy spent money on luxury goods from China, India, and Arabia. This spending drained the empire of gold and silver. Moreover, hostile tribes outside the boundaries of the empire and pirates on the Mediterranean Sea disrupted trade. Because of their invasion the agriculture faced serious problems. Harvests in Italy and western Europe became increasingly **meager** because overworked soil had lost its fertility. Farmland was destroyed by warfare. The higher taxes imposed by the government caused many poor farmers to abandon their lands. Serious food shortages resulted for all these reasons. Eventually, disease spread and the population declined.

Then, when Italy itself was attacked by Lombards in 567 AD, some troops were withdrawn from Britain altogether to defend the homeland. By about 425 AD, Britain had ceased to be in any sense Roman. Britain had entered a new age outside the empire, apart from the continent, an age without Roman tax collectors and landlords, and an age of **turmoil** and uncertainty in which new politics and new identities had yet **to be forged**.

The remarkable thing about the Romans is that, despite their long occupation of Britain (it lasted for about 400 years), they left very little behind. To many other parts of Europe they **bequeathed** a system of law and administration which forms the basis of the modern system and a language which developed into the modern Romance family of languages. In Britain, they left neither. Most of their villas, baths and temples, their impressive network of roads, and the cities they founded, including Loudinium (London), were soon destroyed or fell into disrepair. One reason why Roman Britannia disappeared so quickly is probably that its influence was largely **confined to** the towns. In the countryside, where most people lived, farming methods had remained unchanged and Celtic speech continued to be dominant. The Roman occupation had been a matter of colonial control rather than large-scale settlement.

Almost the only lasting reminders of Roman presence are place-names like Chester, Lancaster and Gloucester, which include variants of the Roman word *castra* (a military camp). Many words of Modern English have come from Latin. For example, the word *street* came from the Latin *strata* which means “road”, *port* from the Latin *portus*, *wall* from *vallum*. The name "Britain" comes from the word "Pretani", the Greco-Roman word for the inhabitants of Britain. The Romans mispronounced the word and called the island "Britannia".

1. **Obscure** – невідомий, нічим не ушлюблений
2. **An antiquity** – стародавній світ
3. A **booty** – нагробоване добро, здобич
4. **Guerrilla** – партизанський
5. **To subjugate** – підкоряти, поневолювати
6. A **barbarian** – варвар
7. A **thicket of spikes** – гушавина з шипами
8. A **turret** – башта
9. **Gentry** – дрібномаєтне дворянство
10. **Sophisticated** – витончений (про смак, манери)
11. **An influx** – наплив (народу)
12. **To stir up resentment** – викликати обурення
13. **Meager** – убогий, бідний
14. A **turmoil** – безладдя, безлад
15. **To forge** – знаходити, висувати на перше місце
16. **To bequeathe** – передавати нащадкам
17. **To confine to smth** – обмежуватися чимось

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. What were the reasons for the Roman invasion of Britain?
2. Was there any resistance to the Roman attempts to spread their rule over the whole island?
3. What did Romans do to keep the “barbarian” people away from the “civilized” one’s?
4. Why did the local people agree to Romanization and what did it show in?
5. Should the influence of Roman culture be considered positive or negative?
6. Did the Romans mingle with the Celtic tribes after conquering their territory?

7. What caused the fall of the great Roman Empire?
8. What led to the fast decline of their Roman culture in Britain after the fall of the Empire?
9. How did the barbarian tribes change the outlook of Britain, having set their foot where once were Romans?
10. What evident traces of the Roman rule could be found in British culture nowadays?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The invasion of Britain by Romans was a war of prestige. 2. Claudius was elevated to the throne because the emperor Caligula didn't manage to rule the Empire in a good way. 3. The models of town planning and public architecture were Roman, but the people in charge were not. 4. Hadrian's Wall was constructed by the gentry to protect Londinium from the invasion of local tribes. 5. Boudicca, queen of the Iceni tribe, bitterly revolted against Roman oppression. 6. Local farms didn't supply Romans with grain, meat, leather, wool, beer and other essentials, so they had to start their own agricultural activity. 7. The Empire was ruled not from towns, but from the small cities, where the Romans moved. 8. The native elite Romanised with enthusiasm and they proved loyal servants in gratitude for having their power and property preserved. 9. The Roman Empire began its decline, because Julius Cesar's first attempt to conquer Britain failed and too much money was spent on the invasion to Britain. 10. Most of architectural reminders of Roman rule were soon destroyed after the Romans had withdrawn their troops. 11. Almost the only lasting reminders of Roman presence are place-names like Chester, Lancaster and Gloucester.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) The new emperor Claudius faced the opposition from the Senate.
b) The new emperor Claudius faced the opposition from the ex-emperor Caligula.
c) The new emperor Claudius faced the opposition from Julius Cesar.
2. a) The Roman professional soldiers landed in Britain under the command of Caligula.

b) The Roman professional soldiers landed in Britain under the command of Aulus Plautius.

c) The Roman professional soldiers landed in Britain under the command of Roman senators.

3. a) The wall which separated the Romans from the local warlike tribes was called the Roman Wall.

b) The wall which separated the Romans from the local warlike tribes was called the Londinium's Wall.

c) The wall which separated the Romans from the local warlike tribes was called the Hadrian's Wall.

4. a) Local people supplied Romans with grain, meat, leather, wool etc.

b) Local farms supplied Romans with soldiers.

c) Local farms supplied Romans with arms.

5. a) The wealthy Romans spent money on goods from China, India, and Arabia.

b) The wealthy Romans spent money on goods from France, German, and Britain.

c) The wealthy Romans spent money on goods from South Africa and Australia.

6. a) A bitter revolt against roman oppression was lead by Claudius.

b) A bitter revolt against roman oppression was lead by Queen Boudicca.

c) A bitter revolt against roman oppression was lead by Aulus Plautius.

7. a) After a long occupation of Britain the Romans left a political and economical system behind.

b) After a long occupation of Britain the Romans left their national traditions and culture behind.

c) After a long occupation of Britain the Romans left a few Latin words behind.

IV. Identify the events in English history related to the following names:

Julius Cesar, Claudius, Gauls, Aulus Plautus, Boudicca, Marcus Aurelius, Lomards, Caligula.

V. Describe the life of Roman soldiers after the Rome succeeded to conquer Britain.

VI. Tell the tale of how the Romans were constructing the Hadrian's Wall to protect themselves from the local tribes.

Anglo-Saxons

The Romans invaded Britain in AD 43. After that, for 400 years southern Britain was part of the Roman world. The last Roman soldiers left Britain in AD 410, and then new people came in ships across the North Sea. Historians call them Anglo-Saxons. The new settlers were a mixture of people from north Germany, Denmark and northern Holland. Most were Saxons, Angles and Jutes. If we use the modern names for the countries they came from, the Saxons were German-Dutch, the Angles were southern Danish, and Jutes were northern Danish. In their own lands, most Anglo-Saxons were farmers. They lived in family groups in villages, not cities. Since they lived close to the sea and big rivers, many Anglo-Saxons were sailors too. They built wooden ships with **oars** and **sails**, for trade and to settle in new lands. Raiders in ships attacked Roman Britain. Most people in Roman Britain were Christians. Most Anglo-Saxons were not Christians. They **worshipped** lots of gods and goddesses. Their beliefs were similar to those of the Celts, who lived in Britain before the Romans invaded.

When the Germanic tribes came to Britain they formed 7 main kingdoms but not one big state. These kingdoms were: Sussex, Essex, Wessex, Kent, Northumbria, Mercia and East Anglia. As all of them fought each other for supreme power on the island that was a period of mutual struggle between them. Different wars and unions equalized cultural, linguistic and legal differences between the kingdoms, so soon all the inhabitants of these kingdoms were called Saxons or Angles and to the VIII century the name "England" has become a widely used for all the people. From the north (the territory of modern Scotland) Scots and Picts threatened Anglo-Saxons constantly. After several centuries many kingdoms were subdued by stronger ones which were Northumbria, Mercia and Wessex. Some time later Wessex became the

most powerful of those kingdoms as its king, Egbert, subdued the Celts as well as the other two remaining kingdoms and so became the first king of all England.

Life and Religion

It is difficult to generalize about an era as lengthy as the Dark Ages, but we'll do it anyway. Christianization of the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms began in AD 597, influenced by Celtic Christianity from the north-west and by the Roman Catholic Church from the south-east, gradually replacing Anglo-Saxon **polytheism** which had been introduced to what is now England over the course of the 5th and 6th centuries with the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons. The Anglo-Saxons were pagans when they came to Britain. They worshipped gods of nature and held springs, wells, rocks, and trees in **reverence**. Religion was not a source of spiritual **revelation**, it was a means of ensuring success in material things. For example, you might pray to a particular goddess for a successful **harvest**, or for victory in battle. A few of the main Anglo-Saxon gods were Tiw, Wodin (Odin), Thor, and Friya, whose names are remembered in our days of the week Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

A Lord's Life

Society was divided into several social classes, which might vary from place to place. At the top was the king. He was essentially a war leader. He was expected to provide opportunities for **plunder** and glory for his followers. The king who did not provide land, slaves, or plunder might wake up dead one fine morning. Below the king there were two levels of freemen, the upper class **thanes** and the lower class **ceorls** (**churls**). The division between the two was strictly in terms of land owned. A man could only be a thane if he owned at least five **hides** of land (a hide was defined as the amount of land necessary to provide a living for one family). Aside from the ownership of land, a ceorl could actually be a richer man than the thane. Below the thanes and ceorls were the slaves. Slavery was one of the biggest commercial enterprises of Dark Age life, and much depended on this involuntary labour force.

Slavery - The Way In...

How did one become a slave? You could have the bad luck to be born a slave, of course. Beyond that, war was the most frequent source of slaves. Many conquered

Celtic Britons would have become slaves. People could also become slaves if they were unable to pay a fine. In some cases a family would sell a child into slavery in time of famine to ensure the child's survival.

...And The Way Out

Slavery was not necessarily a lifetime sentence, however. A slave could be **ransomed** by his or her relatives or granted freedom in an owner's will. If a person became a slave because they were unable to pay a debt, they might be freed when the value of their labour reached the value of the original debt.

Clothing

The robe or tunic gathered at the waist was the common **garment** for a man, completed by hose and soft shoes. For a woman the robe or dress extended to the feet. The usual materials were linen and woolens, the more expensive outfits being marked by colourful dyes and exotic borders. Brooches were used to fix clothing by rich and poor, and amulets of stones were worn for luck.

Weapons

In war the common weapon was the **spear** made with a seven foot long ash shaft and an iron head. It was both thrown and used to jab. Shields were round, made of wood covered with leather, and had an iron boss in the centre. Only the **nobility** used swords, which were about thirty inches long, made of iron with steel edges. The **hilt** was often elaborately **carved** and jewelled, and could be inscribed with good luck symbols and the names of gods. The Danish Vikings were more heavily armed than the Anglo-Saxons, relying on chain mail and helmets, and short stabbing swords which were useful in close quarters, as well as the fearsome double headed battle **axe**.

Leisure

When they weren't fighting (one wonders when that was) the favourite pastimes of the Dark Ages were **dice** and board games such as chess. Elaborate riddles were popular, as was horse racing and hunting. At feasts the most common entertainment

was the **harp**, which was also used in church music. In addition to the harp, scenes of juggling balls and knives have been found illustrating books of the period.

Travelling

Travel was not uncommon, and the main trade routes, often along the old Roman roads, were used frequently. However, off the main routes travel could be a risky business. Travellers were advised to shout, blow horns, and make lots of noise. Otherwise any strangers were assumed to be outlaws, and could be killed out of hand.

Administration

The land was divided into shires, mainly according to the territory of the first tribes. The shire was divided into hundreds, or in the Danelaw, wapentakes. These were the basic units of administration and the court system. To look after the king's interests (see that all the taxes were collected) and administer justice, were the ealdormen and shire-reeves (sheriffs). Within the shires were the towns, or burhs, which ranged in size from 5000 people at York to 500 at St. Albans. Initially only some of the towns were walled, and those often with earthworks reminiscent of the Bronze Age.

Farming

In the countryside the vast majority of the people lived by farming. At first most of the farms were owned outright. The ceorls worked co-operatively, sharing the expense of a team of oxen to plough the large common fields in narrow strips that were shared out alternately so that each farmer had an equal share of good and bad land. Later much of this land was consolidated into the large estates of wealthy nobles. Ceorls might work the land in return for service or produce, or they might work the lord's land a given number of days per year. As time went on more and more of these large estates were established as integrated commercial enterprises, complete with water mill to grind the grain.

1. **Oars** - весла
2. **Sails** - вітрила
3. **To worship** - поклонятися
4. **Harvest** - урожай

5. **Plunder** - грабіж
6. **Churl** - грубіян, мужлан, селяк
7. **Ransom** - викупити
8. **Garment** - предмет одягу
9. **Spear** - спис
10. **Nobility** - дворянство, знать
11. **Hilt** - рукоятка, держак
12. **Carved** - різьблений
13. **Axe** - сокира
14. **Dice** - гра в кості
15. **Harp** - арфа
16. **Thane** – тан (титул)
17. **Hide** – гайда (одиниця величини земельних ділянок)
18. **Ceorls** – (churl) a freeman of the lowest rank in Anglo-Saxon England
19. **Polytheism** – багатобожжя
20. **Reverence** – благоговіння
21. **Revelation** – одкровення

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. What were the main Anglo-Saxon tribes?
2. Where did Anglo-Saxons come from?
3. What were the main trades of Anglo-Saxons?
4. What was the main difference in Roman and Anglo-Saxon administration?
5. What religion prevailed among Anglo-Saxons when they arrived in England?
6. Where are the names of Anglo-Saxon gods remembered nowadays?
7. How did Anglo-Saxons adopt Christianity?
8. What social classes was the Anglo-Saxon society divided into?
9. How could a man become a slave in Anglo-Saxon society?
10. What was the most powerful kingdom in Anglo-Saxon England?
11. How long did the Anglo-Saxon period in English history last?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false.

1. Anglo-Saxons fought Romans to conquer their lands.
2. Anglo-Saxons originally were a mixture of people from north Germany, France and northern Italy.
3. Before Anglo-Saxons came to Britain they had been farmers in their own lands.
- 4.

Anglo-Saxon beliefs were similar to those of the Celts, who had lived in Britain before the Roman invasion. 5. Anglo-Saxons ruined a lot of Roman buildings, roads and aqueducts. 6. The basic units of Anglo-Saxon administration system were shires and hundreds. 7. Anglo-Saxons had all their towns walled. 8. Many Anglo-Saxons were good sailors, as they lived close to the sea and big rivers. 9. The main Anglo-Saxon kingdom was Kent and it ruled the island for over three centuries. 10. Anglo-Saxons territory was divided according to the territories inhabited by the Celtic tribes.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) Anglo-Saxon tribes came to Britain when Romans had already left the island.
b) Anglo-Saxons fought Romans to conquer their land.
c) Anglo-Saxons came to Britain and lived in peace with Romans.
2. a) Anglo-Saxons ruined Roman roads to build their houses.
b) Anglo-Saxons ruined Roman roads as they weren't used to travel by roads made of bricks.
c) Anglo-Saxons built their own road network.
3. a) Christianity was brought to Britain by the Norman invasion.
b) Christianity arrived in Britain before the Church of Rome was created.
c) Christianity was brought to Britain by Anglo-Saxons.
4. a) Anglo-Saxon tribes were originally from north Germany, Denmark and northern Holland.
b) Anglo-Saxon tribes came from Ireland to conquer Celts.
c) Anglo-Saxon tribes were the native habitants of the island.
5. a) King Egbert was the Essex king who subdued the Celts and defeated the Mercians in the battle.
b) King Egbert was the Wessex king who became the first king of England.
c) King Egbert was the Sussex king who was killed by the Mercians.

IV. Write a short summary of Anglo-Saxon period in English history. In your story pay special attention to religion, administration and the period of Mercian Supremacy.

The Vikings

Course of Events

It is impossible to state the exact date of the Scandinavian invasion as it was a long process embracing over two centuries, the first inroads of the Scandinavian Vikings having begun as far back as the end of the 8th century. The Vikings came from Scandinavian peninsula. Various Scandinavian adventurers at the head of their troops came to England wave after wave, although the English offered the invaders a stubborn resistance. At first the invaders fought with the natives, robbed and plundered the country, but later they began to settle on the lands they had managed to conquer. The part of England which suffered more from the invasion was the NorthEastern part of the country. From that part the invaders trying to conquer the whole of the country gradually proceeded to the South-West.

The kingdom that was the strongest among many existing in Britain at that time and that could consequently withstand the invasion more successfully than any other was the Wessex kingdom, especially under the rule of King Alfred the Great. King Alfred the Great was so powerful and successful in his struggle against the invaders that hostilities ceased for a time and a peace treaty was concluded — the Treaty of Wedmore, in accordance with which the territory of the country was subdivided into two parts: the south-western part remained English under the rule of King Alfred and the north-eastern part was to be Scandinavian. That part was referred to as, Danelagu or Darielaw, i.e. the territory which was under the rule of Scandinavians, or “Danes”.

After the peace that Alfred forced on the Vikings, the Viking army seems to have moved across the Channel, giving the king some time to organize for war. He built fortresses, established a defensive strategy, and built up a navy. By the time the Vikings returned in the 890s, the West Saxons were able to resist, leaving Alfred, at his death in 899 AD, king of the only independent English kingdom.

Thanks to Alfred's own propaganda machine, we know more about him than about most early medieval kings in Britain. He ordered the **compilation** of the 'Anglo-Saxon Chronicle', a major source of information that was continued as contemporary chronicles in various centres until the 12th century. Alfred was deeply interested in promoting literacy and learning, and he sponsored (and perhaps even took part in) the translation of various Latin works into English. The **extortion** came to an end in 1013, when Harald's son, Swein Forkbeard, decided to conquer England, although the **definitive** conquest of England was only achieved under his son Cnut (or Canute).

In 1016, Cnut became king of England, and after further campaigns in Scandinavia he could claim in 1027 to be 'king of the whole of England and Denmark and Norway and of parts of Sweden'. For the empire he built in Britain and Scandinavia, he is sometimes known as "Canute the Great." Most people think of Canute in connection with the story about him commanding the tide to halt. But he should be remembered for more than this. He was perhaps the first king to successfully rule over a truly united realm of England, free from internal and external **strife** and unrest. Because he also ruled the Viking homelands, he was able to protect England against attacks, maintaining twenty years of badly-needed peace during which trade, Anglo-Scandinavian art and Christianity were able to flourish. Canute had great respect for the old English laws, to which he brought a keen sense of justice and a regard for individual rights. As part of his promotion of himself as an 'English' king, he did **penance** for the wrongdoings of his Viking forefathers, building churches and making many generous gifts to others.

Cnut was a strong and effective king. He introduced some Danish customs to England, but England also influenced Denmark. For instance, Cnut appointed several Englishmen as bishops in Denmark, and even today most of the ordinary Danish words of church organisation are English in origin.

Fear Tactics

Like all pirates, the Vikings were able to rule through **intimidation**. They were identified as devils for their behavior and aggression in battle, a source of both pride

and an effective means of preventing combat during raids. Warriors were highly valued for their ability **to inspire fear** in the hearts of enemies. The Vikings' **infamy** only spread further as observers **recounted** their horrible natures. Vikings sought Christian relics, hoping to later **ransom** the objects for vast sums of money. Monks, however, rarely gave up these prized artifacts without a fight. The Vikings welcomed any means of acquiring wealth. Accordingly, Vikings did not limit their pillaging to **holy relics** and stores of coins, as they eagerly sought to enslave people.

Even women faced the risk of enslavement by the Vikings. "A great booty of women was carried off." These actions of **abhorrent** cruelty fueled the Vikings' depiction as pirates with blood lusts. "...The heathen miserably devastated God's church in Lindisfarne Island by **looting** and slaughtering," accounts an Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. Europe identified the Vikings as true pirates because of their **insatiable** desire for money and their **detestable** means of achieving these desires. By the tenth century, the Old English term wicing, originally defined as any pirate, transformed to refer specifically to "Scandinavian sea-raiders." The Vikings were making a name for themselves, an identity bathed in violence and horror.

The Age of Conversion

The Viking Age was a period of considerable religious change in Scandinavia. Part of the popular image of the Vikings is that they were all pagans, with a hatred of the Christian Church, but this view is very **misleading**. It is true that almost the entire population of Scandinavia was pagan at the beginning of the Viking Age, but the Vikings had many gods, and it was no problem for them to accept the Christian god alongside their own. Most scholars today believe that Viking attacks on Christian churches had nothing to do with religion, but more to do with the fact that monasteries were typically both wealthy and poorly defended, making them an easy target for **plunder**.

The Vikings came into contact with Christianity through their raids, and when they settled in lands with a Christian population, they adopted Christianity quite quickly.

Although Vikings often seem to have maintained their beliefs throughout the periods of their raiding, there was considerable pressure to convert to Christianity if they wished to have more peaceful relations with the Christians. This could happen on a

political level, as in the Treaty of Wedmore in 878. The treaty bound the Vikings to accept Christianity.

Another more or less formal convention applied to trade, since Christians were not really supposed to trade with pagans. Although a full conversion does not seem to have been demanded of all Scandinavian traders, the custom of 'primsigning' (first-signing) was introduced. This was a halfway step, falling short of baptism, but indicating some willingness to accept Christianity, and this was often deemed to be enough to allow trading.

Further pressure came as Viking raiders settled down alongside Christian neighbours. The settlers often took native wives (or at least partners), although some settlers apparently brought their families over from Scandinavia. The children of these mixed marriages would therefore grow up in partially Christian households, and might even be brought up as Christians. Further intermarriage, coupled with the influence of the Church, gradually brought about a complete conversion.

The Influence of the Vikings

In the early days mostly the Vikings were interested in plunder, so they were more like **locusts** leaving only destruction behind them. But later the Vikings started moving into the areas they conquered, they **adopted the local cultures**, and shared some of their own. cultural heritage the Vikings actually left behind very little; a few words, a few place names, maybe some folk culture. There is no consensus on the extent cultural heritage the Vikings actually left behind.

Archaeological evidence reveals a culture that was the most advanced in Europe in the manufacture of arms and jewelry, as well as shipbuilding. Many styles of Viking ships were adopted by other European powers, most notably Alfred the Great of Wessex. The Vikings also displayed an ability to mobilize economic resources and to dominate a hostile landscape. These abilities can be seen in their great fortified camps, like that at Visby in Sweden, where hundreds of soldiers and traders lived. Additionally, the Vikings **fostered** commerce, founding many prominent trading centers in England and France.

In addition, the Vikings created a rich body of vernacular literature in which they celebrated their heroic past. The Icelandic sagas represent a vast collection of both stories and histories. Some concern the great leaders of heroic days and the kings of the 11th and 12th centuries. The more historical sagas describe what is known about the colonization of Iceland, the voyages to North America, and the rise of the powerful kings who led the efforts toward conversion and political consolidation.

Signs of the Viking influence are found in the languages, vocabulary, and place-names of the areas in which they settled. The long-term linguistic effect of the Viking settlements in England was threefold: over a thousand words eventually became part of Standard English; numerous places in the East and North-east of England have Danish names; and many English personal names are of Scandinavian origin. The vast majority of **loan words** did not appear in documents until the early 12th century; these included many modern words which used sk- sounds, such as **skirt, sky, and skin**; other words appearing in written sources at this time included **again, awkward, birth, cake, dregs, fog, freckles, gasp, law, moss, neck, ransack, root, scowl, sister, seat, sly, smile, want, weak, and window** from Old Norse meaning "wind-eye". Some of the words that came into use are among the most common in English, such as **to go, to come, to sit, to listen, to eat, both, same, get, and give**.

For 300 years, from the 8th to the 11th centuries, the power of the Vikings dominated Eastern Europe. As well as being warriors and accomplished seamen, they were jewelers, sculptors and poets of great skill and originality, they left behind substantiate their legendary exploits.

1. **Compilation** – складання (книг, довідників)
2. **Extortion** – здирство, встановлення грабіжницьких цін
3. **Definitive** – відмітний, характерний
4. **Strife** - розбрат
5. **Penance** – розкаяння, спокутування
6. **Intimidation** – залякування, погрози
7. **To inspire fear** – вселяти страх
9. **Infamy** – ганебна поведінка
10. **To recount** – розповідати
11. **Ransom** - викуп
12. **Holy relics** – священні реліквії
13. **Abhorrent** - огидний

14. **Looting** - грабіж
15. **Insatiable** – жадібний, ненаситний
16. **Detestable** - огидний
17. **Misleading** – що вводить в оману, веде по неправильному шляху
18. **Plunder** - грабіж
19. **Locust** - жадібна, ненажерлива людина
20. **To adopt the local cultures** – переймати (засвоювати) місцеву культуру
21. **To foster** - сприяти розвитку; заохочувати
22. **Loan words** – запозичені слова

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Where did the Vikings come from to conquer England?
2. What peaceful treaty was signed between the Vikings and King Alfred?
3. What part of England was called Danes?
4. What was King Alfred's influence on British history?
5. Why were the Vikings considered intimidating and sore?
6. What were the grounds for Vikings to convert to Christianity?
7. What pressure did the Vikings exert on their Christian neighbours?
8. Why did the Vikings plunder Christian churches?
9. What are the traces of Vikings' culture in England?
10. What was the Vikings' impact on the British language?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The first inroads of the Vikings began at the end of the 10th c.
2. Vikings' warriors were highly valued for their ability to inspire fear in the hearts of their enemies.
3. All the time of their invasion the Vikings fought with the natives and robbed the country.
4. According to the Treaty of Wedmore the territory of England remained under the Vikings.
5. The treaty of Wedmore didn't give King Alfred any time to organize the war against the Vikings.
6. Cnut ordered the compilation of the 'Anglo-Saxon Chronicle'.
7. Cnut was able to protect England against Vikings' attacks.
8. The Vikings plundered monasteries because they felt hatred to the Christianity.
9. The Vikings didn't adopt the local cultures, but just shared their own.
10. There were no mixed marriages between the Vikings and the Anglo-Saxons, the Vikings just brought their families from Scandinavia.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) The definite conquest of England was only achieved under Canute the Great.

b) The definite conquest of England was only achieved under King Alfred.

c) The definite conquest of England was only achieved under Edward the Confessor.

2. a) Alfred maintained 20 years of much-needed peace during which trade, Anglo-Scandinavian art and Christianity were able to flourish.

b) Cnut maintained 20 years of much-needed peace during which trade, Anglo-Scandinavian art and Christianity were able to flourish.

c) Edward the Confessor maintained 20 years of much-needed peace during which trade, Anglo-Scandinavian art and Christianity were able to flourish.

3. a) Most people think of Canute in connection with the story about him commanding the tide to halt.

b) Most people think of Canute in connection with his penance for the wrongdoings of his Viking forefathers.

c) Most people think of Canute in connection with his bringing a keen sense of justice for individual rights.

4. a) Europe identified the Vikings as true pirates because of their insatiable desire for money and their detestable means of achieving these desires.

b) Europe identified the Vikings as true pirates because of their behavior and aggression in battle.

c) Europe identified the Vikings as true pirates because of their ability to inspire fear in the heart of their enemies.

5. a) The Vikings hated Christianity and it was a problem for them to accept it.

b) The Vikings were of pagan nature and it was no problem for them to accept Christianity.

c) The Vikings were of pagan nature, so it was a problem for them to accept Christianity.

6. a) The Vikings came into contact with Christianity through their raids.
b) The Vikings came into contact with Christianity through mixed marriages.
c) The Vikings came into contact with Christianity through bringing their families over from Scandinavia.

7. a) The Vikings fostered commerce, permitting Anglo-Saxons to found many prominent trading centers in England.

b) The Vikings fostered commerce, mixing the Scandinavian and the Anglo-Saxons' traditions.

c) The Vikings fostered commerce, founding many prominent trading centers in England.

8. a) The Vikings left a few traces of their culture in England, because they fall under the influence of local cultures and partially adopted them.

b) The Vikings left a few traces of their culture in England: a few words, a few names, some folk culture and nothing more.

c) There is no consensus on the extent cultural heritage the Vikings actually left behind, but the archaeological evidence reveals a culture that was the most advanced in Europe in the manufacture of arms and jewelry, as well as shipbuilding.

IV. Identify the events in English history related to the following names:

King Alfred, Canute the Great.

V. Write a story (15-20 sentences), in which you describe how the Vikings influenced the tribes they conquered.

The Normans

Norman Invasion

Edward the Confessor promised his Norman cousin (William, the Duke of Normandy) the crown of England in case of his death. But after Edward had died in 1066, he left a disputed succession. The throne was seized by his leading aristocrat, Harold Godwinson, who was rapidly crowned. On receipt of this **ominous** news, the **formidable** Duke William flew into a rage. He began to build an invasion fleet to

take by force what he considered to be his by right. William gathered a large army: for the warriors' help in the battle he promised to give them lots of land.

On 14th October in 1066, the Saxon and Norman forces clashed in the fateful Battle of Hastings. During that battle Harold was killed and Norman army won the fight. William proceeded to London, where he was crowned King of England at Edward the Confessor's foundation of Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day, 1066.

Norman Britain

William the Conqueror was a **sly** and wise ruler, he kept his word and rewarded his Norman and French followers by **distributing** the confiscated lands of the Anglo-Saxons to them. This fact raised many objections of the remains of Anglo-Saxons. There were many **rebellions**, the greatest of which was the uprising in the North. William responded by subjecting the English to a reign of terror. Determined to punish and crush rebellion to his rule and strike abject fear into English hearts, he laid waste vast tracts of Yorkshire, which suffered under a great **famine** for nine years after as a result.

William changed England's laws and inflicted harsh punishments for offenders. Murder became an officially punishable crime in England and slavery was abolished. William's conversion of the New Forest into a royal hunting ground saw the introduction of harsh and severe forest laws, which caused great resentment amongst the Anglo-Saxons.

William was a **savage** and formidable ruler, by modern standards an exceedingly cruel one, but his methods produced the desired results and **extinguished** the fires of opposition.

The Domesday Book

Launched in 1085, it was arguably the most extraordinary campaign for information. William grew up in a world, where authority was usually delivered on the blade of a sword. So it's all the more impressive that he seems to have understood instinctively that information could also be power. William the Conqueror was the first database king. His immediate need was to raise a tax, but the **compilation** of the Domesday Book was more than just a glorified audit. It was a complete **inventory** of everything in the kingdom, shire by shire, pig by pig; who had owned what.

The king sent his men all over England, into every shire, to find out how many hundred hides there were in each shire, what land and cattle the king himself had in the county. When he took hold of the Domesday Book, it was as though William had been handed the keys to the kingdom all over again, as if he'd re-conquered England, but this time statistically. It was called The Domesday Book, after all, because it was said its decisions were as final as the Last Judgement.

Feudal System

William organised his English kingdom according to the feudal system which had already begun to develop in England before his arrival. The word "feudalism" comes from the French word "feu", which the Normans used to refer to land held in return for duty or service to a lord. The basis of feudal society was the holding of land, and its main purpose was economic. The central idea was that all land was owned by the king but it was held by others, called "vassals", in return for services and goods. The king gave large estates to his main nobles in return for a promise to serve him in war for up to forty days. The nobles also had to give him part of the produce of the land. The greater nobles gave part of their lands to lesser nobles, knights, and other "freemen". Some freemen paid for the land by doing military service, while others paid rent. The noble kept "serfs" to work on his own land. These were not free to leave the estate, and were often little better than slaves.

William was careful in the way he gave land to his nobles. The king of France was less powerful than many of the great landlords, of whom William was the outstanding example. In England, as each new area of land was captured, William gave parts of it as a reward to his captains. This meant that they held separate small pieces of land in different parts of the country so that no noble could easily or quickly gather his fighting men to rebel. William only gave some of his nobles larger estates along the troublesome borders with Wales and Scotland. At the same time he kept enough land for himself to make sure he was much stronger than his nobles. Of all the farmland of England he gave half to the Norman nobles, a quarter to the Church, and kept a fifth himself. He kept the Saxon system of sheriffs, and used these as a balance to local nobles. As a result England was different from the rest of Europe because it had one powerful family, instead of a large number of powerful nobles. William, and the kings after him, thought of England as their personal property.

Language

After William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy, invaded and conquered England in 1066 AD with his armies and became king, he brought his nobles, who spoke French, to be the new government. The Old French took over as the language of the court, administration, and culture. Latin was mostly used for written language, especially that of the Church. Meanwhile, the English language, as the language of the now lower class, was considered a vulgar tongue.

By about 1200, England and France had split. English changed a lot, because it was mostly being spoken instead of written for about 300 years. The use of Old English came back, but with many French words added. This language is called Middle English. The majority of the words embedded in the English vocabulary are words of power (*crown, castle, court, parliament, arm*). Because the English underclass cooked for the Norman upper class, the words for most domestic animals are English (*ox, cow, calf, sheep*) while the words for the meats derived from them are French (*beef, veal, mutton*).

A Thousand Castles

The Normans had an enormous influence on architectural development in Britain. Many castles and keeps were built across the country to enforce William's rule, originally wooden towers or earthen mottes, in all over 80 castles were established during the reign, including the White Tower, the first building in the Tower of London complex. The dominating shadow of the White Tower loomed menacingly over medieval London, a visible expression of Norman power.

Some were towers on hills surrounded by larger **enclosures**, often referred to as 'motte and bailey castles'. Others were immense, most notably the huge palace-castles William I built at Colchester and London.

These were the largest secular buildings in stone since the time of the Romans, over six centuries earlier. They were a celebration of William's triumph, but also a sign of his need to overawe the conquered.

Churches were also built in great numbers, and in great variety, although usually in the Romanesque style with its characteristic round-topped arches.

Particularly striking are regional groups of great churches, a characteristic too of 11th-century Normandy. One of the most telling examples is the group of border abbeys in southern Scotland - David I's foundation of Jedburgh, still impressive and crowning its hill; the Premonstratensian house of Dryburgh; the Cistercian house at Melrose; and most spectacular of all in the splendour which even the limited remains indicate, another royal foundation at Kelso.

The vast cathedrals of the late 11th and early 12th centuries, colossal in scale by European standards, emphasised the power of the Normans.

1. **Ominous** – лиховісний, загрозливий
2. **Formidable** – страшний, грізний
3. **Sly** – хитрий, спритний, лукавий
4. **To distribute** – розподіляти
5. **A rebellion** – повстання; заколот, бунт
6. **A famine** – голод
7. **Savage** – жорстока, люта людина
8. **To extinguish** – гасити, винищувати
9. **An inventory** – реєстр, інвентаризація, опис
10. **An enclosure** – огорожа, загорожа
11. **An compilation** – складання

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. Did William the Conqueror have the rights for the English throne?
2. What award did William promise the warriors for their support in his campaign?
3. What method of rule did William engage?
4. What was the reason of the Anglo-Saxons' rebellions against William?
5. What was the greatest uprising of the Anglo-Saxons in Norman Britain?
6. What was the purpose of compilation of the Domesday Book?
7. What is the main point of feudal system?
8. What did the French word "feud" mean in Norman Britain?
9. How did William distribute the land between the Norman nobles and the Church?
10. What changes did the English language come through under the influence of the Normans?
11. Did the Normans effect architectural development in Britain?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. After Edward the Confessor's death the English throne was seized by William the Conqueror without any objections of the part of Anglo-Saxon nobility. 2. The Battle of Hastings took place in 1066 and the Norman army won it. 3. William the Conqueror was a sly and wise ruler, he kept his word. 4. The greatest rebellion against William in Norman Britain was the uprising in the South of the country. 5. The Domesday Book was a complete inventory of everything in the kingdom, shire by shire, pig by pig; who had owned what. 6. William the Conqueror introduced the feudal system in Britain. 7. The nobles could quickly gather men to rebel against William as they held pieces of land close to each other. 8. The English language in Norman Britain was used as the language of the court, administration, and culture. 9. The Middle English language is quite different from the Old English language. 10. The Normans didn't influence the architectural development of Britain.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) For the support in his campaign William promised the warriors a great deal of money.

b) For the support in his campaign William promised to give the warriors honourable titles.

c) For the support in his campaign William promised to give the warriors lots of land.

2. a) William had confiscated lands from the Anglo-Saxons and it raised many objections among the new nobility.

b) There were many rebellions of Anglo-Saxons because William forbade them to leave the country.

c) William confiscated lands of Anglo-Saxons and because of it there burst out many uprisings against the new ruler.

3. a) William the Conqueror was a sly and wise ruler, he kept his word, but he also was a savage and formidable person.

b) William the Conqueror was a sly and wise ruler and there was no harm in him, he was a kind and submissive.

c) William the Conqueror was a sly and wise ruler and people adored him as he established high-level conditions for living.

4. a) The Domesday Book was a complete inventory of everything in the kingdom and it was launched by Harold.

b) Launched in 1085 by William, The Domesday Book was arguably the most extraordinary campaign for information.

c) Launched by Edward the Confessor, the Domesday Book was arguably the most extraordinary campaign for information.

5. a) The Old French existed only in written form; it was used by the clergy.

b) The English language, as the language of the now lower class, was considered a vulgar tongue.

c) Latin was the language of the court, administration, and culture.

IV. Imagine that you are one of the Anglo-Saxons living during Norman invasion. Describe conditions under which you live and relations between your fellows and your attitude to the new ruler – William the Conqueror.

General Revision

I. Supply the word or phrase from the vocabulary list which correctly completes the sentence:

Julius Caesar, Cnut, the Vikings, the Battle of Hastings, Celts, Lancaster, Harold Godwinson, Gloucester, The Domesday Book, Boudicca, Danes, Wessex, Chester, Ecgberht of Wessex, the White Tower, Hadrian's Wall, Christianization.

1. The Anglo-Saxon kingdom that was the strongest in withstanding the Vikings' invasion was... . 2. Bitterness against Roman oppression had driven..., queen of the Iceni tribe, into a revolt that came close to expelling the invaders. 3. Anglo-Saxon beliefs were similar to those of the ..., who lived in Britain before the Roman invasion. 4. On October 14, 1066 the Saxon and Norman armies faced each other in 5. ... was a complete inventory of everything in the kingdom, shire by shire, pig by pig; who had owned what. 6. The part of England, which was under the rule of Vikings was called... 7. ... , the first building in the Tower of London

complex, was established during William's reign. 8. ...were considered as people, who showed aggression and violence in battle, had the ability to inspire fear in the hearts of the enemies and were insatiable for money. 9. A century before, in both 55 and 54 BC, ...had invaded Britain with the aim of conquest. 10. In AD 825 king ... united the majority of kingdoms in Heptarchy in one kingdom. 11. Almost the only lasting reminders of their presence are place-names like..., ... and..., which include variants of the Roman word ...(a military camp). 12. This was the line along which ... was constructed in 120s and 130s AD. 13. ... was the first king to rule over a truly united realm of England, free from internal and external strife and unrest. 14. After Edward the Confessor's death the English throne was seized by 15. ... of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms began in AD 597, influenced by Celtic Christianity from the north-west and by the Roman Catholic Church from the south-east.

II. Match the events in the second column to the dates in the first column:

1085	The Battle of Hastings
425AD	The assassination of Caligula
14th October in 1066	The compilation of the Domesday Book
597 AD	The end of the Roman rule in Britain
825 AD	Beginning of Christianization of the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms
41 AD	The last Roman soldiers left Britain
1016	Cnut became the king of England
8 th century	The first inroads of the Vikings
55 - 54 BC	The construction of Hadrian's Wall
410 AD	Unification of the majority of kingdoms in Heptarchy in one big kingdom
120 - 130 AD	1st Roman invasion of Britain

MEDIEVAL TIMES

The Hundred Years War

The Hundred Years' War is a common name given to the series of armed conflicts, broken by a number of **truces** and peace treaties, which were waged from 1337 to 1453 between the two great European powers at that time, England and France.

English Kings had had land in France ever since William, Duke of Normandy, had defeated the English King, Harold II, at Hastings in 1066. By the time of the English King Henry II, (1154-1189), the English controlled more of France than the French did, having acquired large parts in the west through inheritance and marriage. Henry II ruled from the Scottish border to the Pyrenees. However, many of the French lands were '**fiefdoms**' of the French King. Through the conventions of the feudal system this meant that technically the French King was feudal overlord of the English King for some of French possessions. He was entitled to have the English King perform a formal act of '**homage**' in order to keep these French lands. English Kings found this an **irksome** and **humiliating** state of affairs and it played a part in the breakdown between the French and English in the early fourteenth century which led to war.

England also was **aggrieved** at French intervention on the side of the Scots. English Kings had long exercised a sort of **loose lordship** over Kings of the Scots. Scotland remained a proud and independent Kingdom. England's King Edward I had conquered Wales and tried to conquer the Scots too. He had some initial success, but the Scots would not admit defeat and in the reign of Edward II decisively beat the English at the Battle of Bannockburn. Thereafter, the French and Scots often made common cause against England.

Flanders was an important industrial area of Europe during this time and both England and France were **vying** for control of the region. **Actually**, it was a fiefdom of France and under the control of the French crown, but the rich merchants of the region revolted against French control and **allied** themselves to England. This was because England was the main source for the raw wool needed in the Flemish textile industry. In 1337, Edward claimed that he was the rightful heir to the French throne a claim that Philip considered a declaration of war.

The first phase, the Edwardian War, lasted from 1337 to 1360, by which time England had made huge territorial gains. Edward III declared himself the rightful

king of France and invaded. There were no decisive land battles, but the English fleet defeated the French off Sluis (1340). This gave the English virtually total control of the Channel exposing the coast of France to attack. The French suffered some serious defeats in the early years of the war, Crecy (1346) and Poitiers (1356). Another English victory followed when Calais was taken after an **extended siege**. The English resumed the War and under the Black Prince (Edward III's son) took Bordeaux (1355). With Bordeaux in their hands, the English **plundered** large areas of southern France. The Peace of Bretigny, in 1360, ended the fighting and left the English in control, of large areas of France. Charles V succeeded John II (1364) and renewed the War (1369). As a result of the new French tactics and the power instability in England, the French succeeded in winning back much of the territory **ceded** to England in the Peace of Bretigny.

However, the tide soon turned back to favor the English for a couple reasons. First of all, the rule of the mentally unstable French king, Charles VI (1380-1422), **unleashed** factional **strife** between the noble houses of Orleans and Burgundians over who would control the king and French policies. Therefore, France was in a state of **turmoil** and open to attack. Also, about this time, a warlike English king, Henry V, took the throne and seeing the opportunity to regain lost territory decided to renew the War (1414). In one of the great battles of the age, with a numerically inferior force, Henry defeated a massive French force in the Battle of Agincourt (1415). The French army was not merely defeated. It was **decimated**. Henry forced Charles VI to recognize him as his heir and regent of France in the Treaty of Troyes (1420). Charles declared his own son Charles, the dauphin, as **illegitimate** and **repudiated** him. The conduct of the War was affected with the death of both Henry V and Charles VI in the same year (1422). Henry's son, Henry VI, was proclaimed king, but as he was an infant, regency was established under the Duke of Bedford.

The balance of power changed in 1429, with the appearance of Joan of Arc, whose main impact was an increase in the morale of the French troops. Joan and her army then won a series of victories over the English, restoring the spirit of fighting of the French. Joan herself was captured in March 1430, and the immediate danger passed. However, from this time support for the Burgundian faction began **to drift**, and they finally changed sides in 1435. England alone could not hope to win, and the next twenty years saw the war lost slowly, as town by town fell to the French, until, in 1454, the last English army in Gascony was defeated at Castillon, and only Calais which remained in English hands until the reign of Mary Tudor.

The Hundred Years War origins in national war experience gave that patriotism a chauvinistic edge that continued to color English popular attitudes to foreigners and especially to the French for a very long time.

No formal Treaty ended the Hundred Years War and English Kings claimed the title 'King of France' right down until 1801. Denied an outlet for their aggression on the Continent, English Barons fell to factional fighting back home and England suffered the so called "Wars of the Roses".

The War of Roses

The Wars of the Roses were a dynastic struggle between two great families, the Lancastrians and the Yorkists, for the English Throne. They were fought between 1453 and 1485. The Yorkists chose a white rose as their soldiers' emblem, to distinguish them from their opponents. The Lancastrians may have chosen a red rose as their symbol.

As for the roses, the White Rose of York and the Red Rose of Lancaster were fixed in the public's mind by Shakespeare. They were referred to in his play "Henry VI". There is no historical reference to the romantic idea that the Yorkists and the Lancastrians plucked their roses as a sign of loyalty to their respective families while conversing in a garden.

The English suffered a massive defeat at the end of the Hundred Years' War, losing most of their land possessions in France, including Maine, Normandy and Bordeaux, and leaving many landowners **impoverished** and mercenaries who had picked up the habit of pillaging, plundering and violently taking whatever they wanted during the war.

Since the fall of feudalism, the "Livery and maintenance" system meant that the great peers of the kingdom could call up minor lords in their dominions to come fight on their side, under one banner. These, combined with career soldiers turned **mercenaries** after the French campaigns, meant that the peers could rouse large armies for themselves as easily, and in some cases more easily, than the king. When fighting a common enemy for a century was no longer an option, it was perhaps just a matter of time until the great warriors began to fight each other.

King Henry VI was considered a weak king, constantly counseled and lead by stronger men. One of these men was Richard, the Earl of Cambridge, who later became the Duke of York. The great noble families of England **lined up** behind these two men in the struggle for England. So bitter and bloody were the battles at St. Albans, Mortimer's Cross, Tewksbury, and Barnet that many of the noble families declined out of existence. The Yorkists won the first phase of the war with Edward, the son of the late Duke of York. The Earl of Warwick, self proclaimed 'Kingmaker' deserted Edward because of this. Richard was the one great success of Edward's reign and proved a very able administrator of the North of England. He succeeded Edward as King, with events **propelling** him to imprison the teenage sons of the late king and to declare them illegitimate. Henry Tudor replaced him as King and thus the wars of the Roses came to an end.

The War of Roses appeared to be the last feudal anarchy before the establishment of absolutism in England. The war was conducted with frightful cruelty combined with numerous murders and executions. Both families were exhausted and perished by continuous struggle. In the course of war the majority of feudal aristocracy was exterminated, a great number of seizures of land lords' estates undermined their power.

1. **Truce** – перемир'я
2. **Fiefdom** – вотчина
3. **Homage** – преклоніння
4. **Irksome** – дратівливий
5. **Humiliating** – принизливий
6. **Aggrieve** – пригнічувати
7. **Loose lordship** – невизначена влада
8. **Vie** – змагатися
9. **Actually** – в дійсності
10. **Ally** – об'єднуватись
11. **Extended siege** – тривала облога
12. **Plunder** – грабувати
13. **Cede** – віддавати
14. **Unleash** – розв'язати (війну)
15. **Strife** – боротьба
16. **Turmoil** – безлад
17. **Decimate** – спустошувати

18. **Illegitimate** – позашлюбний
19. **Repudiate** – зрікатися
20. **Drift** – дрейфувати
21. **Impoverish** – розоряти
22. **Mercenary** – найманець
23. **Peer** – лорд
25. **Line up** (behind) – згуртуватися навколо
26. **Propel** – спонукати

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. Was the Hundred Years' War one permanent conflict by its nature?
2. What was the reason for the declaration of the Hundred Years' War?
3. What was the most striking French defeat during the Hundred Years' War?
4. How did the course of the Hundred Years' War change with the appearance of Joan of Arc?
5. What was the last English possession in France after the Hundred Years' War came to its end?
6. Did the Hundred Years' War put the end to the tense relation between Britain and France?
7. What were the main noble families struggling during the War of Roses?
8. Why did the monarchy grow in power after the War of Roses came to its end?
9. How did the War of Roses change the political government in Britain?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The French possessions in England became the main reason for the Hundred Years' War.
2. The Scots were the important part of the English military forces during the Hundred Years' War.
3. The English claims to the French throne appeared to be the principal cause of declaring the Hundred Years' War.
4. A great number of victories in land battles made it possible for the English troops to take the East of France under their control.
5. According to the Peace of Bretigny large areas in France went to England.
6. Henry V and his forces were defeated at Agincourt because the considerable part of the Scots went over to the French army.
7. The Hundred Years' War helped to establish stronger central monarchies in England and France.
8. The Hundred Years' War put an end to the strife between England and France for many centuries.
9. The War of Roses appeared to be a popular uprising

against the wealthy feudal lords. 10. The “Livery and maintenance” Law forbade holding the army for the rich peers. 11. Many of the noble families were exterminated during the War of Roses. 12. The War of Roses gave rise to the establishment of Tudors’ Empire.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) The roots of the Hundred Years’ War were found since the Norman Conquest.

b) The roots of the Hundred Years’ War were found since the Scandinavian Invasion.

c) The roots of the Hundred Years’ War were found since the Barbarian Invasion.

2. a) The tense relationship between England and France was aggravated by the Scots allied to England.

b) The tense relationship between England and France was aggravated by the Scots’ association with the French.

c) The tense relationship between England and France was aggravated by the Celts intervention on the side of France.

3. a) Both England and France were engaged in the struggle for the important agricultural area.

b) Both England and France were engaged in the struggle for the important industrial centre.

c) Both England and France were engaged in the struggle for the important centre.

4. a) The Peace of Bretigny allowed England to gain the large areas in France

b) The Peace of Bretigny summarized the first phase of the Hundred Years’ War and returned to France some of the lost possessions.

c) The Peace of Bretigny led to the political instability within England.

5. a) Charles VI proved to be a powerful leader who managed to unite the split French forces.

b) Charles VI appeared to be an insane king whose reign led to the factional struggle.

c) Charles VI was a warlike king who renewed the Hundred Years' War after the Peace of Bretigny.

6. a) The Lancastrians and the Yorkists got their red and white roses as their elements after had met in a royal garden.

b) The Lancastrians and the Yorkists got their red and white roses as their elements because of the colour of their seats in the Parliament.

c) The Lancastrians and the Yorkists got their red and white roses as their elements after the appearance of Shakespeare's play.

7. a) The War of Roses proved to be the first attempt to establish a democratic government.

b) The War of Roses appeared to be the last great struggle before the establishment of monarchy in England.

c) The War of Roses appeared to be the last feudal strife for the English throne before the establishment of democracy.

Tudors (1485-1603)

Henry VIII

To historians, Henry remains one of the most important monarchs to have ruled the English and Welsh. He lasted almost four decades (1509-1547), during which he presided over the foundation of the Church of England, the remodelling of government and taxation, a major growth in the importance of Parliament, the incorporation of Wales into the regular system of English local administration, the establishment of the Kingdom of Ireland.

Henry treated his duties of the king with an almost manic energy, fuelled by a huge appetite for food and drink. In his youth, he wore out eight horses a day while hunting, and also engaged regularly in dancing, **jousting** and wrestling. This lifestyle began to go badly wrong from the age of forty-four, when his horse rolled on him in a tournament, **crippling** one leg and leaving him a chronic invalid. His appetite for

pleasure was matched at times by his interest in business. He was the last monarch for over a century to attend the debates of the House of Lords, and in his last seven years he personally gave 108 interviews to foreign ambassadors. Henry possessed an amazing memory; he was able to recall the names of every servant employed by the royal households and all the grants of land or money which he had ever signed. On the other hand, he did not care to attend the deliberations of his council of advisers, kept postponing major decisions of policy, and hated to read or write long documents.

Some claims could be made for him as a cultured monarch. He was quite a good musician, and possessed a library of almost a thousand books, which he certainly read as he scribbled all over them. He had a real understanding of fortification, ballistics and shipping, and could discuss mathematics and astronomy on equal terms with experts.

As a man, he had notable virtues. He was genuinely charming, affectionate, and taking a real interest in other people. If he was demonstrative in his affections, so was he in his rages, abusing **courtiers** verbally and physically. His reign probably contained more political executions than any other of comparable length in English history - 330 in the years 1532-40 alone - and the king took a personal interest in increasing the physical suffering and humiliation of some of those **condemned**.

His damage to traditional Christianity in England is obvious: his policies resulted in the destruction of hundreds of beautiful buildings and works of art, incalculable damage to libraries, and the execution of the Englishmen mostly widely respected in Europe for their godliness. In place of all this he instituted not a Protestant Church, but a decaying Catholic one.

Henry never showed any capacity as a general, and his foreign policy was a failure. He repeatedly attempted to reconquer parts of France, and ended up with Boulogne, a third-rate port that was **subsequently** handed back to the French after over a million pounds had been spent trying to keep it. He tried to conquer Scotland, and only forced the Scots to become **allies** of his enemies the French. Two real successes of his reign - the assimilation of Wales and the **pacification** of Ireland - were not matters in which he displayed personal interest. The splendid string of fortresses

which he built to guard the English coast were a sign of panic, at having united all the strongest powers in Western Europe against himself by rejecting Catholicism.

Henry is famously remembered for having six wives—two of whom he had beheaded.

Katharine of Aragon was engaged to the older brother of Henry VIII. But her marriage to Arthur lasted less than six months and then she promptly married Henry. They lived together happily for many years but their marriage produced just one living child, a daughter called Mary, and Henry was desperate for a male heir. He also fell deeply in love with another woman. When the Catholic Church did not **grant the annulment** of the marriage, he declared himself head of a new English church and divorced with Katharine.

Henry's second wife Anne Boleyn was in the service of Katharine of Aragon and soon caught the eye of Henry VIII. She waited nearly seven years for Henry to obtain an annulment. But she was unable to give Henry the son he desperately needed, instead she gave birth to daughter Elizabeth and their marriage ended tragically for Anne. She was executed on patently **false charges** of witchcraft.

Jane Seymour was Henry's third wife and seems never to have made much of an impression upon anyone except the king. She fulfilled her most important duty as queen, but she was never crowned and died just twelve days after the long and **arduous birth** of son.

Marriage of Anne of Cleves and Henry was a very brief. Henry told courtiers and ambassadors that he could not perform his husbandly duties because of Anne's appearance. Anne agreed to an annulment very quickly and remained in England for the rest of her life.

Catherine Howard was a cousin of Henry VIII's ill-fated second queen, Anne Boleyn; and like Anne, Catherine would die on the **scaffold** at Tower Green. Catherine's greatest crime was her silliness. Catherine was understandably more attracted to men her own age and, after just seventeen months of marriage betrayed the king. She was beheaded on 13 February 1542, only nineteen or twenty years old.

Katharine Parr was the sixth and last wife of King Henry VIII. She was an admirable wife to Henry and a loving stepmother to his two youngest children, Elizabeth and Edward. She was also the most intellectual of Henry's wives. She became a widow after Henry VIII had died in January 1547.

After death Henry left three heirs: two daughters Mary and Elizabeth and son Edward with poor health.

Elizabeth I

The reign of Elizabeth I is often thought of as a Golden Age. It was a time of extravagance and luxury in which a flourishing popular culture was expressed through writers such as Shakespeare, and explorers like Drake and Raleigh sought to **expand** England's **territory** overseas. This sense of well-being was embodied by Queen Elizabeth who liked to wear **sumptuous costumes** and jewellery, and be entertained in style at her court. But life in Tudor England did not always reflect such splendour.

The people had lived through the unpopular reign of Mary I, known as 'Bloody Mary' for her **merciless persecution** of Protestants. Lady Jane Grey was Queen for only a matter of days before being toppled and eventually executed. And Mary Queen of Scots made a series of **ill-judged decisions** which led her to the executioner's block in 1587. Elizabeth was a different kind of Queen: quick-witted, clever and able to use **feminine wiles** to get her own way. Elizabeth could be as **ruthless** and calculating as any king before her but at the same time she was **vain**, sentimental and **easily swayed by flattery**. She had a formidable intellect, and her sharp tongue would quickly settle any argument - in her favour.

Her mother was the ill-fated Anne Boleyn who had caught the eye of Henry VIII at court and quickly became his second wife. But her fate was sealed when she failed to provide Henry with what he desperately wanted - a son. When Elizabeth was just two years old her mother was beheaded at the Tower of London.

Elizabeth was brought up in the care of governesses and tutors at Hatfield House and spent her days studying Greek and Latin with the Cambridge scholar, Roger Ascham. In later years Katherine Parr, Henry's sixth wife, took a keen interest in the young Elizabeth and made sure that she was educated to the highest standards. Elizabeth

was taught the art of public speaking, unheard of for women at the time. She learnt how to turn the tide of opinion in her favour, and this became one of her most effective weapons.

On 17 November 1558 Elizabeth, aged twenty-five, became Queen of England. Mary I had died unpopular with her people. The country now looked to the young Queen for salvation. As soon as her Council had been appointed, Elizabeth made religion her priority. She recognised how important it was **to establish a clear religious framework** and between 1559 and 1563 introduced the acts which made up the Church Settlement. This returned England to the Protestant faith stating that public worship, religious books such as the Bible and prayers were to be conducted in English rather than Latin. But Elizabeth was careful not to erase all traces of Catholic worship. An uneasy compromise was reached and maintained throughout her reign.

The welfare of her people was of paramount importance to Elizabeth. Her marriage was a political necessity and a way of forming a useful alliance with a European power. She never married but she used her marriage potential to ally with other important Kingdoms wisely for her and England's own benefit. She was known as the "Virgin Queen" because she had never married. And at the end of the 16th century Elizabeth I gave the name "Virginia" to the whole area explored by the 1584 expedition of Sir Walter Raleigh along the coast of North America.

The years of Elizabeth's rule are often referred to simply using her name - The Elizabethan age - such was her effect on the nation. The period is also called the Golden Age, for these years saw England rise to the status of world power thanks to voyages of exploration and economic expansion.

In the 1500s there was a major rivalry on the seas between the ships of Britain and Spain over control of trade in the New World. King Philip II of Spain decided to settle the question once and for all by invading and conquering England itself. Philip assembled a huge fleet of warships known as the Spanish Armada and in 1588 sailed into the English Channel. During the nine-day battle, the smaller, more manoeuvrable British ships met the Spanish Armada and **inflicted terrible losses**. Spanish ships that sailed away encountered foul weather and only a few ever returned to Spain. Following the defeat of the Spanish Armada, Britain became the dominant world

power and remained so for centuries. England also expanded its commerce and companies like the British East India Company were established **to enhance trade**.

The Elizabethan era was the Age of Exploration from which emerged the Famous Elizabethan Pirates and the Golden Age of Pirates. All the pirates were used by Elizabeth I to increase the prestige of her kingdom and fill her treasury. While playing their parts as **pawns** in the queen's dangerous diplomatic games, they **indulged** their enthusiasms for exploration and gold and opened North America to colonisation.

On March 24, 1603, Elizabeth died as the oldest monarch to rule England until King George III. Her era saw the advancement of England as a military might, restored the Anglican faith, and ruled her country effectively through council for 45 years in a time when women were still being looked upon as being inferior to men.

1. **Joust** – лицарський турнір
2. **Cripple** – калічити
3. **Courtier** – придворний
4. **Condemn** – засуджувати
5. **Subsequently** – згодом
6. **Ally** – союзник
7. **Pacification** – умиротворення
8. **To grant the annulment of** – анулювати
9. **Arduous birth** – важкі роди
10. **Scaffold** – ешафот
11. **To expand territory** – розширювати територію
12. **Sumptuous costumes** - розкішні костюми
13. **Merciless persecution** – нещадне переслідування
14. **Ill-judged decision** – нерозумне рішення
15. **Feminine wiles** – жіночі хитрощі
16. **Ruthless** – нещадний
17. **Vain** – марнославний
18. **To be easily swayed by flattery** – легко піддаватися впливу лестоців
19. **To establish a clear religious framework** - встановити чітку релігійну основу
20. **To inflict terrible losses** – заподіяти страшні збитки
21. **To enhance trade** - розширяти торгівлю

22. **Pawn** – пішак

23. **To indulge** – залучати

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. What life style did Henry pursue before becoming a chronic invalid?
2. Why was Henry called a cultured monarch?
3. Why did Henry's reign contain more political executions than any other?
4. Why did Henry institute Catholicism instead of Christianity?
5. What were the results of rejecting Catholicism?
6. Who of Henry's six wives was beheaded and why?
7. Who gave birth to Henry's only male heir?
8. Who was Elizabeth's mother and what happened to her?
9. What religion reforms did Elizabeth implement?
10. Why was Elizabeth's marriage so important for the country and did she ever married?
11. Why are the years of Elizabeth rule called the Golden Age?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. Henry VIII was a genuinely charming, affectionate and cultured monarch.
2. The grounds which Henry used to annul his marriage to Katherine of Aragon were that she was Catholic.
3. Henry's first wife was the mother of King Edward VI.
4. Henry's VIII wives were beheaded because they could not cope with the role of the Queen.
5. Henry VIII had only two successors: Elizabeth and Edward.
6. Queen Mary II of England was nicknamed "Bloody Mary" because she died of blood poisoning.
7. Elizabeth's early life was consequently troubled because her mother had failed to provide the King with a son and had been executed.
8. The pirates were used by Elizabeth to take away money from the rich and give to the poor.
9. Queen Elizabeth was the last reigning monarch of the Tudor Dynasty.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) Henry VIII instituted the Catholic Church instead of Protestant Church.
b) Henry VIII instituted the Protestant Church instead of Catholic.
c) Henry VIII instituted the Catholic Church instead of Christianity.

2. a) Henry VIII attempted to reconquer parts of Scotland, and ended up with Boulogne, a third-rate port.
b) Henry VIII conquered parts of France, and ended up with Boulogne, a third-rate port.
c) Henry VIII attempted to reconquer parts of France, and ended up with Boulogne, a third-rate port.
3. a) Henry's third wife Jane Seymour died after the long and arduous disease.
b) Henry's third wife Anne Boleyn died after the long and arduous birth of daughter.
c) Henry's third wife Jane Seymour died after the long and arduous birth of son.
4. a) After Henry VIII had died throne passed into the Mary's hands
b) After Henry VIII had died throne passed into the Elizabeth's hands
c) After Henry VIII had died throne passed into the Edward's hands
5. a) Elizabeth, aged twenty-four, became Queen of England.
b) Elizabeth, aged twenty-five, became Queen of England.
c) Elizabeth, aged twenty-five, got married.

IV. Write a short summary about the role of Elizabeth I in the history of England.

English Civil War

Civil War. Charles I

Charles I was king of England, Scotland and Ireland, whose conflicts with parliament led to civil war and his **eventual execution**. Charles I was a **conscientious** and principled ruler, but he was also **stubborn**, reserved and **politically maladroit**. From the moment that he first assumed the crown, uneasy murmurs about his style of government began to be heard. Over the next 15 years, many of Charles's English subjects **became alienated** by his religious policies and by his **apparent determination** to rule without parliaments.

Charles I was born in Fife on 19 November 1600, he was the grandson of Elizabeth I. Charles's reign began with an unpopular friendship with George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who used his influence against the wishes of other **nobility**. Charles dissolved parliament three times. In 1629, he dismissed parliament and resolved to rule alone. This forced him **to raise revenue** by non-parliamentary means which made him increasingly unpopular.

One of Charles I's major mistakes, that caused Civil war, was that he was unable to gain the co-operation of his parliament. By 1642, relations between Parliament and Charles had become very bad. Charles had to do as Parliament wished as they had the ability to raise the money that Charles needed. Charles I was a firm believer in the "divine right of kings", so such a relationship with Parliament was unacceptable for him. In June 1642 the Long Parliament passed a new set of demands called the Nineteen Proposals that called for the King's powers to be greatly reduced and a greater control of government to be given to parliament. Both Parliament and Charles began collecting together their own armies. War was inevitable.

Another major influence in the outbreak of the civil war was religion. The religious quarrels began right at the start of Charles' reign, when Charles married Henrietta Maria, a French Catholic. Then Charles I decided to introduce the English Prayer Book into Scotland. There was **nationwide rioting**, because no one wanted to follow the new Prayer Book. Scotland was a Puritan country, and they thought that the English Prayer Book was far too Catholic to use in Scotland.

Charles then made his most fatal and obtuse mistake, that became the pretext for the war. He attempted to **apprehend** the five leading members of the opposition, during a session of parliament. This **stunt** cost King Charles his moral authority. Realising that the kingdom could never be settled in peace while Charles I remained alive, a number of radical MPs and officers in the New Model Army eventually decided that the king had to be charged with high treason. Charles was accordingly tried, found guilty, and beheaded in January 1649.

In the wake of the king's execution, a republican regime was established in England, a regime which was **chiefly underpinned** by the military power of the New Model

Army and governed by the Rump Parliament (without the House of Lords) and by an executive council of state.

Republic. Oliver Cromwell (1599-1658)

Britain became a Republic for eleven years and between 1649 and 1660 no King or Queen reigned in Britain. A Council of State was set-up instead of the monarchy and Oliver Cromwell was proclaimed 1st Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland. This republic was controlled by Puritans. But through a turn of events, Cromwell's "Puritan Republic" ended up resembling more a dictatorship than the constitutional government he originally fought for. Cromwell was one of the commanders of the New Model Army which defeated the royalists in the English Civil War.

Cromwell was born into the ranks of the middle gentry, and remained relatively **obscure** for the first 40 years of his life. Born in a time when Religion was very important in all areas of life, Cromwell was converted to a Puritan form of religion. He, along with many, believed that certain people formed an elect, chosen by God and marked out for **salvation**. As one of the elect, Cromwell, along with those who shared his beliefs, dedicated his life to doing what he believed to be God's will.

Although Cromwell lacked military experience, he created and led a superb force of cavalry, the "Ironsides", and rose from the rank of captain to that of lieutenant-general in three years. Was **involved in several battles**. He became the Deputy Chief of Parliamentary army, and in 1644 Parliament appointed him general of the parliamentary forces. He convinced parliament to establish a professional army - the New Model.

As a ruler he executed an aggressive and effective foreign policy and did as much as any English leader to shape the future of the land he governed. For a while Cromwell and his Council ruled most effectively, sweeping away ancient **tribal rule** in Scotland and Ireland. He then united those countries with England under one Parliament, which was itself reformed. From Cromwell's rule local government was brought under major generals, soldiers whom he could trust. Under a new constitution and a reestablished Parliament, Cromwell took the title Lord Protector. This move also reestablished the House of Lords, another part of Parliament, and

made Cromwell king in all but name. Under the new leader, Oliver Cromwell, the **amendments** were adopted by the following items: the duel was canceled in the Army, civil marriage was resolved, all the royal property was transferred to the state treasury.

Cromwell pursued an effective foreign policy. His navy enjoyed substantial success in the West Indies and he allied himself with France against Spain. These victories, combined with his effective handling of Scotland and brutal conquering of Ireland, made him a popular and powerful ruler.

As a Puritan Cromwell forbade the luxury, closed theatres. People, who deny trinity of God were exposed to severe punishment. Many sport competitions were forbidden, for example, races on Sunday afternoon were disallowed.

Cromwell died in 1658 and was succeeded as protector by his son, Richard, but Richard had little aptitude for the part he was now called upon to play and **abdicated** eight months later.

Restoration of Monarchy

After Richard Cromwell's resignation, the republic slowly fell apart and Charles II was eventually invited to resume his father's throne. The primary reason for the downfall of the republic was that the Cromwell's regime imposed extreme religious intolerance across the land. Frightened by the increasing pro-democracy movement the bourgeoisie and new nobility began to gravitate toward the "traditional monarchy". Republic completely neglected the interests of farmers. At the same time the peasants in front of parliament were driven from the land by the new owners, the parliament distributed the estates for army top.

In May 1660, Charles II entered London in triumph. The monarchy had been restored. Charles II was an intelligent but deeply cynical man, more interested in his own pleasures than in points of political or religious principle. His lifelong preoccupation with his many mistresses did nothing to improve his public image. The early years of the new king's reign were scarcely glorious ones. In 1665 London was devastated by the plague, while a year later much of the capital was destroyed in the Great Fire of London.

1. **An eventual execution** – кінцева страта
2. **Conscientious** – сумлінний, добросовісний
3. **To be stubborn** – бути впертим, завзятим
4. **Politically maladroit** – політично незграбний
5. **To become alienated** – ставати відчуженим
6. **Apparent determination** – безперечне визначення
7. **Nobility** – дворянство
8. **To apprehend** – затримувати
9. **To obscure** – затемнювати
10. **To be involved in several battles** – бути вплутаним в декілька битв
11. **To raise revenue** – підвищити дохід
12. **Nationwide rioting** – загальнонаціональні заворушення
13. **A stunt** – трюк
14. **To be chiefly underpinned by** – бути головним чином підкріпленим
15. **Salvation** – порятунок, спасіння душі
16. **A tribal rule** – племінні правила
17. **An amendments** – поправки
18. **To abdicate** – відректися від престолу

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. What were the main causes that led to the Civil War in England?
2. Who was the reigning monarch during the English Civil War?
3. What politic did Charles persue?
4. What terms describe the two opposing forces of the English Civil War most accurately?
5. What title was assumed by Oliver Cromwell, during his leadership of the country after the English Civil War?
6. How did Cromwell who lacked military experience hold the position of the ruler?
7. What were the results of English Civil War?
8. What role did religious dissensions play in the Civil War?
9. What were the reasons for the downfall of English Republic?
10. Some years after the Civil War the former king's son was invited back to England and crowned as a new king. What is the name for this return of monarchy?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The English Civil War was precipitated by an attempt to introduce a New Prayer Book in Scotland. 2. Charles's reign began with an unpopular friendship with Oliver Cromwell. 3. Charles attempted to apprehend the five leading members of Parliament, this became the pretext for the war. 4. Following the execution of the king, Oliver Cromwell was given the title of Lord Protector. 5. Charles I had a good relationship with the Parliament. 6. Oliver Cromwell as a ruler executed an aggressive and affective foreign policy. 7. Lord Protector didn't adopt new reforms in religion and culture. 8. Britain become a Republic for eleven years and between 1649 and 1660 Charles II reigned in Britain. 9. The primary reason for the downfall of the republic was that the Cromwell's regime imposed extreme religious intolerance across the land.

III. Write a short summary of English History from the Civil War to the restoration of monarchy.

IV. Identify the events in English history related to the following names:

Charles I, Oliver Cromwell

Victorian Britain, 1837-1901

Queen Victoria's Life

Victoria was the longest reigning British monarch and the figurehead of a vast empire. She oversaw huge changes in British society and gave her name to an age.

Victoria was born on 24th May 1819. She inherited the throne, when she was very young, she was barely eighteen. Lord Melbourne was Prime Minister when Victoria became Queen. Melbourne was fifty-eight and a widower. Melbourne's only child had died and he treated Victoria like his daughter. Victoria grew very fond of Melbourne and became very dependent on him for political advice.

On Feb 10th, 1840, only three years after taking the throne, Victoria took her first vow and married her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. Their relationship was one of great love and admiration. Together they bore nine children - four sons

and five daughters. Victoria's children presented her with thirty-seven grandchildren. Queen Victoria and Albert wanted to make sure that their children made good political marriages in order to keep peace in Europe. They sat on the thrones of Europe, those of Great Britain, Prussia, Greece, Romania, Russia, Norway, Sweden and Spain. Queen Victoria was known as the grandmother of Europe. When Albert died on 14 December 1861, Victoria was devastated. She entered a state of **mourning** and wore black for the remainder of her life. She avoided public appearances, and rarely set foot in London in the following years. Her **seclusion** earned her the name "Widow of Windsor". Victoria's self-imposed isolation from the public diminished the popularity of the monarchy. She died from a cerebral hemorrhage on 22 January 1901 at the age of 81.

Victoria's reign (63 years and 7 months) as the Queen lasted longer than that of any other British monarch, and is the longest of any female monarch in history. Her reign is known as the Victorian era, and was a period of industrial, cultural, political, scientific, and military progress within the United Kingdom.

Naval Supremacy

During the Victorian age, Britain was the world's most powerful nation. Though not always effortlessly, it was able to maintain a world order which rarely threatened Britain's wider strategic interests. The single European conflict fought during Victoria's reign – the Crimean War of 1854-1856 – contrasted markedly with the 18th century, during which the British were involved in at least five major wars, none of which lasted less than seven years.

Britain's naval might was not openly challenged on the high seas between Admiral Nelson's famous victory at Trafalgar in 1805 and the World War One Battle of Jutland with the German navy in 1916.

Victoria's Empire

In 1882 Britain was in the later stages of acquiring the largest empire the world had ever seen. By the end of Victoria's reign, the British Empire extended over about one-fifth of the earth's surface and almost a quarter of the world's population at least theoretically owed **allegiance** to the 'queen empress'. It is remarkable that Great

Britain, a relatively small island nation, was able to dominate world politics by the end of the nineteenth century.

These acquisitions were not uncontested. A number of colonial wars were fought and insurgencies put down as bloodily as the colonizers considered necessary. Many colonial administrators and Christian missionaries took on their colonial duties with a fierce determination to do good.

One of the Queen's proudest possessions was the Indian subcontinent, which had for over 150 years been under the military domination of the East India Company. The framework for British India was completed in 1849. A major change occurred in the manner of governing India after the great **mutiny** of 1857-1858. The mutiny was an uprising of the native population, and British troops were sent in to aid the East India Company's **privately-run armed forces**. The British forces won, and direct rule over India was placed in the hands of the British Crown and its Army. Victoria was crowned Empress of India in 1876; British rule over the country continued well into the twentieth century.

In the 19th century the British Empire included India, large parts of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, as well as Canada, Australia, New Zealand plus parts of South and Central America and the Caribbean. Britain's status as the financial capital of the world also secured investment inflows which preserved its immense prosperity. Liverpool's status as a World Heritage City is fitting **testament** to a period when Britain did indeed 'rule the waves'.

Industrial Revolution

Victoria came to the throne during the early, **frenetic** phase of the world's first industrial revolution. Industrialisation brought with it new markets, a **consumer boom** and greater prosperity for most of the propertied classes.

For a few decades in the 19th century British manufactured goods dominated world trade. Britain also had the commercial, financial and political power **to edge out rivals** at home and abroad. In some industries, most notably textiles, massive changes took place in technology and in the organisation of production causing dramatic productivity growth. This in turn brought a steep decline in prices.

From the 1840s, railways revolutionised the speed of communication and the transport of passengers and, more gradually, **freight**. Some regions concentrated on commercial agriculture and others **stagnated**. Manufacturing, especially in the growing towns and cities, was founded on the **proliferation** of back street, unregulated workshops with a **preponderance** of cheap female labour.

Demand for goods fuelled the Victorian economy. Though British manufactures dominated European and transatlantic markets, domestic demand provided secure **bedrock** for mid-Victorian prosperity. Increased demand resulted from rising incomes particularly for the middle classes and for workers with particular skills such as engineering. Demand was also driven by the sheer increase in numbers of consumers. This was a product of the population explosion and coupled with greater wage dependency, landlessness and urbanisation.

Until the 1840s the success of British industrial expansion rested largely on cotton and, to a lesser extent, wool textiles and a proliferation of smaller scale consumer goods. The economy **flourished** when cotton boomed and exports were high. However, when markets became overstocked and confidence was shaken, the economy went into recession. This pattern of boom and **slump** continued throughout the 19th century.

The Great Exhibition of 1851 marked the peak of British economic dominance. A huge range of British products were displayed for foreign and domestic visitors in the monumental visionary architectural achievement of the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park. However, other countries, particularly Germany, and the United States were catching Britain up. They had more abundant and cheaper supplies of energy and raw materials. Growth in the economy was decelerating from the 1870s.

The Industrial Revolution brought about dramatic changes in nearly every aspect of British society, including demographics, politics, social structures and institutions, and the economy. It brought rapid, and sometimes chaotic change as towns and cities expanded at a pace which precluded orderly growth. With the growth of factories, for example, people were drawn to metropolitan centers. Work places were often poorly ventilated, over-crowded, and replete with safety hazards. Men, women, and children alike were employed at survival wages in unhealthy and dangerous environments.

Workers were often able to afford no more than the simplest housing, resulting in the rise of urban slums.

Desperately poor housing conditions, long working hours, the ravages of infectious disease and **premature** death were the inevitable consequence. In the poorer quarters of Britain's larger cities, almost one child in five born alive in the 1830s and 1840s had died by the age of five. Polluted water and damp housing were the main causes.

Death rates in Britain as a whole remained obstinately above 20 per thousand until the 1880s and only dropped to 17 by the end of Victoria's reign. Life expectancy at birth, in the high 30s in 1837, had crept up to 48 by 1901.

1. **Mourning** – жалоба, траур
2. **Seclusion** – самотність
3. **Allegiance** – вірність, відданість
4. **Mutiny** – заколот, бунт, повстання
5. **Privately-run armed forces** – приватні збройні сили
6. **Testament** – свідчення, підтвердження
7. **Frenetic** – бурхливий
8. **Consumer boom** – споживацький бум
9. **To edge out rivals** – витіснити суперників, конкурентів
10. **Freight** – вантаж
11. **To stagnate** – застоюватися
12. **Proliferation** – поширення, швидке збільшення
13. **Preponderance** – перевага, переважання
14. **Bedrock** – основа, ґрунт
15. **To flourish** – пишно рости; бути в розквіті, процвітати
16. **Slump** – криза; різке зниження цін, попиту
17. **Premature** – передчасний

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. At what age did Queen Victoria inherit the throne?
2. Why was Victoria known as the grandmother of Europe?
3. Why did the Queen earn the name “Widow of Windsor”?
4. Why and when was Victoria crowned Empress of India?
5. What countries did the British Empire include in the 19th century?

6. To what consequences did the British industrialization lead in the 19th century?
7. What caused the increased demand during the British Industrialization of the 19th century?
8. Due to what events did the British economy flourish in the 19th century?
9. What caused the peak of British economic dominance in the 19th century?
10. What were the inevitable consequences of the Industrial Revolution in Britain?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. Victoria inherited the throne, when she was very young, she was barely sixteen.
2. Victoria married her cousin, Lord Melbourne.
3. Victoria had nine children – four sons and five daughters – who made good political marriages in Europe.
4. Queen Victoria was known as the mother of Europe.
5. Victoria's reign as the Queen lasted longer than that of any other British monarch.
6. There were a lot of European conflicts fought during Victoria's reign.
7. One of the Queen's proudest possessions was a large part of Canada.
8. The British Empire brought with it new markets, a consumer boom and greater prosperity for most of the propertied classes.
9. Until the 1840s the success of British industrial expansion rested largely on wool textiles.
10. The Great Exhibition of 1851 marked the peak of French economic dominance.
11. During the Industrial Revolution work places were often well ventilated, overcrowded, and replete with safety hazards.
12. The Industrial Revolution in Britain brought only positive changes.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) Queen Victoria was known as the mother of Europe.
b) Queen Victoria was known as the grandmother of Europe.
c) Queen Victoria was known as the grandmother of the Indian subcontinent.
2. a) At 63 years and 7 months, Victoria's reign as the Queen lasted longer than of any other British monarch, and is the longest of any female monarch in British history.
b) At 63 years and 7 months, Victoria's reign as the Queen lasted longer than of any other world's monarch, and is the longest of any female monarch in British history.
c) At 63 years and 7 months, Victoria's reign as the Queen lasted longer than of any other British monarch, and is the longest of any female monarch in history.

3. a) The most remarkable European conflict fought during Victoria's reign was the Crimean War of 1854-1856.
- b) The single European conflict fought during Victoria's reign was the Crimean War of 1854-1856.
- c) One of the European conflicts fought during Victoria's reign was the Crimean War of 1854-1856.
4. a) No other country could at first compete so Britain became the workshop of the world.
- b) No other country could compete so Britain became the workshop of the world.
- c) No other country could at first compete so Britain became the workshop of Europe.
5. a) The economy flourished when cotton boomed and exports were high.
- b) The economy flourished when printed cotton boomed and exports were high.
- c) The economy flourished when wool textiles boomed and exports were high.
6. a) Working conditions were often satisfactory for many of those employed in the new factory systems.
- b) Working conditions were often much less than satisfactory for many of those employed in the new factory systems.
- c) Working conditions were often much less than satisfactory for many of those employed in the old factory systems.

IV. Make up the dialogue, working in pairs. Imagine that you are Queen Victoria and Albert. Discuss the importance of the Great Exhibition of 1851.

V. Speak about advantages and disadvantages of the Industrial Revolution.

VI. Draw the scheme of the main events of the Industrial Revolution.

General Revision

I. Supply a word or a phrase from the vocabulary list which correctly completes the sentence:

The Great Exhibition, the Lancastrians, the "Ironsides", the grandmother of Europe, Charles II, the Indian subcontinent, the New Model of Army, The War of

Roses, Victoria's, the British Empire, Republic, , the Hundred Years' War, Widow of Windsor, the Great Revolution, the Yorkists.

1. After Richard Cromwell's resignation, the republic slowly fell apart and ... was eventually invited to resume his father's throne. 2. When ... came to its end Henry VII replaced the king, Richard II, thus establishing the absolute monarchy in England. 3. The name Victoria earned because of her seclusion was 4. ... were one of rival noble houses during the War of Roses who had the emblem of a white rose. 5. Victoria's children made good political marriages in Europe, and she was known as 6. After the end of ... England was left in ruins and many landowners were impoverished. 7. Britain became a ... for eleven years and between 1649 and 1660 no King or Queen reigned in Britain. 8. A red rose was the emblem of ... during the War of Roses. 9. ... brought with it new markets, a consumer boom and greater prosperity for most of the propertied classes. 10. Cromwell was one of the commanders of ... which defeated the royalists in the English Civil War. 11. ... marked the peak of British economic dominance. 12. Although Cromwell lacked military experience, he created and led a superb force of cavalry,

II Match the events in the first column to the dates in the second column:

Charles's execution.	1660
Time of Henry's VIII rule	January 1547
The end of the Hundred Years' War	1453
Cromwell's death.	1658
Henry VIII died	1509-1547
The restoration of monarchy in Britain.	1649
The end of the War of Roses	1485
Queen Victoria was born.	Feb, 10 th 1840
Queen Victoria married her cousin, Prince Albert.	1851
Elizabeth became the Queen of England	24 March 1603
The beginning of the Hundred Years' War	1337
Queen Victoria died at the age of 81.	Jan, 22 nd 1901
The beginning of the War of Roses	1453
Queen Elizabeth died	17 November 1558
The Great Exhibition marked the peak of British economic dominance.	May, 24 th 1819

III. Match the following words and word combinations to their correct meaning:

Widow of Windsor	The longest reigning British monarch and the figurehead of a vast empire.
The Yorkists	A period of industrial, cultural, political, scientific, and military progress within the UK.
Queen Victoria	The name Victoria earned because of her seclusion.
Henry VIII	The refined queen who's rule is thought of as a Golden Age
The War of Roses	An intermittent war that took place between two great European powers, France and England.
The Victorian era	A dynastic struggle between two great families, the Lancastrians and the Yorkists, for the English throne.
The Hundred Years' War	The last English territory in France after the end of the Hundred Years' War.
The Golden Age	The notorious king that had six wives
The Long Parliament	One of the rival noble houses during the War of Roses who had the emblem of a white rose.
Charles I	The man, who was proclaimed 1 st Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland.
Elizabeth I	A period of the heyday of the British

Restoration	economy. Is a period began in 1660, when Charles II became a king.
The Spanish Armada	The name og the English Parliament called by Charles I, and worked for a long period of time.
Oliver Cromwell	A king, that was engaged in a struggle for power with the Parliament of England.
Calais	The fleet under the command of the Duke of Medina Sidonia which was defeated by England.

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BRITAIN FROM 1945 ONWARDS

British State in the Modern World

Changing Population

Britain and the British have changed profoundly since 1945. A principal driver of change has been a major growth in population, matched by rapidly rising expectations about lifestyle.

Demands for mobility (cars) and space (houses) have ensured the transfer of land from agriculture and natural landscape to roads and housing, with **multiple consequences** for the environment and for the human experience.

The composition of the population has **undergone a marked transformation**, due primarily to advances in medicine. In line with a general trend around the developed world, **life expectancy** has risen greatly for both men and women.

Furthermore, **large-scale immigration**, particularly from the West Indies and South Asia, but also from other areas such as Eastern Europe, has made the population ethnically far more diverse, with important cultural consequences. In 1970 there were about 375,000 Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in Britain. By 1993 the figure was about 1,620,000, with the rise in the number of Muslims being particularly pronounced.

Moral Codes

Social and cultural change has also reflected the extent to which the population has become more individualistic and less deferential.

The moral code that prevailed in 1945 broke down, a process formalised by **legal changes** in the 1960s. Abortion and homosexuality became legal, **capital punishment** was abolished, and measures were taken to improve the position of women.

These changes were linked to **shifts in religious practice**. But for most believers, formal expressions of faith became less important. The failure in the 1990s of the heavily church-backed 'Keep Sunday Special' campaign (to prevent shops from opening on the **sabbath**) confirmed the general trend.

The 1960s destroyed a cultural continuity that had lasted since the Victorian period.

End of Empire

The British Empire taking its beginning from the times of queen Victoria was the largest formal empire that the world had ever known and its power and influence stretched all over the globe.

In 1945, Britain still had the largest empire in the world. The Second World War would see much imperial territory threatened or temporarily lost. Despite being on the winning side, the Empire would not recover from the **geo-political shifts** caused by this Second World War and would enter into a period of **terminal decline**. India was the first and largest area to be shed and then the Middle East and then Africa. Various Caribbean and Pacific possessions held on a little longer but most of these also went their separate way. The last of the major colonies to be lost was Hong Kong in 1997. This empire had largely been granted independence by 1964, beginning with independence for India and Pakistan in 1947.

Fragments remained. A war was successfully fought with Argentina in 1982 when the latter attacked the Falkland Islands, a colony inhabited by British settlers since 1833.

As empire **receded** fast, Britain seemed a diminished power. Nonetheless, it became the third state in the world to gain the atom bomb in 1952, followed by the hydrogen bomb in 1957.

Defence in the post-war era largely consisted of the protection of Western Europe against the threat of Soviet invasion, and Britain played a key role in this confrontation which became known as the Cold War. Britain became an active member of international organisations, not least the United Nations, of which it was a founder member and held a permanent seat on the Security Council. Britain was also a founder member of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in 1949.

The Commonwealth

The Commonwealth of Nations, formerly known as the British Commonwealth, is an intergovernmental organization of fifty-four independent member states. All but two (Mozambique and Rwanda) of these countries were formerly part of the British Empire, out of which it developed.

The member states co-operate within a **framework of common values** and goals as outlined in the Singapore Declaration. These include the promotion of democracy,

human rights, good governance, the rule of law, individual liberty, free trade, and world peace. The Commonwealth is not a political union, but an intergovernmental organization through which countries with diverse social, political and economic backgrounds are regarded as equal in status.

In April 1949, following the London Declaration, the word "British" was dropped from the title of the Commonwealth to reflect its changing nature.

Under that formula of the London Declaration, Queen Elizabeth II is the Head of the Commonwealth, a title that is currently individually shared with that of Commonwealth realms. However, when the monarch dies, the successor to the crown does not automatically become Head of the Commonwealth, the position is symbolic. Sixteen members of the Commonwealth, known as Commonwealth realms, recognize the Queen as their head of state. The majority of members, thirty-three, are republics, and a further five have monarchs of different royal houses.

Domestic Policies

At times, Britain itself appeared to be going the same way, as entry into the European Economic Community (EEC) - later European Union (EU) - in 1973 led to a **marked erosion** of national sovereignty and to a transfer of powers to Europe.

The main political parties represented in Parliament today are the Labour Party, the Conservative Party, and the Liberal Democrats (a coalition of the Liberal and Social Democratic parties, which voted in favour of a **formal merger** in 1988). From time to time during the past 50 years, other parties have arisen or have splintered off from the main groups, only to disappear or to become **reabsorbed**.

Today the Labour party is associated with trade unions, cooperative societies, branches of socialist societies, and trade councils. Its program calls for public ownership of the means of production, improvement of the social and economic conditions of the people, defence of human rights, cooperation with labour and socialist organizations of other countries, and peaceful adjustment of international disputes.

Conservatives are generally supportive of reduced government intervention in most matters. Today, they are also noted for their broadly Euro sceptic stance. Recently the Conservatives have begun to take a stance on the West Lothian Question, and support the idea that only English MPs should vote on policies which affect only England.

Liberal Democrats promoting social liberalism support the constitutional and electoral reform, and civil liberties.

The general stability of party fortunes is seen in the record of post-war election results. The Labour and Conservative parties each routinely receive between 40 and 50 per cent of the national vote, while the small Liberal party often garners 10-15 per cent. Shifting vote margins led to a regular alternation of government between Labour and Conservatives, but the basic structure of the party system seemed fairly constant.

Recent Conservative party governments have enacted a probusiness program: restructuring taxes, limiting social programs and privatising some government-owned industries.

The Conservative party won the largest number of seats at the 2010 general election, returning 307 MP's though not enough to make an overall majority, so they entered a formal coalition with the Liberal Democrats to form a majority government.

Britain And The European Union

The British have always thought of themselves as an island race, distinct from the problematic Europe and its peoples. Throughout the post war years of the 1950s, with the sun beginning to set on the era of empire due to the rise of an anti-colonialist mindset, Britain increasingly saw Europe as the answer to its economic and financial salvation.

When Britain joined the "European Economic Community" in 1973, the Prime Minister Edward Heath talked optimistically about membership bringing prosperity to the country. While the British man in the street thought that they had become part of a group of sovereign Nation-states that freely decided to work together to achieve solutions to common problems associated with being part of western European civilization.

Public anger is increasing at national levels among member states in response to the EU's attempts to regulate nearly all aspects of economic and civic life in Europe, from the selling price of fish caught in the North Sea to the cutting of peat for fuel in Ireland.

The British couldn't even imagine that the "EUROPEAN UNION" would control many aspects of British Law, including sensitive issues such as human rights and Immigration policy.

In Britain, irritation with the EU's control over parliament is increasing with more public opposition to EU demands, such as the closure of thousands of local post offices throughout the country. A petition signed by over 4 million voters was recently presented to Parliament to oppose the closures, but MPs admitted that they had no control over the decision that had come from Brussels. With the current financial crisis engulfing the Euro currency and a general loss of public confidence in the European project, the likelihood of a British withdrawal is growing.

1. **Multiple consequences**- численні наслідки
2. **To undergo a marked transformation**- зазнавати значних змін
3. **Life expectancy**- тривалість життя
4. **Large-scale immigration**- великомасштабна імміграція
5. **Legal changes**-юридичні зміни
6. **Capital punishment**- смертна кара
7. **To shifts in religious practice**-на зміни у релігійній практиці
8. **Sabbath**-священий день відпочинку
9. **Geo-politicalshifts**- геополітичні зміни
10. **Terminaldecline**- кінцевий занепад
11. **Toshed**- відділятися
12. **Torecede**-повертати захоплене
13. **Aframeworkofcommonvalues** – у рамках суспільних цінностей
14. **Markederosion**- явне руйнування
15. **Formal merger**- формальне поглинення
16. **Toreabsorb**- поглинати
17. **Firm allies**- міцні союзники

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. How did the moral cord change in Britain after 1945?
2. What changes were made in religious practice in Britain after the WW II?
3. What was the first colonia that dropped from the British Empire?
4. When did the last major colonia leave the British Empire?
5. What is the Commonwealth?
6. Who is the formal head of the Commonwealth?

8. What party won the general elections in 2010 in Britain?
9. What does the Labour Party stand for?
10. When did Britain join the EU?
11. What is the attitude of the British people towards membership of Great Britain in the European Union?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The composition of the population in Britain after the war has undergone a marked transformation, due primarily to advances in medicine. 2. In 1945 Britain was already the smallest empire in the world. 3. The moral code that prevailed in 1945 broke down, a process formalised by legal changes in the 1960s. 4. By 1993 the amount of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in the British empire minimized. 5. The last of the major colonies that was lost was Pakistan in 1997. 6. The British people were happy to join the EU. 7. Liberal Democrats promoting social liberalism support the constitutional and electoral reform, and civil liberties. 8. Today the Labour party is associated with trade unions, cooperative societies, branches of socialist societies, and trade councils.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) By 1993 the amount of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in the British empire minimized.

b) By 1993 the amount of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in the British empire increased greatly.

c) By 1993 the amount of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs in the British empire remained the same.

2. a) In the post WW II era Britain played a key role in this confrontation which became known as the Cold War.

b) In the post WW II era Britain tried not to take part in any international conflicts.

c) In the post WW II era Britain took an active part in all international conflicts.

3. a) The main political parties represented in British Parliament today are the Labour Party, the British National Party, and the Liberal Democrats

b) The main political parties represented in British Parliament today are the Labour Party, the Conservative Party, and the Green Party of England and Wales

c) The main political parties represented in British Parliament today are the Labour Party, the Conservative Party, and the Liberal Democrats.

IV. Write a short summary about the political changes in Great Britain after WW II.

The Political System of Great Britain

The UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has been the official title of the British state ever since 1922.

Originally the UK was an absolute monarchy, but the passage of the bill of rights in 1683, and the Act of Settlement in 1701 turned it into a constitutional monarchy. This means that the official head of state is the monarch, but his or her powers are limited by the constitution. The United Kingdom has never had a written Constitution. However the UK Constitution is unwritten only in the sense that the documents upon which it is based have not been brought together in a single inclusive statement. The major elements comprising this unwritten constitution are historic documents, judicial interpretations, privileges of Parliament and a few classic writings.

The legislative power in the United Kingdom is exercised by the Parliament. Parliament is the supreme law-making body in the country. It consists of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. British parliamentary system is one of the oldest in the world. Its origin has been traced to the seventh century, when a political institution in Anglo-Saxon England called **Witenagemot** existed. After the Norman conquest of 1066 it was replaced by the **Curia Regis**, the king's **feudal** council, where occurred the genesis of House of Lords. The modern model of Parliament has been developing since the 13th century after King John's signature of Magna Charta in 1215 that first placed limits on the power of the king. There originated The House of Commons and one thing it did was to prevent the king from raising **taxes** without the consent of a "great council". Thus England technically stopped being an absolute monarchy and parliament started his way on being a permanent institution rather than a body that waited to be called into existence by the monarch. The first official

assembly called "Parliament" gathered in 1290, it was known as the "community of the realm".

The House of Lords with its lord chancellor and the House of Commons with its speaker appeared in their modern form in the 16th century. However, in 1649 under Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth of England the upper house was **abolished**, and only after Cromwell's death, **the Restoration** of 1660 restored the House of Lords. Until the 19th century the House of Lords was superior to the House of Commons both in theory and in practice. The power of the House of Lords was such that any bill passed in the House of Commons could be defeated and therefore **rejected** in the House of Lords. This meant that on occasions the Commons had to adjust a bill so that it was acceptable to the Lords and would therefore be passed. However, in the 20th century a **clash** occurred between both Houses. In 1909, the Commons passed the so-called "**People's Budget**", which made numerous changes to the **taxation** system in a manner **detrimental** to wealthy landowners. The Conservative-dominated House of Lords, which consisted mostly of powerful landowners, rejected the Budget and over the next two years a campaign was started to reduce the power of the Lords. As that Budget was very popular among people the Liberals **countered** by making their proposals to reduce the power of the Lords the main issue of the general election in January 1910 and won. In the face of the **threat** to have the Conservative majority in the House of Lords erased, the Lords passed the bill. The legislative primacy of the House of Commons over the Lords was confirmed by the passing of the Parliament Acts of 1911 (which limited the legislation-blocking powers of the House of Lords as they prevented them from blocking a money bill) and 1949.

Nowadays the powers of modern House of Lords are extremely limited. The House of Lords was formerly composed of the hereditary peers of the realm, life peers, Scottish peers, all peeresses in their own right, and 26 Anglican prelates. In 1999 both houses voted to strip most hereditary peers and peeresses of their right to a seat in the House of Lords; 92 of them remained, some by virtue of offices they hold from the monarch or were elected to by the House, the rest (75) as a result of their election to the body. Formerly headed by the Lord Chancellor, Lords is now presided over by a lord speaker, a post that was created in 2006.

Commons is a democratically elected body of 659 members: 529 from England, 40 from Wales, 72 from Scotland, and 18 from Northern Ireland. The speaker, a

generally nonpartisan presiding officer, is elected by members of the party in power. The prime minister must, by modern tradition, be a member of Commons; all other ministers of the cabinet may be from either house. General elections to choose MP's are held every five years.

The British electoral system is based on the "**First-Past-The-Post**" (FPTP) system. This term was coined as an analogy to horse racing, where the winner of the race is the first to pass the winning post, a point which marks the end of the race track or course. So when the election takes place, the person who wins the highest number of votes within that constituency, wins that election. FPTP is as clear and as brutal as that. Only in the very rarest of cases has a re-count been ordered due to the closeness of that specific result, but in the vast majority of cases, FPTP allows for a clear winner. However the first-past-the-post system is praised for producing stable majorities in parliament, but is criticized for representing only the largest parties and smaller parties are often excluded from any influence in government or parliament because their voters are spread across multiple regions and thus they win no seats.

The executive branch is represented by the Government. It is formed by the party which has the majority in the Parliament and the Queen appoints its leader as the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister appoints a team of main ministers as the Cabinet (about 20 people). The Cabinet is the group of senior ministers and its main functions are: the final determination of policy, supreme control of the executive and continuous coordination of the activities of state.

Three parties currently dominate the national political landscape in Britain: the Conservative Party, the Labour Party, and the Liberal Democrats. And nowadays the Conservative Party is the largest one.

David William Donald Cameron (born October 9 1966) is the current Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. He became the youngest British Prime Minister in almost 200 years in May 2010 after his Conservative party formed a Coalition government with the Liberal Democrats. Mr. Cameron entered parliament in 2001 as the MP for Witney and became leader of the Conservatives, then in opposition, in 2005.

1. **Witenagemot** – Вітенагемот (рада старійшин при королі у англосаксів)
2. **Curia Regis** – велика королівська рада
3. **Feudal** - феодальний
4. **Taxes** – податки
5. **To abolish** - скасовувати; усувати

6. **Restoration** - Реставрація
7. **To reject** – відхиляти
8. **A clash** – сутичка, протиріччя
9. **"People's Budget"** – „Народний бюджет”
10. **Taxation** – оподаткування
11. **Detrimental** – збитковий
12. **To counter** – нанести зустрічний удар
13. **Threat** – загроза

I. Answer the following questions to the text:

1. What form of government has the United Kingdom? What does it mean?
2. What does the term “unwritten constitution” mean?
3. When did the modern model of Parliament appear?
4. Which House has the legislative primacy?
5. How does the British electoral system “First-Past-The-Post” work?
6. What institution represents the executive branch in the UK?
7. What are the functions of the Cabinet?
8. Which are three main political parties of GB?
9. Who is the current Prime Minister of the UK? When did he begin to hold this position?

II. Decide whether the statements are true or false:

1. The UK became a constitutional monarchy after passage of the bill of rights in 1683, and the Act of Settlement in 1701.
2. The legislative power in the United Kingdom is exercised by the Government.
3. In 1649 under Oliver Cromwell’s Commonwealth of England the lower house of the Parliament was abolished.
4. The legislative primacy of the House of Commons over the Lords was confirmed by the Parliament Acts of 1911 and 1949.
5. The Prime Minister of the UK must be a member of Commons.
6. The Liberal Democrats won the largest number of seats at the 2010 general election.
7. David Cameron became the eldest British Prime Minister in almost 200 years.

III. Write the letter of the best answer according to the information in the text:

1. a) Originally the UK was a constitutional monarchy, but the passage of the bill of rights in 1683, and the Act of Settlement in 1701 turned it into an absolute monarchy.

b) Originally the UK was a constitutional monarchy, but the passage of the bill of rights in 1683, and the Act of Settlement in 1701 turned it into parliamentary republic

c) Originally the UK was an absolute monarchy, but the passage of the bill of rights in 1683, and the Act of Settlement in 1701 turned it into a constitutional monarchy.

2. a) The origin of the parliament has been traced to the seventh century, when a political institution in Anglo-Saxon England called Curia Regis existed.

b) The origin of the parliament has been traced to the seventh century, when a political institution in Anglo-Saxon England called Witenagemot existed.

c) The origin of the parliament has been traced to the seventh century, when a political institution in Anglo-Saxon England called Magna Charta existed.

3. a) The first official assembly called "Parliament" gathered in 1390, it was known as the "community of the realm".

b) The first official assembly called "Parliament" gathered in 1290, it was known as the "community of the realm".

c) The first official assembly called "Parliament" gathered in 1260, it was known as the "community of the realm".

4. a) Nowadays the House of Lords dominates in the Parliament.

b) Nowadays both Houses have equal powers in the Parliament.

c) Nowadays the powers of the House of Lords are extremely limited.

5. a) The British electoral system is based on the "First-Past-The-Post" system.

b) The British electoral system is based on the system of proportional representation

c) The British electoral system is based on the Plurality voting system.

IV. Write a short summary of the development of the British Parliament.

General Revision

I. Supply the word or phrase from the vocabulary list which correctly completes the sentence:

“People's Budget”, Hong-Kong, India, the Restoration, European Union, Curia Regis, the Commonwealth, Pakistan, NATO, community of the realm.

1. ... was the first largest British colony that the British Empire has lost after the war . 2. ... was also shed from the British Empire in 1947. 3. The first official assembly called "Parliament" gathered in 1290, it was known as the ... 4. In 1997 Britain has lost the last major colony - 5. Britain was a founder member of ... in 1949. 6. After the Norman conquest of 1066 Witenagemot was replaced by the 7. ... is the organization of 54 countries which were a part of the British Empire. 8. After Cromwell's death, ... of 1660 restored the House of Lords. 9. Britain joined the ... in 1973, despite the fact that most of the British people were against it. 10. In 1909, the Commons passed the so-called ..., which made numerous changes to the taxation system in a manner detrimental to wealthy landowners.

II. Match the dates in the first column to the events in the second column:

1997	Britain joined the EU
1973	Hong Kong was the largest colonia to be separated from the Empire
1952	The formal name “The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland” appeared
1215	The Britain gained an atom bomb
1649	King's John signature of Magna Charta
1660	David Cameron became the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
1922	The Restoration
May 2010	The abolishment of the House of Lords

III. Match the following words and word combination to their correct meaning:

The Commonwealth	the document, which first placed limits on the power of the king
Curia Regis	the current British electoral system
Parliament	Support the idea that only English MPs

	should vote on policies which affect only England.
Magna Charta	Associated with trade unions, cooperative societies, branches of socialist societies, and trade councils
First-Past-The-Post	Promote social liberalism, support the constitutional and electoral reform, and civil liberties.
Liberal Democrats	an intergovernmental organization of fifty-four independent member states.
Labour Party	which were a part of the British Empire organization which was founded by Britain in 1949.
NATO	the king's feudal council
Conservative party	the institution which exercises the legislative power in the United Kingdom

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