

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ, ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И
ИННОВАЦИЙ КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ
НАУЧНО-УЧЕБНЫЙ ПРОИЗВОДСТВЕННЫЙ КОМПЛЕКС**

**ЖАЛАЛ-АБАДСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ имени
БЕКМАМАТА ОСМОНОВА**

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**Страноведение изучаемого языка
(курс лекции)**

**Regional Studies of the Studied Language
(lecture course)**

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Страноведение изучаемого языка (курс лекции) = Regional Studies of the Studied Language
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Основная цель данного курса лекций познакомить студентов с основными компетенциями, реалиями и терминами страноведения, создать базу знаний об историческом развитии культурного наследия страны, сформировать собственный стиль иноязычного речевого и социокультурного поведения, а также привить интерес и уважение к культурным традициям других народов.

Занимаясь по этому сборнику, студенты могут расширять и систематизировать свои знания на основе глубокого изучения состав населения, политическая система страны, ее экономика, истории страны, народное образования и стиль жизни народов Великобритании и США.

Объяснительная записка

Курс страноведения приобретает особое значение в образовании по подготовке специалистов иностранного языка. Современная методическая наука требует сочетать преподавание иностранного языка с изучением страны и жизни народа-носителя этого языка, поскольку язык и культура неразрывно связаны между собой. Интегрируя в едином комплексе знаний о стране изучаемого языка сведения географического, экономического, культурного и социального характера, страноведение способствует усвоению системы знаний о географии, об основных этапах исторического развития, социальной действительности и культуре страны, а также формированию страноведческой компетенции, необходимой для адекватного владения иностранным языком как средством общения, так и профессионального обучения. Подобный подход соответствует основным требованиям образовательного стандарта по современным иностранным языкам. Предмет страноведения способствует комплексной реализации всех целей обучения иностранному языку: практической, общеобразовательной, воспитательной, профессионально-педагогической и переводческой.

Курс страноведения состоит из крупных разделов:

1. Географическое положение изучаемых стран.
2. Основные исторические особенности формирования британской и американской наций, характеристика современного населения изучаемых стран.
3. Экономика.
4. Государственный и политический строй.
5. Система образования.
6. Культура стран изучаемого языка.

По учебному плану на курс страноведения отводится 120 часов, из которых 60 часов рекомендуется отводить каждой из изучаемых стран Великобритании и США. Желательно отводить каждой стране по 18 часов лекционных, 12 часов практических и 30 часов самостоятельных работ. Все формы обучения лекции, практические, семинарские занятия и самостоятельная работа студентов - должны осуществляться во взаимодействии при четкой преемственной и последовательной координации материала. По усмотрению преподавателя проводятся контрольные работы по важным темам курса.

Место дисциплины в структуре основной образовательной программы:
Дисциплина «Страноведение» является необходимой основой для последующего изучения дисциплин вариативной части профессионального цикла В.3.13.

Компетенции обучающегося, формируемые в результате освоения данной образовательной программы:

В результате освоения ОП выпускник должен обладать следующими компетенциями:

- способен применять методы, приемы анализа, интерпретации, обработки, создания и трансформации различных типов и видов текстов (ПК-12);
- способен самостоятельно анализировать и интерпретировать с лингвистической (и литературоведческой) точки зрения различные типы текстов (ПК-13);

Страноведение Великобритании.

Lecture 1

Geography and Natural Features of the United Kingdom

Geography plays a fundamental role in shaping national identity, political development, economic structure, and cultural patterns. The geographical position of the United Kingdom has historically determined its maritime orientation, imperial expansion, trade dominance, and relative political insulation from continental conflicts. Understanding the physical and economic geography of the United Kingdom is essential for interpreting its historical trajectory and contemporary global role.

The United Kingdom is located off the north-western coast of continental Europe. It occupies the major part of the British Isles archipelago and consists of four constituent countries: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland. The total area is approximately 243,610 square kilometers. The British Isles is the geographical name or term for a group of about 5000 islands off the North West coast of mainland Europe between the Latitudes 50 N and 61 N. The largest island is Britain or Great Britain, Wales and Scotland. The next largest is Ireland, which is made up of Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic. Britain and Northern Ireland, more commonly known as the United Kingdom (which is almost 20% smaller than Italy). In everyday usage, however, Great Britain or Britain is used to mean the United Kingdom. The Isle of Man, between Ireland and Britain and the Channel Island, off the northwest coast of France, though recognizing the Crown, have their own Parliaments and are largely self-governing. Great Britain is just under 1000 km long and just under 500 km across in its widest part.

The island location has historically provided:

Natural defense against invasion

Development of naval superiority

Expansion of overseas trade

Formation of a maritime empire

The English Channel separates Britain from continental Europe, while the North Sea connects it to Scandinavia and Northern Europe. This position enabled Britain to balance continental power politics while maintaining independent strategic interests.

The island factor significantly contributed to the development of the British navy, which became dominant during the 18th and 19th centuries.

The relief of the United Kingdom can be broadly divided into:

Highland Britain (north and west)

Lowland Britain (south and east)

Highland areas include:

The Scottish Highlands

The Pennines

The Cambrian Mountains

The highest mountain is Ben Nevis (1,343 meters), located in Scotland.

Lowland areas, particularly in southern England, are characterized by fertile plains that historically supported agriculture and urban development.

The most mountainous region is Scotland, (with Britain's highest peak Ben Nevis 1343 m) which also has a wide lowland area between Grampians and the Southern uplands, where most of the large towns, including Edinburgh, Glasgow and three quarters of the population are located. Much of Wales is also mountainous and in England the Penning Range (the "backbone of England") extends 224 km (although the highest peak is only 895 m high). The rest of England tends to be rather undulating, and not even the large agricultural plains of East Anglia, perfectly flat. In Ireland all the highland areas are round the edge, but there are no peaks over 1100m.

Major rivers include:

River Thames

River Severn

River Trent

River Clyde

The River Thames has historically been central to the development of London as a commercial and political capital. River systems facilitated early industrial transport before the expansion of railway networks. Rivers in Great Britain are quite short- the longest rivers are the Severn and the Thames- but their easy navigability has made them an important part of the Island transport network for the transportation of bulk products such as: coal, iron ore and steel. The UK is very small compared with any other countries in the world. However, there are only nine other countries with more people and London is the world's seventh biggest city.

The United Kingdom has a temperate maritime climate, strongly influenced by the North Atlantic Drift (extension of the Gulf Stream).

Key Characteristics:

Mild winters

Cool summers

Frequent rainfall

Moderate seasonal variation

Average January temperatures range from 2°C to 7°C. July averages range from 15°C to 20°C. The western regions experience higher rainfall due to Atlantic air masses, while eastern areas are relatively drier. The mild climate allowed year-round agricultural activity and reduced extreme seasonal disruptions.

Natural Resources

The presence of significant coal reserves in northern England, Wales, and Scotland enabled Britain to become the first industrial nation.

Coal powered:

Steam engines

Textile factories

Railways

Metallurgical industries

The geographical distribution of coalfields shaped the emergence of industrial cities such as Manchester and Birmingham.

In the 20th century, offshore oil and gas fields in the North Sea contributed significantly to national energy production. However, reserves are gradually declining, increasing the importance of renewable energy sources.

The UK economy has undergone structural transformation from an industrial to a post-industrial model. South-East England: financial and service dominance

Midlands: historical industrial base

Northern England and Wales: former heavy industry regions

Scotland: energy sector and financial services

London functions as a global financial center, influencing international capital flows.

The population exceeds 67 million people. Population density is uneven:

High concentration in England, especially South-East

Lower density in Scotland and Wales

Urban concentration in metropolitan areas

Major urban centers include London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow, and Liverpool. Urbanization exceeds 80%, reflecting advanced economic development.

Modern Britain faces several environmental challenges:

Urban pollution

Coastal erosion

Climate change impact

Transition to renewable energy

The government has committed to reducing carbon emissions and promoting sustainable development.

Geography influenced:

Naval supremacy

Colonial expansion

Industrial leadership

Economic globalization

The insular position protected Britain from frequent continental invasions after 1066, enabling stable institutional development. Maritime access facilitated trade networks across Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

British national identity is closely tied to:

The concept of “island nation”

Maritime heritage

Regional distinctions (English, Scottish, Welsh, Irish identities)

Physical separation from Europe contributed to a distinct political and cultural consciousness.

The geographical characteristics of the United Kingdom have fundamentally shaped:

Political institutions

Economic structures

Social organization

Cultural mentality

Insularity fostered maritime power and global expansion. Natural resources enabled early industrialization. Climate stability supported demographic growth and agricultural sustainability. Thus, geography remains a key explanatory factor in understanding Britain's historical and contemporary global position. Just over three quarters of the land in Britain is used for agriculture. About three fifth of full time farms are devoted to dairying or beef cattle and sheep. The majority of sheep and cattle are reared in the hill and Mooreland areas of Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and South Western England, although beef fattening takes place in better grassland. Britain is one of the Europe's most important fishing nations. The fishing industry provides about 66% of British fish supplies and it is an important source of employment. Woodland covers an estimate 2.1 million hectares in Great Britain, but their rate of new planting especially by private owners is growing and home timber production is expected to double over the next 20 years.

Answer in brief

1. What are the four constituent countries of the United Kingdom?
2. Name the longest river in the United Kingdom.
3. Which mountain range forms the border between England and Scotland?
4. Identify the largest lake (by surface area) in the UK.
5. What is the highest peak in the United Kingdom?

Complete the sequences related to geography and natural features of the UK.

1. Countries of the UK → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____
2. Major rivers of the UK by length: _____ → _____ → _____ → _____
→ _____
3. Mountain ranges in the UK from north to south: _____ → _____ → _____
→ _____
4. Largest cities near major rivers: London (Thames) → _____ (Severn) → _____
(Tyne) → _____ (Tay) → _____ (Trent)
5. National parks in the UK from largest to smallest: _____ → _____ → _____
→ _____ → _____

Connect the feature to its description or fact

Column A Column B

1. Ben Nevis | a. Longest river in England
2. Loch Ness | b. Highest mountain in the UK
3. River Thames | c. Famous Scottish lake, home of a mythical monster
4. Snowdonia | d. National park in Wales
5. River Severn | e. Longest river in the UK

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions:

1. How did the island position influence British foreign policy?
2. Why was coal crucial for Britain's industrial leadership?
3. How does regional geography influence modern economic inequality in the UK?
4. To what extent does geography shape national identity?

Tasks:

1. Prepare a map-based presentation of major physical regions of the UK.
2. Analyze the relationship between coalfields and industrial cities.
3. Compare the UK's climate with that of continental Europe.

Lecture 2

Political set-up and structure of Great Britain

Introduction

The political system of Great Britain represents one of the oldest continuously functioning constitutional systems in the world. The modern state formally known as the United Kingdom is characterized by a constitutional monarchy combined with a parliamentary system of government. Unlike many modern states, the United Kingdom does not possess a single written constitutional document. Instead, its constitutional framework is based on statutes, conventions, judicial decisions, and historical documents. This unique constitutional evolution reflects gradual institutional adaptation rather than revolutionary transformation. Understanding the political structure of Great Britain is essential for comparative political studies and intercultural analysis.

Constitutional Foundations

The Unwritten Constitution

The British constitution is often described as “unwritten,” although this term is technically inaccurate. It consists of:

Statutory law (Acts of Parliament)

Common law (judicial precedents)

Constitutional conventions

Authoritative works of legal scholars

Foundational constitutional documents include:

Magna Carta

Bill of Rights

Act of Settlement

These documents established limitations on monarchical power and strengthened parliamentary authority.

Parliamentary Sovereignty

A central principle of the British political system is parliamentary sovereignty. Parliament has the legal authority to enact or repeal any law. No Parliament can bind a future Parliament, and no court may override its legislation. This principle distinguishes Britain from systems with constitutional judicial review, such as the United States.

The Monarchy

Constitutional Role The British monarch serves as Head of State. Although formal powers exist, they are exercised according to constitutional conventions.

The monarch:

Appoints the Prime Minister

Gives Royal Assent to legislation

Opens and dissolves Parliament

Represents national unity. In practice, these powers are exercised on the advice of the Prime Minister.

Evolution of the Modern Monarchy

Over centuries, the monarchy transformed from absolute authority to symbolic leadership. The reign of Elizabeth II (1952–2022) demonstrated the stabilizing and ceremonial function of the Crown in modern democratic society.

The monarchy today plays: Ceremonial role, Diplomatic function, Cultural-symbolic role. It contributes to national identity and political continuity.

The Executive Branch

The Prime Minister The Prime Minister is the head of government and leader of the majority party in the House of Commons. Powers include: Formation of government, Appointment of ministers, Policy direction, Leadership in international affairs, The Prime Minister is accountable to Parliament.

The Cabinet

The Cabinet consists of senior ministers responsible for major governmental departments such as: Treasury, Foreign Affairs, Home Office, Defence. Collective responsibility is a key principle: Cabinet members must publicly support government decisions.

The Legislature The British Parliament is bicameral.

House of Commons The House of Commons is the dominant legislative body. Members of Parliament (MPs) are elected through a first-past-the-post electoral system. Functions include: Law-making, Government scrutiny, Budget approval, Debate on national issues. The government must maintain the confidence of the House of Commons.

House of Lords The House of Lords consists of: Life peers, Bishops, Hereditary peers (limited number). Its role is primarily revising and scrutinizing legislation rather than initiating policy. The Lords may delay but not ultimately block legislation passed by the Commons.

The Judiciary The UK judiciary operates independently from Parliament and the executive. The highest court is the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom (established in 2009). It replaced the judicial function of the House of Lords. The

judiciary ensures: Interpretation of law, Protection of civil liberties, Judicial review of administrative decisions. However, courts cannot invalidate Acts of Parliament due to parliamentary sovereignty.

Political Parties and Electoral System

Major Political Parties The two dominant political parties are: Conservative Party, Labour Party. Other parties include: Liberal Democrats, Scottish National Party

Electoral System The UK uses a single-member plurality system (first-past-the-post). This system tends to produce: Strong majority governments, Two-party dominance, Limited proportional representation, Critics argue that the system underrepresents smaller parties. Since the late 20th century, the UK has undergone devolution. Regional institutions include: Scottish Parliament, Welsh Senedd, Northern Ireland Assembly. Devolution allows regional control over: Education, Health, Transport, Local taxation (partial). However, sovereignty remains legally with Westminster.

Political Culture and Stability The British political system is characterized by: Gradual reform, Institutional continuity, Respect for tradition, Pragmatism. Reform typically occurs through legislative adaptation rather than constitutional rupture.

Analytical Summary

The political system of Great Britain represents a historically evolved model of constitutional monarchy and parliamentary governance. Its defining features include: Parliamentary sovereignty, Ceremonial monarchy, Cabinet government, Fusion of power, Strong party discipline, Gradual constitutional evolution The British political structure demonstrates how stability can coexist with adaptability in a modern democratic state.

Answer questions

1. Who is the head of state in the United Kingdom?
2. Name the two houses of the UK Parliament.
3. What is the role of the Prime Minister in Great Britain?
4. Which body represents local government in England?
5. What is the term used for the UK's system of government?

Complete the sequences related to the political structure of Great Britain.

1. Line of succession to the British throne: Monarch → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____
2. UK Parliament legislative process: Bill introduced → _____ → _____ → _____ → Royal Assent
3. Major political parties in the UK: _____ → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____

4. Devolved governments of the UK: Scotland → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____
5. Key roles in the UK government: Prime Minister → _____ → _____ → _____ → _____

Connect the political term to its description)

Column A

Column B

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. House of Commons 2. House of Lords 3. Monarch 4. Cabinet 5. Devolved Parliament | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. House of Parliament made up of appointed and hereditary members b. Elected house representing constituencies across the UK c. Head of state, ceremonial role in modern politics d. Group of senior government ministers led by the Prime Minister e. Regional legislative body with powers over education, health, and transport |
|--|---|

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters

Discussion Questions

1. Why is parliamentary sovereignty central to the British political system?
2. How does the fusion of powers differ from the American separation of powers?
3. What role does the monarchy play in contemporary politics?
4. Does the first-past-the-post system strengthen or weaken democracy?

Tasks

1. Compare parliamentary and presidential systems.
2. Debate the advantages and disadvantages of an unwritten constitution.
3. Analyze the impact of devolution on national unity.

**Lecture 3
Victorian Age**

The Victorian Age refers to the period of British history during the reign of Victoria. It was one of the most transformative eras in British history, marked by industrial expansion, imperial growth, social reform, scientific progress, and profound cultural development. The Victorian period shaped modern Britain's political institutions, class structure, global influence, and moral values. It was an era of paradox: extraordinary wealth coexisted with extreme poverty; technological progress advanced alongside rigid social conservatism.

Victoria (1819-1901) was queen of the UK of Great Britain and Ireland from 1837 to 1901 and became one of the most famous rulers in English history. Her 63-year reign was the longest in British history. Great Britain reached the height of its

power during this period. It builds a great colonial empire and enjoyed tremendous industrial expansion at home. As a result, the time of Victoria's reign is often called the Victorian Age. During this period, the British Empire reached its height and it included about a quarter of the world's land and about a quarter of the world's people. Wealth poured into Britain from its colonies. British industry continued to expand and the country was called the workshop of the world. Railways and channels covered Britain, and telephone and telegraph lines linked the big cities. Literature and science flourished.

Victoria was born at Kensington Palace in London on May 24 1819. She was the only child of Edward, Duke of Kent, fourth son George III, and of Victoria Maria Louisa, daughter of Francis Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld. Victoria's uncle king William IV, died on June 20, 1837. He had no heirs and so she succeeded to the throne. Victoria was crowned queen at Westminster Abbey on June 28, 1838. Lord Melbourne, her first prime minister, educated her in politics and government. The Victorian Age began during hard times. Farmers had poor harvests and a depression swept across Britain. Many people blamed their troubles on the Corn Laws, which taxed imports of grain. The taxes protected landowners by helping keep foreign grain out of Britain. But the taxes also raised the price of bread.

In 1841 Sir Robert Peel, a Tory, became prime minister. Like many other government leaders, Peel came to believe that restriction on trade hurts the economy. He ended all export duties and ended or reduced import duties on hundreds of items. But the Corn Laws remained. Peel did not repeal these laws because many members of his party strongly favored him. Then, in 1845 and 1846, the potato crop failed in Ireland in addition, the English had a bad wheat harvest. Peel felt he had to repeal the Corn Laws and let foreign wheat come into Britain. In 1846, he did so, split his party, and ended his career. But Britain prospered under free trade as never before. Many important events took place during Victoria's reign. Britain fought in the Opium War (1839- 1842) in China and acquired the islands of Hong Kong. Britain also fought in the Crimean War (1853-1856) against Russia and in the Boer War (1899-1902) in order to protect its interest in Southern Africa.

In 1858, control of India was transferred from the East India Company, a trading firm, to the British government. Victoria was proclaimed empress of India 1876. Britain seized control of Egypt and many other areas. British colonies united in Australia and Canada and these countries became important members of the growing British Empire. The development of worldwide colonial Empire made Britain the richest country in the world. Britain restrictions on foreign trade and its colonies became both sources of raw materials and markets for manufacture goods. Britain was called the workshop of the world. British Empire included a fourth of the world's land and a fourth of its people.

The populations of Britain itself increased 50% during reign, Britain changed from mainly an agricultural to mainly an industrial nation. More people won the right to vote and local government became increasingly democratic. The British Parliament passed acts that improved labor conditions, required all children to attend school, and reformed the civil; service. In Ireland, the charge of Ireland was separated from government, and the land system was reformed. British people had little respect for the throne when Victoria became queen. This situation had developed because of irresponsible conduct by the two Kings before her, George IV and William IV. But Victoria showed herself to be hard working monarch concerned with the welfare of her people and she gained the affection and admiration.

Victoria was a wise and capable monarch. But Britain's greatness was due chiefly to her able to prime ministers, including Lord Melbourne Sir Robert Peel viscount Palmerstone, Benjamin Disraeli William Gladstone. Gradually the queen had to except that the British monarchy would not survive unless its powers were reduced and her ministers in parliament were allowed to rule the nation. Victoria accepted the switch from political ruler to symbolic ruler. For these reason, Britain's monarchy has survived while the monarchies of most other countries have not.

Analytical Summary

The Victorian Age was a period of profound transformation that established Britain as the leading industrial and imperial power of the 19th century.

Its defining characteristics include:

- Industrial expansion
- Imperial dominance
- Social reform
- Scientific advancement
- Moral conservatism
- Cultural flourishing

The era shaped modern British identity and laid foundations for contemporary political and social structures.

Answer the questions

1. During which years did the Victorian Age take place?
2. Who was the monarch during the Victorian Era?
3. Name two major literary figures of the Victorian Age.
4. What were some key social issues addressed during the Victorian period?
5. Which invention or technological advancement had a major impact during the Victorian Age?

Complete the sequences related to the Victorian Age.

1. Key British monarchs around the Victorian period: George IV → William IV → _____ → Edward VII → George V
2. Major literary genres of the Victorian Age: Gothic fiction → _____ → Social realism → _____ → Poetry
3. Industrial developments: Steam engine → Railways → Telegraph → _____ → Electricity
4. Social reforms: Poor Law Amendment Act → Factory Acts → _____ → Education Act → Public Health Act
5. Prominent Victorian writers in order of birth: Alfred Tennyson → Charles Dickens → _____ → George Eliot → Thomas Hardy

Connect the person/event with description

Column A

Column B

1. Queen Victoria | a. Author of *Oliver Twist* and social reform advocate
2. Charles Dickens | b. British monarch who reigned 1837–1901
3. Industrial Revolution | c. Major period of technological and industrial development
4. Florence Nightingale | d. Pioneering nurse and public health reformer
5. Thomas Hardy | e. Novelist known for *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and *Far from the Madding Crowd*

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

Why is the Victorian Age considered a period of contradictions?

How did industrialization change British society?

In what ways did imperialism influence British identity?

How did scientific discoveries challenge Victorian religious beliefs?

Tasks

Analyze a Victorian literary text in its social context.

Debate the moral values of Victorian society.

Compare Victorian imperial ideology with modern postcolonial perspectives.

Lecture 4

Queen Elizabeth II as a constitutional monarch

The reign of Elizabeth II (1952–2022) represents one of the longest and most historically significant monarchies in modern European history. Her seventy-year reign spanned the transformation of Britain from a post-war imperial power into a modern constitutional democracy operating within a globalized and post-colonial world. As a constitutional monarch, Elizabeth II exercised authority not through political decision-making, but through symbolic leadership, institutional continuity, and adherence to constitutional conventions. Her reign provides an important case study in understanding the functioning of constitutional monarchy within a parliamentary system.

Elizabeth II (1926) is the queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. She became queen when her father, King George V, died in 1952. As a constitutional monarch, Queen Elizabeth is formally head of state in the United Kingdom. But she has no power over what the British government does. Laws are formally enacted in the name of the queen, but their content is the responsibility of the government.

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was born in London on April 21, 1926. Her father became king in 1936 after his older brother, King Edward VIII, gave up the throne to marry a divorced American woman. This event greatly changed the course of 10-year-old Elizabeth's life. It made her the heir to the throne, since George VI had no sons and she was the older of his two daughters. Princess Elizabeth spent most of her childhood at Windsor Castle, located in Windsor, near London. The castle is the British royal family's main residence. Princess Elizabeth and her sister, Princess Margaret (1930) were educated at home by governess. In March 1945, during World War II, Elizabeth joined the Auxiliary Territorial service, a support branch of the Military. She joined to train as a mechanic to repair military vehicles for the war effort. But Elizabeth served only until May, when the war in Europe ended.

Princess Elizabeth married Philip Mountbatten, a British naval Lieutenant and member of the Greek royal family, on November 20, 1947. Her husband became Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. When King George's health began to fail, Princess Elizabeth and husband began to undertake more public duties. The King died on February 6, 1952 and Princess Elizabeth succeeded him as the British monarch that day. The Queen Elizabeth II took place on June 2, 1953, in Westminster Abbey, London

After a general election the queen formally appoints the prime minister. In practice, this person is the leader of the majority party in the democratically elected House of Commons. The Queen has a weekly meeting with the prime minister is not

obligated to act on her advice, but may find it useful because of her many years of experience.

The queen's chief public role is to attend ceremonial state occasions and to represent the United Kingdom in visits throughout the country and the world. In the United Kingdom, the queen sometimes puts ceremony aside and meets informally with subjects.

The queen is also head of the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of independent countries and other political units that have lived under British Law and government. Queen Elizabeth has no authority in Commonwealth nations. She serves mainly as a symbol of historical ties.

The queen and Prince Philip have four children. The children are: Charles, Prince of Wales (1948), Anne, Princess Royal (1950), Andrew, Duke of York (1960), Prince Edward (1964).

Prince Charles is heir to the throne. His oldest son, Prince William (1982) is next in line after his father as the heir. The royal family's surname is Windsor. However in 1960, Queen announced that her descendants, except for prince and princess, will bear the surname Mountbatten Windsor.

The royal family has two country residences. One is Balmoral Castle in Grampian Region, Scotland. The other is Sandringham, an estate in Norfolk County, England. Queen Elizabeth enjoys country life and breeds dogs and horses. Prince Charles, their eldest son, was born in November 1948, got education in Australia to get accustomed with the Commonwealth matters. In 1969 he was given the title of the Prince of Wales, which can be possessed only by the eldest son of a Sovereign. In 1971 he entered the Royal Air Force College and after graduating served in the Royal Navy for 5 years. In 1981 he married 19-year-old Lady Diana Spencer in St. Paul's Cathedral. The British public liked her immediately. She was beautiful, shy, royal and looked very human. During her life she campaigned for many charities. She did a lot of work with the International Red Cross and was suggested as a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. Diana was a real people's princess. The marriage of The Prince and Princess of Wales was dissolved in August 1996. Princess Diana crashed in an accident in a tunnel under the Alma Bridge in Paris on August 31, 1997. Their two sons, Prince William of Wales (b. 1982) and Prince Harry of Wales (b. 1984), are second and third in line of succession to the throne. Prince Charles lives at St. James' Palace. He is the founder of some charitable organizations.

The second child and only daughter of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh is Princess Anne who received the title Princess Royal in 1987 for her social activities; Her Royal Highness is the seventh holder of the title. She was born in August 1950. She has been married for two times. Her first husband, Mark Phillips, was Captain of the Queen's Dragoon Guards. They were married for almost 20 years and have two children: Peter (b. 1977) and Zara (b. 1981). After divorce in 1992 she married

naval officer Timothy Laurence. Princess Anne has a passion for horses. She was the Champion of Europe in horseracing. She is the Counselor of London University and President of the Fund of Salvation of Children. She is also President of the British Olympic Committee.

The third child and the second son of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh is Prince Andrew. He was born in February 1960. After his marriage with Sarah Ferguson he became known as the Duke of York. They have two children: Princess Beatrice of York (b. 1988) and Princess Eugenie of York (b. 1990), who are fifth and sixth in line of succession to the throne. The Duke and Duchess were divorced in 1996.

The fourth child and the third son of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh is Prince Edward. He was born in March 1964. After his marriage with Sophie Rhys-Jones he became known as the Earl of Wessex and it was announced that His Royal Highness (HRH) will succeed to the title of the Duke of Edinburgh. His wife became known as the Countess of Wessex. They have one daughter, the Lady Louise Windsor (b. 2003). It was decided that their children would not be given the style His or Her Royal Highness but would have courtesy titles as sons or daughters of an earl, that's why their daughter is known as The Lady Louise Windsor.

Queen Elizabeth II exemplified the modern constitutional monarch: politically neutral, symbolically powerful, and institutionally restrained. Her seventy-year reign reinforced:

- Continuity of constitutional traditions
- Stability of parliamentary democracy
- Adaptability of monarchy to modern society

As a constitutional monarch, she did not shape policy directly, but she profoundly influenced the symbolic and institutional stability of the United Kingdom.

Answer questions

1. In which year did Queen Elizabeth II ascend to the throne?
2. What is meant by the term “constitutional monarch”?
3. Name two ceremonial duties performed by Queen Elizabeth II.
4. How does the Queen participate in the legislative process of the UK?
5. Who advises the Queen on political matters in her role as head of state?

Complete the sequences related to Queen Elizabeth II's reign and role.

1. Line of succession at the beginning of her reign: King George VI → _____
→ _____ → _____ → _____
2. Major events during her reign: Coronation → Silver Jubilee → Golden Jubilee → Diamond Jubilee → _____
3. Official duties of a constitutional monarch: Opening Parliament → _____
→ _____ → Receiving foreign dignitaries → _____

4. Commonwealth milestones: Formation of the Commonwealth → Elizabeth II becomes Head → Visits member states → _____ → _____
5. British monarchs of the 20th–21st centuries: George V → Edward VIII → George VI → _____ → _____

Connect the term/person with its description

Column A

Column B

Constitutional monarchy | a. Queen Elizabeth II’s role limited by laws and Parliament

1. Prime Minister | b. Provides political advice to the monarch
2. Royal Assent | c. Formal approval required to make a bill into law
3. Coronation | d. Ceremony marking the beginning of a monarch’s reign
4. Commonwealth | e. Association of independent countries with the monarch as symbolic head

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How does constitutional monarchy differ from absolute monarchy?
2. Why is political neutrality essential for a constitutional monarch?
3. How did Elizabeth II contribute to the modernization of the monarchy?
4. Can hereditary monarchy be compatible with democratic values?

Tasks

- Analyze the constitutional role of the monarch in times of political crisis.
- Compare the British monarch’s powers with those of elected heads of state.
- Debate the future of constitutional monarchy in the 21st century.

Lecture 5

Major periods in the evolution of English.

The history of the English language reflects complex processes of migration, conquest, cultural contact, and political transformation. English has evolved from a regional Germanic dialect into a global lingua franca spoken on every continent. The development of English is traditionally divided into major historical periods:

1. Old English (c. 450–1100)
2. Middle English (c. 1100–1500)
3. Early Modern English (c. 1500–1700)
4. Late Modern English (1700–present)

Each stage represents significant changes in phonology, grammar, vocabulary, and sociolinguistic function.

English is the official and national language of the UK. English is the second most widely spoken language in the world, next to Mandarin Chinese. They speak of English as having its beginning with the conquest and settlement of a large part of the island of Britain by Germanic tribes from the European continent in the mid-fifth century, although the earliest written documents belong to the seventh century. Of course, these people did not, upon their arrival in England, suddenly begin to speak a new language. The history of English goes back much further. English is one of a family of languages called Indo-European. The languages of this family, which includes most of the modern European languages and some other languages spoken in western Asia from Iceland to India, as well as such important languages of antiquity as Latin, Greek and Sanskrit, all resemble each other in a number of ways, particularly in vocabulary. Their parent tongue, called Proto-Indo-European, was spoken about 5,000 years ago. Within the Indo-European family of languages there are several subfamilies, consisting of languages especially closely related. English belongs to the Germanic branch of Indo-European, and is a close relative of such languages as German, Dutch, the Scandinavian languages, and the now extinct Gothic. Germanic is usually divided by scholars into three regional groups: East (Burgundian, Vandal, and Gothic, all extinct), North (Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish) and West (German, Netherlandish {Dutch and Flemish}, Frisian, English). So, English is a West Germanic language of the Indo-European language family. The Germanic tribes who settled in Britain in the 5th century spoke the very closely related Germanic tongues of their continental homelands. From these developed the English language, or Old English (from “English”, the language of the Angles and Saxons who invaded Britain).

Pre-English Background: Celtic and Roman Britain - Before the arrival of Germanic tribes, Britain was inhabited by Celtic-speaking peoples. The Roman occupation (43–410 AD) introduced Latin influence, mainly in administration and urban life. Although Latin left some lexical traces (e.g., *street*, from Latin *strata*), the Celtic impact on English vocabulary was relatively limited. However, many place names (e.g., river names like Thames) derive from Celtic origins.

Old English (Anglo-Saxon Period) (c. 450–1100)

Historical Background

Old English developed after the migration of Germanic tribes—Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—to Britain in the 5th century. These tribes established several kingdoms and formed the foundation of Anglo-Saxon England.

The language spoken during this period is known as Old English (Anglo-Saxon).

Linguistic Features

Old English was a highly inflected language with:

- Grammatical gender (masculine, feminine, neuter)
- Four or more cases (nominative, accusative, genitive, dative)
- Strong and weak verb systems
- Flexible word order

Example of Old English text:

From *Beowulf*:

“Hwæt! We Gardena in geardagum...”

Old English vocabulary was predominantly Germanic in origin.

Christianization and Latin Influence

The introduction of Christianity in the 7th century brought Latin religious vocabulary:

- bishop
- altar
- school
- monk

This marked the beginning of lexical borrowing as a major factor in English development.

Scandinavian Influence (8th–11th Centuries)

Viking invasions introduced Old Norse elements into English.

Borrowings included:

- sky
- egg
- law
- take
- they, them, their

The coexistence of Anglo-Saxon and Norse speakers accelerated grammatical simplification and reduced inflectional endings.

Middle English (c. 1100–1500)

Norman Conquest (1066)

The Norman Conquest profoundly transformed English. After 1066, French became the language of the ruling class, administration, and law.

For nearly three centuries, England was linguistically divided:

- French: language of court and nobility
- Latin: language of church and scholarship
- English: language of common people

Linguistic Consequences

Massive French lexical borrowing occurred, especially in:

- Government (parliament, court, justice)
- Law (jury, judge, crime)

- Culture (beauty, art, music)
- Cuisine (beef, pork, mutton)

Grammatical simplification intensified:

- Loss of case endings
- Reduction of grammatical gender
- Fixed word order (Subject–Verb–Object)

Geoffrey Chaucer

Geoffrey Chaucer played a central role in standardizing Middle English through *The Canterbury Tales*. His works reflect the transitional character of the language. Middle English became more analytic and less synthetic compared to Old English.

Early Modern English (c. 1500–1700)

The Renaissance and Printing

The introduction of printing by William Caxton in 1476 accelerated standardization.

The Renaissance brought extensive borrowing from Latin and Greek, enriching vocabulary in:

- Science
- Philosophy
- Medicine
- Literature

The Great Vowel Shift

One of the most significant phonological changes was the Great Vowel Shift (15th–17th centuries), which altered long vowel pronunciation.

This explains inconsistencies between spelling and pronunciation in modern English.

William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare contributed significantly to lexical innovation. Hundreds of words and expressions were either coined or popularized by him.

Example contributions:

- lonely
- majestic
- fashionable

The language became more expressive and flexible.

Late Modern English (1700–Present)

Standardization

The 18th century emphasized regulation and codification.

Samuel Johnson published *A Dictionary of the English Language* (1755), which helped standardize spelling and usage.

Grammar books sought to formalize rules, often influenced by Latin models.

Industrial Revolution and Scientific Vocabulary

Technological and scientific progress introduced new terminology:

- engine
- electricity
- telephone
- vaccine

The Industrial Revolution reinforced English as a language of innovation.

Global Expansion of English

British Empire

During the 18th and 19th centuries, English spread globally through colonization.

American Influence

The rise of the United States in the 20th century transformed English into a global lingua franca.

American English contributed new vocabulary and cultural influence through:

- Media
- Technology
- Business
- Entertainment

Contemporary English

Modern English is characterized by:

- Minimal inflection
- Fixed word order
- Extensive borrowing
- Global variation

Major varieties include:

- British English
- American English
- Australian English
- Indian English

English functions as:

- International language of science
- Diplomatic language
- Global business language
- Digital communication medium

Linguistic Trends in Modern English

Contemporary changes include:

- Simplification of grammar
- Influence of digital communication
- Emergence of global English varieties
- Hybrid vocabulary

English continues evolving due to globalization and technological change.

Analytical Overview of Language Evolution

The evolution of English demonstrates:

- Transition from synthetic to analytic structure
- Gradual loss of inflections
- Lexical expansion through borrowing
- Standardization and globalization

Each historical stage reflects socio-political change.

Language evolution corresponds closely to:

- Conquest (Norman period)
- Religion (Christianization)
- Empire (colonial expansion)
- Technology (modern era)

There are three major periods in the evolution of English. The first, called Old English covers the period from the beginning of the language to about 1100; the second, Middle English, from 1100 to 1500; and the third, Modern English, from 1500 to the present. During the Old English period, most additions to the English vocabulary were based on native English words. Old words were given new meanings; new words were formed by the addition of prefixes or suffixes or by compounding. Of foreign languages, the most influential was Latin. The Scandinavians also influenced the language of England during the Old English period. Names of basic concepts and things come from Old English or Anglo-Saxon: heaven and earth, love and hate, life and death, beginning and end, day and night, month and year, heat and cold, meadow and stream. Cardinal and ordinal numerals come from Old English (except “second”) as well as all the personal pronouns (except “they, their, them”), the auxiliary verbs, most simple prepositions and all conjunctions. Old English had three genders for nouns and adjectives: masculine, feminine and neuter. Nouns, pronouns and adjectives were inflected for 4 cases: nominative, genitive, dative, accusative. Old English had a greater proportion of irregular verbs than does Modern English.

The Middle English period was marked by great extension of foreign influence on English. The Norman Conquest brought England under French rule. The English language, though it didn't die, was for a time of only secondary importance. French became the language of the upper classes in England. The lower classes continued to speak English but many French words were borrowed into English (over 10,000 words). Spoken mainly by uneducated people, English had also tremendous grammatical changes as most of the inflections or case endings of Old English disappeared, and word order therefore became of prime importance. Latin, remaining the language of the church and of education, also had a considerable and varied influence on English.

Modern English has been open to even wider borrowing from all the languages of Europe. The vocabulary of Modern English is approximately half-Germanic (Old English and Scandinavian) and half Romance (French and Latin), with importations from Greek in science and technology and with considerable borrowings from Dutch, Italian, Spanish, German, Arabic and many other languages. From the period of the Renaissance voyages of discovery up to the recent times, a steady stream of new words has come into the language to match the new objects and experiences. In fact, this invasion has never come to an end, as new words continue to be made up from Latin and Greek roots for new inventions and scientific discoveries. Modern English is analytic (i.e., relatively uninflected), whereas Proto-Indo-European was synthetic, or inflected. From the British Isles the English language was exported to Britain's growing number of colonies, which by the 19th century accounted for one quarter of the world's population. In the 20th century, even though Britain's role as a world power has declined considerably, English spread all over the world and is now widely spoken as a first, second or foreign language on six continents. It is the primary language of the USA, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, and various small island nations in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. It is also an official language of India, the Philippines, and many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including South Africa.

There is one standard literary English – Received Standard English – that is characterized by the Received Pronunciation (RP), but there are also several regional and social dialects. A well-known example is the cockney of East Londoners. The Scottish and Irish forms of Gaelic survive in some parts of Scotland and Ireland. Wales is officially bilingual, Welsh is spoken by about a fifth of its population and formally has the same status as English. Welsh, Scottish Gaelic and Irish Gaelic are of Celtic origin. The term RP denotes the speech of educated people living in London and the southeast of England and of other people elsewhere who speak in this way. RP is not superior to other varieties of English; it is itself only one particular regional dialect that has achieved more extensive use than others because it was the language of contracts and commerce and the speech of the ruling court. It is generally heard on the BBC. The polished tones of what has become known as “BBC English” still predominate on the radio, although in recent year's broadcasters with regional or American accents have become increasingly popular.

The history of English is a dynamic process shaped by migration, conquest, cultural interaction, and global expansion. From Old English tribal dialects to modern global English, the language has:

- Simplified grammatically
- Expanded lexically
- Diversified geographically

- Strengthened internationally Understanding these periods allows philology students to interpret linguistic structure historically and analytically.

Answer the questions

1. What are the three main historical periods of the English language?
2. Which period of English is associated with the works of Chaucer?
3. What major historical event influenced the transition from Middle English to Early Modern English?
4. Name one characteristic feature of Old English grammar.
5. Which period of English saw the standardization of spelling and grammar?

Complete the sequences related to the evolution of English.

1. Historical periods of English: Old English → _____ → Early Modern English → _____ → Modern English
2. Major literary works: *Beowulf* → _____ → *Hamlet* → _____ → *Pride and Prejudice*
3. Influences on English vocabulary: Anglo-Saxon → Norman French → Latin → _____ → Greek and global borrowings
4. Key events in language development: Germanic tribes invade Britain → Norman Conquest → Printing press → _____ → Industrial Revolution & global expansion
5. English dialect evolution: West Saxon → Northumbrian → London dialect → _____ → Contemporary standard English

Connect the period with its description or example

Column A

Column B

1. Old English | a. Spoken in England 1150–1500, Chaucer’s works
2. Middle English | b. Early English period 450–1150, heavily Germanic
3. Early Modern English | c. English 1500–1700, Shakespeare & the King James Bible
4. Modern English | d. English from 1700 to present, standardized spelling & grammar
5. Norman Conquest | e. Historical event in 1066 influencing Middle English vocabulary

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. Why did English lose most of its inflections?
2. How did the Norman Conquest reshape English vocabulary?
3. What was the significance of the Great Vowel Shift?
4. Why did English become a global language?

Tasks

- Compare an Old English and a Modern English text.
- Identify French and Latin borrowings in modern vocabulary.
- Analyze American vs British lexical differences.

Lecture 6

British culture: traditional customs, art, social change

The United Kingdom (UK) is a nation rich in history, tradition, and diversity. Comprised of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, the UK has a unique cultural identity shaped by centuries of historical events, literature, music, art, religion, and social change. British culture combines traditional customs with modern influences, reflecting its position as a global hub of politics, education, and arts. Understanding UK culture helps us appreciate its contributions to the world and the diversity within its own society. Imagine waking up in the English village in the early morning mist. The aroma of fresh bread from the local bakery drifts through the streets, and the bell of the church tower chimes softly. This is Britain—a land where history and modern life blend, where centuries-old traditions coexist with dynamic social change. British culture is a rich tapestry woven from literature, art, music, customs, and the everyday lives of its people

Traditional Customs British culture is deeply rooted in tradition. Afternoon tea, a ritual that began in the 19th century, is more than just a meal; it is a symbol of social connection and polite conversation. Friends gather around a table, enjoying delicate sandwiches, scones with clotted cream, and tea poured from fine china, sharing stories about their families, the weather, or local news.

The royal family represents another cornerstone of British tradition. Ceremonies such as Trooping the Colour, royal weddings, and the State Opening of Parliament are elaborate spectacles, drawing crowds in London and millions of viewers worldwide. They reflect not only history and continuity but also a shared sense of national identity. Festivals across the UK, like Burns Night in Scotland, St. David's Day in Wales, and Guy Fawkes Night in England, celebrate local heroes, folklore, and communal storytelling.

Even in sport, tradition is vital. Football (soccer) is more than a game; it is a social ritual. Families and friends gather in stadiums or living rooms to cheer for their local teams, fostering community spirit and friendly rivalry. Cricket, rugby, and tennis, especially Wimbledon, also carry rich traditions, with etiquette and ceremonial flair woven into the games.

Art and Literature Art in the UK mirrors its layered history. The walls of galleries, like the National Gallery in London, display masterpieces from centuries of artistic achievement, from portraits of monarchs to sweeping landscapes capturing

the countryside. Modern art also thrives in the UK, blending innovation with social commentary. Street art, contemporary exhibitions, and avant-garde installations reveal a society that honors tradition but embraces change.

Literature has always been a heartbeat of British culture. From Shakespeare's plays, which explore timeless human emotions, to Jane Austen's novels, which reveal intricate social manners, to the contemporary adventures of Harry Potter, British writers have shaped global imagination. Libraries and literary festivals celebrate this legacy, nurturing a deep respect for reading and storytelling.

Music, too, is central to British identity. Classical composers like Edward Elgar and Benjamin Britten coexist in legacy with modern icons like The Beatles, Queen, and Adele. Music festivals bring communities together, showcasing local talent and global influences, illustrating Britain's evolving social landscape.

Social Changes British culture is not frozen in time. Over the centuries, it has adapted to profound social changes. The Industrial Revolution transformed cities and lifestyles, while the two World Wars reshaped gender roles, social classes, and economic structures. Women entered workplaces during wartime, changing perceptions of gender roles. Post-war immigration from the Caribbean, India, Pakistan, and Africa enriched cultural diversity, introducing new cuisines, music, festivals, and languages. In cities like London, Birmingham, and Manchester, multicultural neighborhoods thrive. Street markets buzz with the aromas of curry, jerk chicken, and samosas; music fuses traditional folk with global beats. Social movements, from suffrage to modern campaigns for equality, reflect a society that honors tradition but continuously strives for fairness and progress.

Technology and media have also changed daily life. Television, radio, and digital media shape cultural discourse, preserving traditions while connecting Britain to global trends. Yet, even with these modern influences, traditions like the Queen's Christmas broadcast, Guy Fawkes celebrations, or the pageantry of Wimbledon remain deeply meaningful, bridging past and present.

1. **Language and Literature**

- **English** is the official language, but **Welsh, Scottish Gaelic, and Irish** are also spoken in certain regions.
- The UK has produced some of the world's greatest writers:
 - **William Shakespeare** – plays and poetry.
 - **Jane Austen** – novels exploring social life and manners.
 - **J.K. Rowling** – modern contributions to literature.
- Literature reflects both historical traditions and contemporary life, influencing global culture.

2. **Arts and Music**

- The UK is renowned for visual arts, theater, and music.

- The **Royal Shakespeare Company** and West End theaters are cultural icons.
- British music has had global impact:
 - Classical composers like **Edward Elgar**.
 - Pop and rock bands such as **The Beatles, Queen, and Coldplay**.
- Modern UK arts and music continue to blend tradition with innovation.

3. Traditions and Customs

- Traditional British customs include:
 - **Tea culture** – afternoon tea as a social ritual.
 - **Royal ceremonies** – such as **Trooping the Colour** and royal weddings.
 - National festivals like **Burns Night in Scotland** or **St. David's Day in Wales**.
- Football (soccer) is a major part of social life, with passionate fans and iconic clubs.

4. Religion and Beliefs

- The UK is largely **Christian**, with the **Church of England** as the established church.
- Other religions, including **Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, and Judaism**, contribute to cultural diversity.
- Religion influences holidays, traditions, and social practices.

5. Cuisine

- Traditional British cuisine includes **fish and chips, roast dinners, shepherd's pie, and Yorkshire pudding**.
- International cuisines have become part of everyday life due to immigration, reflecting multiculturalism.
- Afternoon tea and pub culture are important social customs.

6. Social Values and Diversity

- British society values **individual freedom, politeness, tolerance, and respect for tradition**.
- The UK is multicultural, especially in urban areas like **London, Manchester, and Birmingham**, where many languages, religions, and cultural practices coexist.

7. Contributions to Global Culture

- Literature, music, theater, sports, and education from the UK have had global influence.
- The UK is home to world-renowned universities like **Oxford and Cambridge**, attracting students from across the globe.
- Cultural exports include television shows (e.g., **Doctor Who, Sherlock**) and music.

British culture is a living story—a tale of **tradition, creativity, and social evolution**. Afternoon teas, royal ceremonies, literature, and music celebrate a rich heritage. Social changes, multicultural influences, and modern art and media illustrate a nation that evolves while cherishing its past. From the cobbled streets of small villages to the bustling neighborhoods of London, British culture continues to thrive as a vibrant, multifaceted identity that both honors its roots and embraces the future.

Answer questions

1. Name two traditional British holidays or festivals.
2. Which artistic movement is associated with William Turner?
3. What is a common British custom associated with tea?
4. How did the Industrial Revolution influence social change in Britain?
5. Name one contemporary British cultural institution that promotes art and heritage.

Complete the sequences related to British culture, customs, and social change.

1. Traditional British festivals: Christmas → _____ → Bonfire Night → _____ → Trooping the Colour
2. British artistic periods: Medieval → Renaissance → Baroque → _____ → Romanticism
3. Key social reforms in Britain: Poor Law → Factory Acts → Education Act → _____ → National Health Service
4. Famous British painters in chronological order: William Hogarth → Thomas Gainsborough → _____ → J.M.W. Turner → John Constable
5. Evolution of British social customs: Feudal ceremonies → Courtly manners → Tea time etiquette → _____ → Modern multicultural celebrations

Connect the term/person/event with its description

Column A

Column B

1. Afternoon Tea | a. British custom popularized in the 19th century
2. William Turner | b. Famous British Romantic painter, master of light and landscapes
3. Industrial Revolution | c. Period of technological change that reshaped society and cities
4. Bonfire Night | d. Commemorates the failed Gunpowder Plot of 1605
5. Tate Modern | e. Contemporary art museum in London showcasing modern and contemporary works

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How do traditional customs like afternoon tea or royal ceremonies reflect British values?
2. How has British literature influenced both national identity and global culture?
3. In what ways has immigration shaped modern British culture?
4. How do music, art, and festivals reflect both tradition and social change?
5. How can societies balance honoring traditions with embracing modernity and diversity?
6. Compare a traditional British custom with a cultural tradition from your own country.

Tasks / Activities

1. **Storytelling Project:** Write a story describing a day experiencing British customs, festivals, or sports events.
2. **Research Assignment:** Choose a British artist, writer, or musician and present their contribution to culture.
3. **Creative Poster:** Create a visual collage showing British traditions, art, and multicultural influences.
4. **Role Play / Simulation:** Act out a British festival, royal ceremony, or a family afternoon tea.
5. **Discussion / Debate:** “Which has a greater impact on culture: tradition or social change?”
6. **Cultural Comparison:** Compare British music, literature, or customs with those of your country.
7. **Field Observation:** Watch a British movie, TV show, or documentary and identify traditional and modern cultural elements.

Lecture 7

Geographical position of the USA

The geographical position of a country plays a crucial role in shaping its economy, culture, politics, and international relations. The United States of America, located in North America, occupies a vast and diverse territory that stretches from the Atlantic Ocean in the east to the Pacific Ocean in the west, and from the Arctic regions of Alaska in the north to the subtropical areas of Florida and Hawaii in the south. This strategic location has influenced the U.S. in terms of natural resources, trade opportunities, defense, and global influence, making it one of the most

geographically advantaged nations in the world. The vast and varied expanse of the USA stretches from the heavily industrialized, metropolitan Atlantic seaboard across the rich flat farms of the central plains, over the majestic Rocky mountains to the fertile, densely populated west –coast, then halfway across the Pacific to the semi tropical island state of Hawaii.

Airlines service 854 cities throughout the country a flight from New York to San Francisco takes five and a half frequent hours. Train service is also available. The most frequent service is between Washington- New York and Boston in the East, St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee in the Midwest, and San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco in the west. A coast-to-coast trip by train takes three days. The major means of intercity transportation is by automobile.

America is the land of physical contrasts including the weather. The Southern parts of Florida, Texas, California and the entire state of Hawaii, have warm temperatures year round, most of the USA is in the temperate zone with four seasons and varying numbers of hot and cold days each season, while the Northern tier of states and Alaska have extremely cold winters.

The US is also a land of beautiful rivers and lakes. The Northern state of Minnesota, for example, is known as the land of 10,000 lakes. The broad Mississippi river system of great history and economic importance to the USA runs 5,969 km from Canada into the Gulf of Mexico the world's third longest river after the Nile and the Amazon. A canal south of Chicago joins one of the tributaries of the Mississippi to the five great lakes making it the world's largest inland water transportation route and biggest body of fresh water in the world.

The St. Lawrence seaway, which the US shares, with Canada connects the great lakes with the Atlantic Ocean allowing seagoing vessels to travel 3,861 km inland as far as Duluth, Minnesota, during the spring, summer and fall shipping season. America's early settlers were attracted by the fertile land along the Atlantic coast in the Southeast and Ireland beyond the Eastern Appalachian Mountains. As America expanded westward so did its farmers and ranchers cultivating the grasslands of the Great Plains and finally the fertile valleys of the Pacific coast. American farmers planted spring wheat on the Cold Western plains: raise corn, wheat and fine beef cattle in the Midwest and rice in the damp heat of Louisiana, Florida, and California are famous for their vegetable and fruit production and the cool, raining northwestern states are known for apples pears, berries and vegetables.

Underground, a wealth of minerals provides a solid base for American industry. History has glamorized the gold rushes of California and Alaska and the silver finds in the Nevada. Yet America's yearly production of gold is far exceeded by the value of its petroleum, natural gas, clays, phosphates lead, and iron, even its output of sand, cement and stone for construction. Production value of crude oil

alone is about \$ 84 thousand million annually, pumped from petroleum reserves that range from the Gulf of Mexico to Alaska's North Slope.

Location and Borders

- The U.S. is situated between **Canada to the north** and **Mexico to the south**, giving it direct access to both Arctic and tropical climates.
- The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans provide coastlines that facilitate **international trade, shipping, and naval power**.
- Alaska, separated from the continental U.S., borders **Canada and Russia**, while Hawaii is strategically located in the **central Pacific**, important for trade and military presence.

Size and Regional Diversity

- The U.S. is the **third-largest country in the world** by total area, offering a wide range of landscapes: plains, mountains, deserts, and forests.
- This diversity has led to regional specialization:
 - The Midwest: agricultural heartland.
 - The Northeast: industrial and financial centers.
 - The South: energy production and agriculture.
 - The West: technology, mining, and tourism.

Climate and Natural Resources

- The U.S. spans multiple climate zones, supporting **diverse crops and livestock**, as well as forestry and fishing industries.
- Rich in natural resources such as **coal, oil, natural gas, minerals, and fertile land**, the country's geography has enabled rapid industrial and economic development.

Strategic Advantages

- Oceans on both coasts provide **security and trade opportunities**, allowing the U.S. to engage in global commerce while maintaining geographic protection from many potential conflicts.
- Access to major rivers (Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio) and the Great Lakes system has facilitated **inland transportation and commerce**.

Influence on Economy and Politics

- Geographical diversity has allowed the U.S. to develop **regional economies** that complement each other and support national growth.
- Its location has also contributed to the U.S.'s emergence as a **global superpower**, influencing international politics, military strategy, and trade policies.

Answer the questions

1. Which oceans border the United States?
2. Name the countries that share a land border with the USA.
3. Which major river flows through the central United States?
4. What is the largest state in the USA by area?
5. Name two major mountain ranges in the United States.

Complete the sequences related to the geography of the USA.

1. US regions from east to west: New England → Mid-Atlantic → _____ → Midwest → _____ → Pacific Coast
2. Major US rivers by length: Mississippi → Missouri → _____ → Colorado → Rio Grande
3. US states by size (largest to smaller): Alaska → Texas → _____ → California → Montana
4. Important US lakes (Great Lakes in order from west to east): Superior → Michigan → _____ → Erie → Ontario
5. Mountain ranges from north to south: Brooks Range → Rockies → _____ → Appalachian Mountains → Sierra Nevada

Connect the geographical feature with its description

Column A

Column B

1. Mississippi River | a. Largest state in the USA by area
2. Alaska | b. Flows through the central United States, major waterway for transport
3. Rocky Mountains | c. Mountain range stretching from Canada to New Mexico
4. Great Lakes | d. Largest group of freshwater lakes in North America
5. Rio Grande | e. Forms part of the border between the USA and Mexico

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How has the U.S.'s location between two oceans influenced its trade and security?
2. In what ways has the diversity of U.S. geography affected its economic development?

3. How do rivers and lakes contribute to the transportation and industrial growth of the country?
4. Why is Hawaii's location in the Pacific strategically important for the U.S.?
5. Compare the geographical advantages of the U.S. with another country you know. How do they affect economic and political power?
6. How might U.S. geography have influenced its historical expansion and westward migration.

Tasks / Activities

1. **Map Activity:** Label major rivers, mountains, and regions on a blank map of the U.S., highlighting economic activities in each region.
2. **Case Study:** Research how access to the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes facilitated trade in the 19th and 20th centuries.
3. **Group Discussion / Debate:** "Which geographic feature of the U.S. has contributed most to its economic and political power?"
4. **Comparative Task:** Compare the geography of the U.S. with that of the Kyrgyz Republic and discuss how geography affects economic development.
5. **Research Project:** Investigate how natural resources from different regions have shaped industries in the U.S.
6. **Creative Task:** Imagine you are a settler in the 1800s. Write a diary entry describing how geography influences your farming, trade, or travel.

Lecture 8

A brief history of the United States Economy

The economic history of the United States reflects a dynamic journey of growth, innovation, and transformation. From its colonial beginnings, when agriculture and trade formed the backbone of the economy, to its emergence as a global industrial and technological leader, the U.S. economy has undergone significant changes. Key events, such as the Industrial Revolution, the Civil War, the Great Depression, and the post-World War II boom, shaped patterns of production, labor, and trade. In the late 20th and early 21st centuries, globalization and technological innovation further redefined economic structures, shifting the focus from manufacturing to services and information technology.

Understanding this history provides insight into how economic expansion influenced society, politics, and culture, and it highlights the factors that contributed to the United States becoming one of the world's leading economic powers. Exploring these developments also allows for comparison with other nations' economic trajectories, offering lessons on growth, resilience, and adaptation in a changing world.

The US has what is usually described as a capitalist economy but capitalism is a term coined by Karl Marks that referred to the concentration of control of the most important parts of the economy by a small group of capitalists. By contrast, most Americans think of capitalism as meaning “free enterprise” , a system that benefits millions not just a few. Free enterprise as an idea can be simply described but it is how this idea is applied to real life that is important. This chapter attempts to describe how free enterprise works in the US evidence by the historical record.

Every economic system tries to anticipate and then meet human needs through the production and distribution of goods and service. The economic system is the mechanism that brings together resources the labor supply technology, and necessary entrepreneurial and managerial talents. Although the type of economic system used by a nation is the result of political decision. It is also in even larger part the result of a historical experience that, over time, becomes a national culture. The first ingredient of an economic system is the natural resources from which goods are produced. The US is a land rich in mineral resources and fertile farm soil together with a moderate climate. Second, the amount of available labor helps determine the health of an economy. Generally, the US has been fortunate in having enough people to provide the labor necessary for a constantly expanding economy. Until shortly after World War I, most of these workers were either immigrants who came to America from Europe or African Americans whose forebears were brought to the Americas as slaves. When too many laborers arrived to be absorbed on the East coast, they could usually move on to farmland in the interior and be productively absorbed in that part of the economy.

The economic system of the US is principally one of private ownership. This system often referred to as a free enterprise system, can be contrasted with the socialist economic system, which depends heavily on government planning and public ownership of the means of production. As a rule consumers look for the best values for what they spend, while producers seek the best price and profit for what they have to sell. Government, at the federal , state and local levels , seeks to promote the public safety , assure reasonable competition and provided a range of services believed to be better performed by public rather than private enterprise in today’s economy , the providers of personal and public services far outnumber producers of agriculture and manufactured goods . Generally, there are 3 kinds of businesses: single owner operated business partnership and corporations.

The first two are important, but it is the later structure that best permits the amassing of large sums of money by combining the investments of many people who as stockholders can buy or sell their shares of the business at any time on the open market. Corporations make large-scale enterprise possible. The historical development of the American economy is rooted in the quest of European settlers for economic gain in the 16th, 17th, 18th centuries. Until this time, all of North

America's inhabitants were native Americans indigenous people who are believed to have traveled to America about 20,000 years earlier across a land bridge from Asia, where the Bering Strait is today.

The first "discovery of America by Europeans was made by the Vikings at about the year 1000. But the event went largely unnoticed; at that time most of European society was still firmly based on agriculture and land ownership. Commerce had not yet assumed the importance that would provide an impetus to the further exploration and settlement of North America. In 1492, Christopher Columbus, an Italian sailing under the Spanish flag, set out to find a South West passage to Asia and discovered a "new world". For the next hundred years, English Spanish Portuguese Dutch and French explorers sailed forth. Looking for the new world for gold and riches for honor and glory. In the 17th century many colonies were founded principally as business ventures more over piety and profits were not necessarily incompatible the Puritan settlements at Plymouth Plantation, although not organized in mind did not and indeed could ignore economic considerations. By the 18th century regional had become clear and reasonable stable: the new England colonies produced large scale ship builders and ship operators; plantation in merry land, Virginia and the Corallines grew staple crops of tobacco. Rice indigo and the middle colonies of New York Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware were shoppers of general crops and furs. The second half of the 19th century brought an explosion of new discoveries and inventions that in the opinion of the Beard family, prominent American historians amounted to the heralding of a second industrial revolution.

Answer the Questions

1. What were the main economic activities in the USA during the colonial period?
2. How did the Industrial Revolution affect the US economy in the 19th century?
3. What was the impact of the Great Depression on the American economy?
4. Which sector became dominant in the US economy in the 20th century?
5. Name one major economic event in the US after 2000.

Complete the sequences related to the history of the US economy.

1. Early US economic activities: Agriculture → Trade → _____ → Industrialization → Service sector growth
2. Key industrial developments: Textile mills → Railroads → Steel production → _____ → Automobile industry
3. Major economic crises: Panic of 1837 → Panic of 1893 → Great Depression → _____ → 2008 Financial Crisis

4. US economic growth periods: Colonial trade → Post-Revolution → Industrial Revolution → Post-WWII → _____
5. Technological innovations shaping the economy: Cotton gin → Telegraph → Steam engine → Electricity → _____

Connect the term/event with its description

Column A

Column B

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Great Depression 2. Industrial Revolution 3. Service sector 4. 2008 Financial Crisis 5. Cotton Gin | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Severe economic downturn in the 1930s causing massive unemployment b. Period of rapid industrialization in the 19th century c. Economic sector dominating the US economy in the late 20th century d. Major global recession affecting banking and housing markets e. Invention that revolutionized cotton production in the early US economy |
|---|---|

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How did geography and natural resources influence the early economic development of the U.S.?
2. What role did slavery play in the Southern economy, and how did it affect national economic growth?
3. How did the Industrial Revolution change the U.S. economy and society in the 19th century?
4. In what ways did wars (Civil War, World War I, World War II) impact the U.S. economy?
5. How did the Great Depression reshape economic policies and government involvement in the U.S. economy?
6. What factors contributed to the post-World War II economic boom?
7. How did globalization and technological advances change the U.S. economy in the late 20th and early 21st centuries?
8. Compare the U.S. economic growth patterns with those of another country you know. What are the similarities and differences?
9. How has the shift from a manufacturing to a service and technology-based economy affected American workers and society?
10. What lessons can other countries learn from the economic history of the United States?

Tasks/ Activities

1. **Timeline Creation:** Students create a visual timeline showing major phases of U.S. economic expansion.
2. **Debate:** “Was the Industrial Revolution more beneficial or harmful to American society?”
3. **Research Project:** Investigate one industry (e.g., steel, automobiles, technology) and its role in economic growth.
4. **Compare & Contrast:** Compare the U.S. economic development with that of the Kyrgyz Republic or another country.
5. **Case Study Analysis:** Examine the causes and effects of the Great Depression on American businesses and workers.
6. **Role Play:** Students act as historical figures (e.g., factory owner, farmer, immigrant) discussing economic opportunities and challenges.
7. **Economic Map:** Create a map showing key industrial regions, trade routes, and resources during different historical periods.
8. **Prediction Task:** Based on historical trends, students predict potential future economic changes in the U.S.

Lecture 9

The United States government

The Constitution of US is the control instrument of American government and the supreme law of the land .For 200 years it has guided the evolution of governmental institutions and has provided the basis the political stability. Individual freedom, economic growth and social progress. The American Constitution is the world’s this oldest written constitution in force, one that has served as the model for a number or other constitution around the world.

The path to the Constitution was neither straight nor easy. A draft document emerged in 1787 but only after intense debate and 6 years of experience with an earlier federal union the 13 British colonies in America declared their independence from their motherland in 1776. A year before war had broken out between the colonies and Britain, a war for independence that lasted for 6 bitter years. While still an war, the colonies know calling themselves, US of America drafted a compact that bound them together as a nation.

It was under these inauspicious circumstances that the Constitution of the US was drawn up. In February 1787 the continental congress, the Legislative body of the Republic, issued a call for the states to send delegates to Philadelphia in the state of Pennsylvania, to revise the articles. The constitutional convention convened on

May 25, 1787, independence Hall where the declaration of independence had been adopted two years earlier, on July 4, 1776. The document, the constitution was completed September 17, 1787, and was officially adopted March 4.

The Primary aim of the constitution was to create a strong elected government, directly responsive to the will of the people. The concept of self-government did not originate with the Americans indeed, a measure of self-government existed in England at that time. In the past two centuries, the diversity of the American people has increased and yet the essential unity of the nation has grown stronger. Throughout the 19th century and into the 20th century, an addles stream of immigrants contributed their skills and their cultural heritages to the growing nation. The period between the adoption of the articles of consideration in 1781 and the drafting of the constitution in 1787 was one of weakness dissension and turmoil. Under the Articles of confederation no provisions were for an executive branch to enforce the laws or four a national court system to interpret them. A Legislative Congress was the sole organ of the national government, but it had no power to force the states to do anything against their will. A weak central government, without the power to back its policies with military strength was inevitably handicapped in foreign affairs as well. The British refuse to withdraw their troops from the fords and trading posts in the new nation's North West territory, as they had agreed to do in the peace treaty of 1783 that marked the end of revolutionary war.

When sufficient delegates had arrived Philadelphia to make up a quorum for the Constitutional convention, George Washington was enormously elected its President. She accepted the honor reluctantly, protesting his lack of qualification. When the convention ended the ratification process began, Washington abandoned his silence and worked energetically on the constitutions be half, helping to persuade a number of opponents in his native state of Virginia to modify their stand. Concerning the principles of government we should say that although the constitution has change in many aspects since it was adopted, its basic principles remain the same now as in 1789. the three main branches of government: 1. Executive; 2. Legislative; and 3. Judicial are separated and distinctive. From one another the powers given to each are delicately balanced by the powers of other two.

The Constitution has been amendment 27 times since 1789, and it's likely to be further revised in the future. The most sweeping changes occurred within two years of its adoption. In that period the first ten amendments known collect at the bill of rights, were added. Congress approved these amendments in September 1789 and two states had ratified them by the end of 1791. These amendments remain in fact today as they were written two centuries ago. The first guaranties freedom of worship, speech and press, the right of peaceful Assembly and the right two petition on the government to correct wrongs.

The executive branch. Powers of the presidency “the chief magistrate derives all his authority from the people”. Abraham Lincoln first inaugural address 1861.

The United States is a federal republic built on the principles of democracy, separation of powers, and checks and balances. The U.S. Constitution establishes a government that is divided into three main branches—legislative, executive, and judicial—each with its own distinct powers and responsibilities. This structure ensures that no single branch becomes too powerful and that the government operates effectively to serve its citizens. Understanding the roles and interactions of these branches is essential to understanding how U.S. democracy functions and how laws and policies are created, enforced, and interpreted

1. Legislative Branch

- The legislative branch, known as **Congress**, is responsible for making laws.
- Congress is **bicameral**, consisting of:
 - **The House of Representatives**, representing citizens proportionally based on population.
 - **The Senate**, representing each state equally with two senators per state.
- Key functions include:
 - Drafting and passing **laws**.
 - Approving the **federal budget**.
 - Declaring **war** and regulating interstate and foreign **commerce**.
 - Overseeing the executive branch through **hearings and investigations**.

2. Executive Branch

- The executive branch is headed by the **President of the United States**, who acts as both **head of state and head of government**.
- Responsibilities include:
 - **Enforcing and implementing laws** passed by Congress.
 - Serving as **Commander-in-Chief** of the armed forces.
 - Conducting **foreign policy** and negotiating treaties.
 - Appointing **cabinet members, federal judges, and ambassadors** (with Senate approval).
- The executive branch also includes **federal agencies** and departments (like the Department of Education, Department of Defense), which manage the day-to-day administration of the government.

3. Judicial Branch

- The judicial branch interprets the Constitution and federal laws through the **court system**, with the **Supreme Court** at its apex.
- Key responsibilities:

- Determining the **constitutionality of laws** (judicial review).
 - Resolving disputes between states or between citizens and the government.
 - Interpreting laws to ensure they comply with the Constitution.
 - The judiciary is **independent**, providing a check on the legislative and executive branches to prevent abuse of power.
4. **Checks and Balances**
- The three branches are designed to **check each other's powers**:
 - Congress can **override a presidential veto** and approve appointments.
 - The President can **veto laws** and appoint federal judges.
 - The Supreme Court can **declare laws or executive actions unconstitutional**.
 - This system prevents concentration of power and ensures cooperation between branches.
5. **Significance of Separation of Powers**
- By distributing power, the U.S. government protects **individual freedoms** and **democratic principles**.
 - Citizens participate in governance through **elections**, ensuring accountability.
 - Understanding the branches helps people recognize how policies are made, enforced, and challenged, and how they can engage with their government.

Answer the Questions

1. What are the three branches of the United States government?
2. Who is the head of the executive branch in the USA?
3. What is the main function of the legislative branch?
4. How are Supreme Court justices appointed in the United States?
5. Name two key documents that form the foundation of the US government.

Complete the sequences related to the structure and functioning of the US government.

1. Steps of a bill becoming a law: Bill introduced → Committee review → House/Senate vote → _____ → Presidential approval → Law
2. Presidential succession: President → Vice President → _____ → _____ → Speaker of the House
3. US federal elections cycle: Presidential election → Midterm election → _____ → _____ → Presidential election
4. Levels of government: Federal → _____ → County → _____ → Municipal

5. Key historical milestones: Declaration of Independence → Constitution ratified → Bill of Rights → _____ → Civil Rights Act

Connect the term/person/document with its description

Column A

Column B

1. Executive Branch | a. Makes laws, consists of Congress (Senate & House of Representatives)
2. Legislative Branch | b. President, Vice President, Cabinet, enforces laws
3. Judicial Branch | c. Interprets laws, headed by the Supreme Court
4. Constitution | d. Supreme law of the USA, outlines government structure
5. Bill of Rights | e. First ten amendments guaranteeing individual freedoms

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. Why did the framers of the Constitution divide the U.S. government into three branches?
2. How does the system of checks and balances prevent abuse of power?
3. Which branch do you think has the most influence in shaping U.S. policy, and why?
4. How do the legislative and executive branches work together to create and implement laws?
5. Why is an independent judiciary important for protecting citizens' rights?
6. Can you identify real-life examples where one branch limited the powers of another?
7. How does the structure of the U.S. government compare to your country's government system?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Diagram Task:** Draw a chart of the three branches showing their powers, responsibilities, and examples of checks and balances.
2. **Role-Play:** Simulate a lawmaking process: students act as members of Congress, the President, and judges to pass, sign, and review a law.
3. **Case Study:** Examine a Supreme Court decision that significantly influenced U.S. policy and explain the impact of judicial review.
4. **Debate:** "Which branch of government has the most power in the U.S., and why?"
5. **Research Assignment:** Investigate a federal agency under the executive branch and describe how it enforces laws and serves citizens.
6. **Comparative Analysis:** Compare the U.S. separation of powers system with another country and discuss the advantages and disadvantages.

7. **Discussion Essay:** Write about how checks and balances help protect democracy and prevent corruption.

Lecture 10

The Native Americans

Native Americans, also known as American Indians or Indigenous peoples, are the original inhabitants of the land now called the United States. They have a rich history that spans thousands of years, with diverse cultures, languages, and traditions. Their societies were shaped by geography, natural resources, and their relationship with the environment. Understanding the history of Native Americans is essential to comprehending the broader history of the United States, including colonization, cultural interactions, conflicts, and contributions to modern American society.

The story of the Native American or American Indian is one that is unique, tragic and ultimately inspiring. It is unique because the Indians were the original inhabitants of the American continent and experienced every phase of its European settlement.

It is tragic because the conflict between the Indians and whites paralleled the experience of traditional peoples throughout the world who have come in contact with expanding, industrialized societies. It is an inspiring story because the Native Americans although dispossessed, of much of their land in the 19th century have survived, have asserted their political and economic rights, and have succeeded in retaining their identity and culture despite the onslaught of modern civilization.

Today Native Americans are full citizens of the United States. They are proud of their own culture heritage, which they are trying to protect and maintain it. Marks of that heritage can be found all over the US. Many of the names on US maps – Massachusetts, Ohio, Michigan, Kansas are Indian words. Indians taught the Europeans how to cultivate crops such as corn, tomatoes, tobacco. Canoes and moccasins are all Indian inventions. Indian handcrafted articles such as pottery, silver jewelry, paintings and woven rugs are highly prized.

About half of the Indians in the US live in large cities and rural areas scattered throughout the country. The remainder lives on about 300 federal reservations (land set aside for their use). Together, the reservations comprise 52,4 million acres (21 million hectares) of land or about 2,5 percent of the land area in the US. Most reservations are located west of the Mississippi river.

From 1970 to 1980 the Native American population in the US increased by 72 percent. Today, there are about 1.4 million Native Americans, which are believed to be more than there were when the first European explorers arrived in the New World. At that time about one million Native Americans were living in North America.

These people were soon overwhelmed by a flood of European settlers. As European civilization spread rapidly across the continent the Native population declined. Disease and warfare took their toll. By 1920, the Indian population had fallen below 350,000. For a time it seemed the Indians would vanish.

The transfer of land from Indian to European and later American – hands was accomplished through treaties, war and coercion. It was accompanied by a long struggle between the Indian and European ways of life. In many ways the history of the United States is the story of this struggle.

In 1492, an Italian navigator named Christopher Columbus set sail from Spain in search of a sea route to Asia. Columbus hoped to obtain access to the wealth of spices, silks and gold for which the Asian continent was famous. Six weeks later his men sighted land. Thinking he had landed in the Indies, a group of islands east of the coast of Asia, he called the people on the first island on which he landed “Los Indios”, or in English “Indians”. Of course, Columbus had not reached Asia at all. He had landed in the New World (the America continent). But the name “Indians” remains fixed in the English language. Though Columbus had one name for them, the Indians north of Mexico in what is now the United States and Canada spoke over 300 languages. And they lived scattered across the continent in tribes. To them, the continent was hardly new. Their ancestors had been living there for perhaps 30,000 years.

Scientists speculate that people first came to North America during the last ice age, at that time; much of the earth’s water was frozen in the glaciers that covered large parts of the globe. As sea level dropped, a strip of land was exposed in the area that is now the Bering Strait. Man probably followed the big game he was hunting across this land bridge from Siberia into Alaska.

Over time, these people increased in number, adapted to different environments and spread from the far northern reaches of Alaska and Canada to the tip of South America. Some groups, such as the peaceful pueblo of the American Southwest, lived in busy towns. They shared many storied-buildings made of adobe (mud and straw) bricks. They grew corn, squash and beans. Their neighbor, the Apache, lived in small bands. They hunted wildlife and gathered plants, nuts and roots, after acquiring horses from the Spanish they made their living by raising food and goods from their more settled white and Indian neighbors.

In the eastern woods of the Northern American continent, the Iroquois hunted, fished and farmed. Like the Pueblo they were excellent farmers, and 12 varieties of corn grew in their communal fields. Their long houses, covered with elm bark, held as many as 20 families; each family had its own apartment on either side of central hall. The Iroquois were fierce warriors. They surrounded villages with wooden stockades to protect them from attack by their neighbors. They fought for the glory of their tribe and for the glory of individuals’ warriors. The Indians of the North

Pacific coast harvested ocean fish and seafood. Tribes like the Haida lived in large plank houses with elaborately carved doorposts. These were called totem poles and the figures of them were a record of the history of the family which lived in the house.

Many Indians were fine crafts workers. They made pottery, baskets, and carvings and wove cotton and plant-fiber cloth. They traveled in small boats and on foot, never having developed the wheel. Some, such as the Plain's Indians, used dogs to pull a load carrying frame called a travois. Others, such as the Winnebago's of the Midwest, developed a sophisticated calendar that took the motions of both the sun and the moon into account.

Different as they were all tribes were greatly affected by the coming of the white man with his firearms, iron cooking pots, horses, wheeled vehicles and with his disease, to which the Indians had no immunities. The Europeans arrival changed the Indian way of life forever. To the Europeans, much of the Indians land appeared vacant. The Indians didn't "improve the land" with fences, wells, buildings or permanent towns. Many settlers thought the Indians were savages and that their way of life had little value. They felt they had every right to farm the Indian lands.

On Manhattan islands, the present site of New York City, beaver, deer, fox, wild turkey and other game (wild animals) were plentiful. The shinnecock Indians used the island for fishing and hunting, but they didn't live there. In 1626, the Dutch "bought" the island from them. The shinnecock didn't understand that once the land was sold, the Dutch felt it was their right to keep the Indians off. Like most Indians, they had no concept of private property.

The Indians believed that the land was there to be shared by all men. They worshipped the earth that provided them with food clothing and shelter, and they took from it only what they needed. They didn't understand when the settlers slaughtered animals to make the woods around their towns safer. They didn't like the roads and towns that to them, scarred the natural beauty of the earth. To the Europeans, game existed to be killed and land to be owned and farmed. Many didn't bother to discuss with the Indians whether or not they wanted to give up their land. To make room for the new settlers, hunting lands, fields, even Indian towns were seized through war, treaties or some combination of the three.

1. **Origins and Early Societies**

- Native Americans are believed to have migrated from Asia across the Bering Land Bridge during the Ice Age, thousands of years ago.
- They developed diverse societies adapted to their environments:
 - **Plains tribes** (e.g., Sioux, Cheyenne) relied on buffalo hunting.
 - **Eastern Woodlands tribes** (e.g., Iroquois, Cherokee) practiced agriculture and lived in permanent villages.

- **Southwestern tribes** (e.g., Navajo, Hopi) developed irrigation systems for farming in deserts.
 - **Pacific Northwest tribes** (e.g., Tlingit, Haida) relied on fishing and forests.
 - Societies were organized through clans, tribes, and confederacies, often with complex political and social systems.
2. **Culture and Traditions**
- Native Americans had rich oral traditions, storytelling, and ceremonies reflecting their connection to nature and spiritual beliefs.
 - They created unique art, music, and craft traditions, including weaving, pottery, beadwork, and totem poles.
 - Languages varied widely, with hundreds of distinct languages and dialects across the continent.
3. **Contact with Europeans**
- The arrival of European explorers and settlers in the 15th and 16th centuries had profound effects.
 - Native Americans experienced **diseases, land displacement, and conflicts** with settlers.
 - Some tribes engaged in trade with Europeans, exchanging furs and goods, while others resisted colonization.
4. **Westward Expansion and Displacement**
- During the 19th century, U.S. expansion led to forced relocation of many tribes, including the **Trail of Tears**, which devastated the Cherokee and other Southeastern tribes.
 - Native Americans were confined to **reservations**, and their traditional ways of life were disrupted.
5. **Contemporary Life**
- Today, Native Americans live across the U.S., maintaining cultural traditions while participating in modern society.
 - Tribes manage their own governments and economies, including casinos, tourism, and cultural centers.
 - Efforts continue to **preserve languages, culture, and heritage**, while addressing social and economic challenges.
6. **Contributions to the United States**
- Native Americans contributed agricultural knowledge (e.g., cultivation of maize, potatoes, and other crops).
 - They influenced art, music, and place names.
 - Many served in the U.S. military and continue to play a vital role in American society.

Answer the questions

1. Who are considered the Native Americans?
2. Name two major cultural regions of Native American tribes.
3. Which Native American civilization built large earthen mounds in North America?
4. How did European colonization affect Native American populations?
5. Name one Native American contribution to agriculture or technology.

Complete the sequences related to Native American history and culture.

1. Timeline of Native American history: Paleo-Indians → Archaic period → Woodland period → _____ → Contact with Europeans
2. Cultural regions of North America: Arctic → Subarctic → Northwest Coast → _____ → Southeast
3. Types of dwellings: Tipi → Longhouse → Pueblo → _____ → Igloo
4. Major Native American civilizations: Adena → Hopewell → Mississippian → _____ → Iroquois Confederacy
5. Effects of European colonization: Trade → Land disputes → Wars → _____ → Reservation system

Connect the tribe/term/event with its description

Column A

Column B

1. Iroquois Confederacy | a. Built complex earthen mounds, Mississippian culture
2. Navajo | b. Lived in the Southwest, known for weaving and silverwork
3. Inuit | c. Indigenous people of the Arctic, known for igloos and hunting seals
4. Trail of Tears | d. Forced relocation of Cherokee and other tribes in the 1830s
5. Powhatan | e. Native American confederation in the northeastern US

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How did the geography of North America influence the lifestyle and culture of different Native American tribes?
2. What were the major impacts of European colonization on Native American communities?
3. Why was the Trail of Tears a significant event in Native American history?
4. How do contemporary Native Americans balance traditional culture with modern life?
5. What contributions of Native Americans are still visible in U.S. society today?

6. How can we better preserve and respect Native American languages and traditions?
7. Compare the experiences of Native Americans in the Eastern Woodlands and the Plains regions

Tasks / Activities

1. **Map Activity:** Locate major Native American tribes on a map of North America and describe their environment and lifestyle.
2. **Cultural Research:** Choose a tribe and create a presentation on its traditions, beliefs, and daily life.
3. **Role Play / Simulation:** Act as a member of a tribe during European contact and discuss decisions about trade or resistance.
4. **Storytelling Project:** Write a short story or legend inspired by Native American oral traditions.
5. **Compare & Contrast:** Examine differences between the cultures of Plains tribes and Southwestern tribes.
6. **Debate:** “Was U.S. westward expansion inevitable, and could it have been done without displacing Native Americans?”
7. **Creative Task:** Design traditional clothing, tools, or artwork based on a chosen tribe’s culture.

Lecture 11

The history of blacks in North America

The history of Blacks in North America is a central part of understanding the United States and its social, cultural, and economic development. Africans were forcibly brought to the continent through the transatlantic slave trade, starting in the early 17th century. Over centuries, African Americans endured slavery, systemic discrimination, and social exclusion, but they also contributed immensely to the economic, cultural, and political life of the continent. Studying this history highlights the struggles for freedom, civil rights, and equality, and recognizes the resilience, achievements, and ongoing influence of Black communities in North America

The history of blacks in North America began in August 1619, when a small Dutch warship sailed up the James River to the young English colony of Jamestown, Virginia. The Dutch Ship had captured a Spanish ship in the Caribbean Sea carrying black men and women to Spanish colonies in South America. At that time, the Jamestown colony was only 12 years old, and the colonists were short of everything especially workers to help clear and till the land, and build houses. So the Jamestown settlers welcomed the blacks as a source of free labor. The 20 blacks landed from

the Dutch ship were viewed as indentured servants. They worked at Jamestown, clearing fields, planting crops, making roads and building houses. Near the end of the 17th century, the demand for black labor on the large plantations of Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas was great. To satisfy this demand, special ships were built to transport captive blacks directly from the west coast of Africa to the slave markets of North America. During the 18th century the slave trade boomed.

During the late 1600s and early 1700s, slavery existed in practically all the North American colonies. While most black slaves were held on large farms and plantations it wasn't unusual for small farmers and trades people to own slaves. By the mid-1700s many small farmers and trades people had mixed feelings about slavery. They wanted cost-free labor, but they were uncomfortable with the idea of owning another person. This was in conflict with the growing revolutionary idea that all men are created equal. The plantation economy was based on the large scale production of cash crops, such as tobacco and cotton, through the use of very cheap labor. The farmland of entire regions much of Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia became linked that economy. It was felt that any change in the institution of slavery could cause the economic and social collapse of those regions. This fear caused a number of people to contradict their own ideals of freedom, equality and the rights of man.

During the 1770s and '80s the American colonists fought for independence from Britain. They called for self-determination, democracy, equality and recognition of the natural rights of man. Yet many outspoken advocates of American freedom including Patrick Henry, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson lived within a system of slavery. While they sometimes wrote against slavery, the system of slavery was firmly entrenched. Other colonists said that while they personally deplored slavery they had to accept it as an economic necessity. Others argued that blacks were secure and happy, as slaves. The idea was even put forward by some that black slaves were not fully human beings. All these attempts to justify slavery in a land where personal freedom was highly valued created a barrier between black and white communities. Over the years, several black men and women achieved fame and fortune in the arts, sciences, religion and commerce. Some had high standing in colonial society. From those positions they campaigned for freedom and dignity for all blacks.

Many names stand out. One was Benjamin Banneker (1732-1806) who gained fame as an astronomer, mathematician, author and inventor. He also helped design the city of Washington, D.C. Banneker, who had always been free, could have enjoyed his prestige and wealth without conflict. But he wrote and spoke out against slavery until the day he died.

Paul Cuffe (1759-1817) was one of 10 children of a farmer slave. Growing up free, but poor, in Massachusetts, Cuffe gradually gained wealth through farming and

shipping. By 1800, he was one of the wealthiest men in Massachusetts. But he used most of his wealth to help others. Cuffe worked hard to end slavery. He helped to free many individual slaves. But as he saw that many free blacks ended up in conditions of inequality, dire poverty and frequent humiliation, he concluded that freedom alone was not enough. In Cuffe's opinion the answer was in Africa, the continent of their ancestors.

From the first days of slavery in America, there were escape Attempts. In colonial times, runaway slaves often took refuge in swamps, forests, mountains, and among Indian tribes. Then starting with Pennsylvania in 1780, several northern states abolished slavery. So fugitive slaves frequently sought refuge in those "free" states. To stop that, the Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law of 1793. This law required the authorities of all states and territories to arrest and return fugitive slaves. It also led to "bounty hunting".

Slave owners offered bounties (rewards) for the return of runaways. Not only did this tempt people along the way to capture fugitive slaves, it also created a group of professional "bounty hunters". These hunters perused fugitive across state borders in the hope of collecting rewards.

During the early 1800s the men and women who tried to escape, from slavery were usually alone and unaided. Their attempts often ended in recapture or death. Then, starting in the 1830s, people opposed to slavery provided money, food and hiding places for fugitives. Escape routes were mapped out, and word of them spread through the slave quarters of plantations.

Since railroading were very popular at the time, the system of escape routes became known as the "underground railroad". Hiding places were called "depots". People providing money was called "stock-holds". And guides who led fugitives along the escape routes were called "conductors".

Many of the "conductors" were free blacks of former slaves. They often plunged deep into slave states to contact escapes. This was dangerous. If captured, former slaves went back to slavery. But free black "conductors" were also likely to end up in slavery... or death. Gunfight between bounty hunters and armed "conductors" increased as the number of escapes from slavery sharply increased.

To blunt the work of the "underground railroad", a tougher fugitive slave law was passed by congress in 1850. The 1850 law called for "severe penalties to be imposed on anyone assistance Negroes to escape from bondage". It also authorized federal marshals to "command all good citizens to aid in the capture of fugitives". As a results bounty hunters were appointed as marshals in slave states. Then, with the full backing of the law, they were able to prowl the free states in search of fugitive slaves. This did not stop the "underground railroad conductors". It just made their work harder.

The most famous of the underground conductors was a young woman named Harriet Tubman (1821-1913). In 1849, she escaped from slavery in Maryland. She made her way to Philadelphia and there joined the ranks of the “underground railroad”. Over the next 10 years, Harriet Tubman made 19 trips into slaves, and led more than 300 men, women, children to freedom. On early trips, Harriet Tubman led the to such northern cities as New York and Philadelphia. But the 1850 law made those cities unsafe. So Tubman decided to lead the people in her care all way to Canada, where they would be beyond the reach of lawmen and bounty hunters. Emancipation or the ending of slavery didn’t happen in a single day. It was break of the American Civil War between free states of the North and slave states of the South. During the war, wherever the Union or Northern Army gained control, slavery for all practical purposes, was ended. It’s estimated that half a million slaves escaped to Union-controlled areas.

Next big step in the process took place on January 1, 1863; President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that slaves in states, or portions of states, at the United States were free. Few slaves were freed however, since most lived in the rebellious South. Nevertheless, the Proclamation was a critical turning point; it increased Northern support by making the end of slavery an objective of the war. Freedom for all slaves came later, in 1865, when the war ended and Congress passed the 13th amendment, which completely abolished slavery. Another Amendment, the 14th, gave blacks full citizenship rights. For a time, many hoped that blacks and whites could live together in a state of equality and tolerance. That hope didn’t last long. Local laws and customs were used to deprive blacks of voting rights. Prejudice increased and discrimination intensified. In most former slave States, a system of racial segregation arose, and blacks had to use separate schools, churches, hospitals, parks, swimming pools, lunchrooms, washrooms, bus sections and theatre sections.

In the early years of the 20th century, lynching - the illegal killing of people for real or imagined crimes – greatly increased. After the first world the away than ever. As a result, many blacks moved from the rural South to the great cities of the North. Although northerners did not practice formal segregation, blacks encountered discrimination in jobs and housing. However, progress did occur during the difficult years from 1919 to 1950. Individual blacks made breakthroughs in education, science, sports, entertainment, business, engineering and most of all in music and the arts, blacks gained influence in organized labor, industry and government. There were black university presidents and black millionaires.

Answer the questions

1. When did the transatlantic slave trade begin, bringing Africans to North America?
2. Name one key law or act that legalized slavery in colonial America.
3. What was the Emancipation Proclamation, and who issued it?
4. Name one major event or movement in the 20th century that advanced civil rights for Black Americans.
5. Who was the first African American to serve as President of the United States?

Complete the sequences related to the history of Blacks in North America.

1. Major periods in African American history: Arrival of enslaved Africans → Colonial slavery → Antebellum period → _____ → Reconstruction → Jim Crow → Civil Rights Movement
2. Key events of emancipation: American Revolution → Gradual emancipation in Northern states → _____ → Emancipation Proclamation → 13th Amendment
3. African American migration patterns: Slavery in the South → Post-Civil War sharecropping → Great Migration → _____ → Urban settlement in northern cities
4. Civil Rights milestones: Brown v. Board of Education → Montgomery Bus Boycott → _____ → Civil Rights Act → Voting Rights Act
5. Influential African American leaders: Frederick Douglass → Booker T. Washington → W.E.B. Du Bois → _____ → Martin Luther King Jr.

Connect the person/event/document with its description

Column A

Column B

1. Emancipation Proclamation | a. Issued by Abraham Lincoln, freed enslaved people in Confederate states
2. 13th Amendment | b. Constitutional amendment abolishing slavery throughout the USA
3. Civil Rights Movement | c. Social and political movement in the 1950s–60s for racial equality
4. Frederick Douglass | d. Formerly enslaved African American who became a prominent abolitionist and writer
5. Barack Obama | e. First African American President of the United States

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How did slavery shape the economy and society of the Southern colonies?
2. In what ways did African Americans resist slavery and maintain cultural identity?
3. What were the successes and failures of Reconstruction in improving African American lives?
4. How did segregation affect African American communities during the Jim Crow era?
5. What were the most important achievements of the Civil Rights Movement?
6. How have African Americans contributed to U.S. culture and society?
7. What challenges do African Americans continue to face today?
8. Compare the experiences of African Americans in the U.S. with those of other diasporic communities around the world.

Tasks / Activities

1. **Timeline Activity:** Create a timeline showing key events from slavery to the Civil Rights Movement and beyond.
2. **Biography Research:** Choose a significant African American figure and present their life, achievements, and impact.
3. **Case Study:** Analyze a historical event, such as the Emancipation Proclamation or the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and discuss its significance.
4. **Discussion / Debate:** “Was Reconstruction successful in achieving equality for African Americans?”
5. **Creative Project:** Write a poem, song, or short story inspired by African American history or culture.
6. **Map Activity:** Identify key regions of slavery, civil rights struggles, and migration patterns (e.g., the Great Migration).
7. **Comparative Essay:** Compare the Civil Rights Movement in the U.S. with other global movements for racial equality.

Lecture 12

History from 1929 to the present

The period from 1929 to the present in U.S. history is marked by dramatic social, economic, and political changes. Beginning with the Great Depression, the nation faced severe economic hardship that shaped policy, society, and government intervention. Over the decades, the United States has experienced wars, social movements, economic booms and recessions, technological revolutions, and increasing global influence. Understanding this period provides insight into the

modern challenges and achievements of American society, as well as the evolving role of the U.S. in the world.

In October 1929 the stock market crashed, wiping out 40 percent of the paper values of common stock. Even after the stock market collapse, however, politicians and industry leaders continued to issue optimistic predictions for the nation's economy. But the Depression deepened, confidence evaporated and many lost their life savings. By 1933 the value of stock on the New York Stock Exchange was less than a fifth of what it had been at its peak in 1929. Business houses closed their doors, factories shut down and banks failed. Farm income fell some 50 percent. By 1932 approximately one out of every four Americans was unemployed.

The presidential campaign of 1932 was chiefly a debate over the causes and possible remedies of the Great Depression. Herbert Hoover, unlucky in entering The White House only eight months before the stock market crash, had struggled tirelessly, but ineffectively, to set the wheels of industry in motion again. His democratic opponent, Franklin D. Roosevelt already popular as the governor of New York during the developing crisis, argued that the Depression stemmed from the US economy's underlying flaws which had been aggravated by Republican policies during the 1920s. President Hoover replied that the economy was fundamentally sound, but had been shaken by the repercussions of a worldwide depression – whose causes could be tracked back to the war. Behind this argument lay a clear implication; Hoover had to depend largely on natural processes of recovery, while Roosevelt was prepared to use the federal government's authority for bold experimental remedies.

It was **1929**, and the United States seemed like a land of endless opportunity. People had jobs, families were growing, and cities buzzed with life. But suddenly, everything changed. The stock market crashed, banks failed, and millions of people lost their savings. Families struggled to buy food, and children went to school hungry. This dark time was called the **Great Depression**, and it forced Americans to find new ways to survive.

Into this chaos stepped **President Franklin D. Roosevelt**, who promised a "New Deal" for the nation. He created jobs, built roads and schools, and introduced programs like **Social Security** to protect the elderly. Slowly, hope returned.

Then came **World War II**. America watched as Europe and Asia were consumed by war. Life changed dramatically: factories churned out airplanes, tanks, and ships instead of cars, and women took jobs in offices and factories for the first time. When Japan attacked **Pearl Harbor in 1941**, the U.S. joined the fight. Soldiers went overseas, and families at home supported the war effort. By 1945, the war was over, and the United States had become a **global superpower**, its cities thriving and its people optimistic.

The next years brought **prosperity and change**. Suburbs grew, cars filled the streets, and televisions brought the world into people's living rooms. Soldiers returning from

war used the **GI Bill** to go to college and buy homes, and the economy soared. But not everyone shared in this prosperity. African Americans and other minorities still faced segregation and discrimination. Courageous leaders and ordinary people began fighting for **civil rights**, demanding equal education, the right to vote, and fair treatment. By the mid-1960s, landmark laws like the **Civil Rights Act** and the **Voting Rights Act** helped break down barriers, though the struggle for equality continued.

The later decades of the 20th century brought **challenges and opportunities**. Oil crises, inflation, and wars abroad tested the nation, but innovation and technology—computers, the internet, and new industries—opened doors to a rapidly changing world. The United States became a center of culture, science, and global business.

Entering the **21st century**, America faced new trials. The tragic attacks of **September 11, 2001**, changed security and foreign policy, and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq marked a new era of military involvement. Economic crises like the **2008 recession** reminded Americans of the fragility of prosperity. Yet through it all, people continued to fight for justice and equality. Social movements like **Black Lives Matter** and campaigns for climate action and gender equality inspired millions to speak out for change.

Today, the United States is a land of diversity and resilience. Its people, shaped by hardships and triumphs, continue to innovate, create, and dream. From the streets of New York to the deserts of Arizona, Americans tell a story of struggle, growth, and hope—a story that began long ago and continues to unfold every day.

Answer the questions

1. What major economic event began in the United States in 1929?
2. Which global conflict occurred between 1939 and 1945?
3. What was the Cold War, and which two superpowers were involved?
4. Name one major social movement in the United States during the 1960s.
5. Who became the first African American President of the United States, and in which year?

Complete the sequences related to history from 1929 to the present.

1. Major US economic events: Stock Market Crash 1929 → Great Depression → New Deal → _____ → 2008 Financial Crisis → COVID-19 economic impact
2. Major global conflicts: World War I → Interwar period → _____ → Cold War → Gulf War → War on Terror
3. US Presidents from 1929 to 2020: Herbert Hoover → Franklin D. Roosevelt → Truman → _____ → Barack Obama → Donald Trump

4. Civil rights and social change: Jim Crow Laws → NAACP activism → _____ → Civil Rights Act 1964 → Voting Rights Act 1965
5. Technological advancements: Radio → Television → _____ → Internet → Smartphones → AI and digital technologies

Connect the event/person/document with its description

Column A

Column B

1. Great Depression | a. Severe worldwide economic crisis beginning in 1929
2. World War II | b. Global conflict from 1939–1945 involving Allies and Axis powers
3. Cold War | c. Political and military tension between the USA and USSR after 1945
4. Civil Rights Act 1964 | d. Law prohibiting racial discrimination in the USA
5. Barack Obama | e. First African American President of the United States, elected 2008

Instructions: Match Column A to Column B with correct numbers and letters.

Discussion Questions

1. How did the Great Depression change everyday life for Americans?
2. What roles did women and minorities play during WWII?
3. Why were the Civil Rights laws of the 1960s so important?
4. How have technology and globalization shaped life in the late 20th and early 21st centuries?
5. How have Americans responded to crises like 9/11 or the 2008 recession?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Timeline Creation:** Draw a timeline of major events from 1929 to today.
2. **Diary Entry:** Write a day in the life of a child during the Great Depression, WWII, or the Civil Rights Movement.
3. **Role Play:** Imagine being a leader during WWII or a civil rights activist—present a speech to your classmates.
4. **Creative Poster:** Illustrate key technological, cultural, and social changes from 1945 to the present.
5. **Comparative Essay:** Compare life in the U.S. during the Great Depression to life during the 2008 recession.

Seminar Materials
Country Studies of Great Britain.
Population of United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

The United Kingdom is more thickly populated than most countries. Most of its people live in cities and towns. About one third of the country's residents live in England's seven metropolitan areas. Greater London, the largest metropolitan area, has about 10% of the United Kingdom's total population. More than four-fifth of the population of the United Kingdom live in England. London and England as a whole have great influence over the rest of the United Kingdom, because of their large populations. People have been coming to settle in Britain for centuries from many parts of the world. Some of them come to avoid political or religious persecution, others to find a better way of life or an escape from poverty. The Irish have long made homes in Britain. Many Jewish refugees started a new life in the country towards the end of the XIX century and in the 1930 years.

In 1970 years, many individuals have achieved distinction in their career and in public life and the proportion of the ethnic minorities' workers in professional and managerial jobs has increased. There are three black Members of Parliament and one Asian Member of Parliament and the Member of ethnic minorities' counselors in local government is growing.

The people who now inhabit the British Isles are descended mainly from the people who lived here some 9 centuries ago. The English nation was formed as a result of the mixture of the native population of the British Isles – the pre-Celts and the Celts with the invaders: the Germanic tribes (Angles, Saxons and Jutes), the Danes and the Normans. It is known that the population of the country in the 11th century was almost 2 million people, according to the so-called "Domesday Book" ("Книга Судного Дня"), the first population census. There are no available records about the size of the population until the beginning of the 19th century. At that time the population was 6, 5 million; a lot of people left the British Isles to travel to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States, South Africa, some parts of Asia in search for a better life. Thus, they spread economic, political and cultural (as well as linguistic) influence of Britain. Censuses of the people of the UK have been taken regularly every 10 years since 1801 (except for 1941 because of the Second World War). In 1901, the population of the UK was 38 million. Mass emigration from Britain stopped after World War I when the above-mentioned countries (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, etc.) imposed strict immigration laws. In the 1930s, Britain saw a considerable flow of refugees from continental Europe as a result of fascist persecution, in the 1950s and 1960s – a large influx of people from West Indies and India. After the 1960s, a considerable number of people entered the UK from the Commonwealth countries.

For the first time ever, the UK has more people aged over 60 than under 16. The country ranks 16th in the world in size of population. The distribution of the population is rather uneven. More than 47 million people live in England, around 5 million in Scotland, over 3 million in Wales and about 1.5 million in Northern Ireland. The UK is currently experiencing substantial internal migration. The population of southern England and London is continuing to grow while northern areas decline. Most of the mountainous parts of the UK are very sparsely populated. The current pattern of population distribution emerged during the past century. Urbanization is the most prominent feature of this pattern, so the majority of the population lives in towns, cities and their suburbs. The English, the Scots, the Welsh and the Irish who constitute the British nation inhabit the UK. Native-born United Kingdomers constitute 92% of the population. Now there are also many people of all colors and races in the UK. These are mostly former inhabitants of the former British colonies. These people, called “the coloureds”, came to the UK in search of better living standards. Among the ethnic minority population, the largest group is Indian, followed by West Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi. According to the 2001 census, about 9% of the people in Britain are non-white. London has the highest proportion of minority ethnic communities. 50% of the population of London describe themselves as white British; others are: white Irish, white other (Europeans, Americans, Australians, New Zealanders, etc.), Africans, black Caribbean’s, Asians. The government encourages the immigrant communities to continue speaking their own languages as well as English. There is still a serious problem of racial tension and racial prejudice in Britain today.

As of 2026, the **United Kingdom**, which includes **England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland**, is home to roughly **69.8 million people**. England is by far the most populous, with over **56 million residents**, while Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland together account for the remaining population. Cities like London, Birmingham, Glasgow, and Belfast are hubs of industry, education, and culture, drawing people from across the UK and the world.

The UK’s population is a **blend of history and migration**. For centuries, people from Ireland, the Caribbean, South Asia, and more recently Eastern Europe and Africa, have settled here, bringing languages, cuisines, traditions, and religions that enrich British life. Walking through London, one might hear multiple languages spoken on a single street, smell spices from around the world, and see a tapestry of cultural expressions in clothing, music, and festivals.

Age and Life in the UK The population is **aging**, with many people living longer thanks to healthcare advances, but younger generations remain vital to the economy and culture. Families, students, and professionals fill towns and cities, while rural areas maintain traditional lifestyles. In schools, children from many

ethnic backgrounds study together, sharing stories and traditions from their diverse communities.

Urban centers are alive with energy: in London, the streets pulse with business, entertainment, and cultural life; in Glasgow, music festivals and art galleries showcase Scotland's creative spirit; in Cardiff, sports and local traditions bring communities together; in Belfast, history and modern development coexist side by side. Across the UK, these communities form the backbone of the nation's social and economic life.

Migration and Diversity Migration has always shaped the population. From the Irish immigrants of the 19th century to the Windrush generation from the Caribbean, and more recently immigrants from South Asia, Africa, and Europe, the UK has grown into a **multicultural society**. This diversity is reflected in festivals like **Diwali in Leicester**, **Chinese New Year in Manchester**, and **Caribbean Carnival in London**, which celebrate both British and global cultures.

Religion, too, is diverse. While Christianity has historically been dominant, today there are vibrant communities of **Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Jews**, and many people who identify as secular or follow other spiritual paths. This variety contributes to the richness of daily life, from architecture and cuisine to art and education.

Population Trends and the Future The UK population continues to grow, though more slowly than in past decades, largely due to **migration** rather than natural increase. Urbanization concentrates people in major cities, while rural areas face challenges like population decline and aging residents. Policymakers and communities are considering how to provide housing, healthcare, and jobs for a population that is diverse, mobile, and increasingly connected to the global economy.

The population of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland tells a story of resilience, adaptation, and diversity. From historic migrations to modern multiculturalism, from bustling cities to quiet countryside villages, the people of the UK shape its culture, economy, and global identity. They are not just numbers—they are storytellers, innovators, workers, students, and neighbors, living together in a shared space while contributing their unique heritage and experiences to the life of the nation.

Discussion Questions

1. How has migration shaped the population and culture of the UK and Northern Ireland?
2. Why are urban centers like London, Glasgow, and Belfast important for population growth and diversity?

3. How does an aging population affect society, economy, and healthcare in the UK?
4. How do festivals and cultural events reflect the multicultural nature of the population?
5. Compare the population distribution between urban and rural areas—what challenges and opportunities arise?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Map Activity:** Label England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland and mark the most populous cities.
2. **Population Timeline:** Show migration waves to the UK and how they affected population numbers and diversity.
3. **Creative Writing:** Imagine you are a child in a multicultural city like London or Birmingham—write about a day in your life interacting with people from different cultures.
4. **Data Analysis:** Use population statistics to compare growth rates, age distribution, and urbanization across UK regions.
5. **Discussion / Debate:** “Does migration strengthen or challenge national identity in the UK?”
6. **Cultural Research:** Explore how a particular immigrant group has influenced British culture (food, music, art, or festivals).
7. **Storytelling Project:** Create a story highlighting the lives of families from different regions and backgrounds in the UK.

Educational system of Great Britain.

Education in Great Britain has a long and rich history, evolving from medieval schools and universities to a modern system that serves millions of children and young adults. Education is considered a fundamental right and a key to personal development and social mobility. The British educational system combines tradition with innovation, offering a variety of pathways from primary schooling to higher education. Understanding its structure, values, and challenges helps us appreciate how Britain prepares its citizens for life, work, and active participation in society.

Each division of the United Kingdom has its own system of public education. Its own department of education, which works closely with Local elected education authorities, runs each system. Traditionally, teachers throughout the UK have had much freedom in selecting the courses they teach and in developing their own teaching methods. Most British children are required by Law to begin school at the age of 5 and continue until they are 16. There are several types of high school. Some students attend grammar schools, which provide a college preparatory education.

Some attend schools that stress a more general, technical, or vocational education. However, most students attend Comprehensive schools, which provide all types of high school education. England has such public schools as: Eton, Harrow and Winchester, is extremely high. The leading public schools stress preparation for Oxford or Cambridge, which are Britain's oldest and most honored universities.

Oxford University was founded in the 1100's and Cambridge was established in the 1200's. They have greater reputation than other universities because of their age, traditions and high standards of scholarship. The United Kingdom has about 75 other Universities.

The educational system of G.B. is extremely complex and bewildering. It is very difficult to generalize particular types of schools as schools differ from one to the other. The department of education and science is responsible for national educational policy, but it doesn't employ teacher or prescribe curricula or text books.

Each school has its own board of governors consisting of teachers, parents, local politicians, members of local community, businessmen and sometimes pupils. According to the law only one subject is compulsory. It is religious instruction. Schooling for children is compulsory from 5 to 16, though some provision is made for children under 5 and some pupils remain at school after 16 to prepare for higher education.

The state school system is usually divided into 2 stages (secondary and primary). The majority of primary schools are mixed. They are subdivided into infant schools (ages 5 to 7), and junior schools (ages 7 to 11). In junior schools pupils were often placed in A, B, C or D-streams, according to their abilities. Under the pressure of progressive parents and teachers the 11+ examination has now been abolished in most parts of the country. There are several types of schools in G.B. Grammar schools provide an academical cause for selected pupils from the age of 11 to 18. Only those children who have the best results are admitted to these schools. They give pupils a high level of academic education which can lead to the university.

Technical Schools offer a general education with a technical bias and serve those pupils who are more mechanically minded. The curriculum includes more lessons of science and mathematics. Secondary modern schools were formed to provide a non-academic education for children of lesser attainment. The curriculum includes more practical subjects. Comprehensive schools bring about a general improvement in the system of secondary education.

Discussion Questions

1. How is the British education system structured from primary school to higher education?
2. What is the purpose of GCSEs and A-levels in a student's academic journey?
3. How does vocational education differ from traditional university education?
4. Why is inclusive education important in modern Britain?

5. How do extracurricular activities contribute to student development?
6. What challenges does the British education system face today?
7. Compare the British educational system with the system in your country. What are the similarities and differences?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Timeline Activity:** Create a timeline showing the stages of education in Great Britain from early years to university.
2. **Research Assignment:** Choose a famous British university and prepare a report about its history, programs, and notable alumni.
3. **Case Study:** Explore the benefits of vocational education and apprenticeships for students not attending university.
4. **Role Play / Simulation:** Imagine you are a student in a British school; write a diary entry about a typical day including classes, breaks, and extracurricular activities.
5. **Discussion / Debate:** “Should higher education in Britain be free for all students?”
6. **Comparative Essay:** Compare primary and secondary education in Great Britain with that in another country.
7. **Creative Project:** Design a poster illustrating British school uniforms, classroom life, and extracurricular activities.

London is the capital of Great Britain.

London, the capital city of Great Britain, is one of the most famous and influential cities in the world. Located on the banks of the River Thames in southeastern England, it is a city that combines ancient history, royal tradition, economic power, and cultural diversity. London is not only the political and administrative center of the United Kingdom but also a global hub for finance, culture, education, and tourism. Understanding London gives insight into British history, society, and the modern world.

London is the capital of Great Britain, its political, economic and cultural centre. It's one of the largest cities in the world. Its population is more than million people. London is situated on the river Thames. The city is very old and beautiful. It was founded more than two thousand years ago. Traditionally London is divided into several parts: the City, the West End, the East End and Westminster. The City is the oldest part of London, its financial and business centre. The heart of the City is the Stock Exchange. Westminster is the most important part of the capital. It's the administrative centre. The Houses of Parliament, the seat of the British Government, are there. It's a very beautiful building with two towers and a very big clock called Big Ben. Big Ben is really the bell which strikes every quarter of an hour. Opposite

the Houses of Parliament is Westminster Abbey. It's a very beautiful church built over 900 years ago. The tombs of many great statesmen, scientists and writers are there.

To the west of Westminster is West End. Here we find most of the big shops, hotels, museums, art galleries, theatres and concert halls. Picadilly Circus is the heart of London's West End. In the West End there are wide streets with beautiful houses and many parks, gardens and squares. To the east of Westminster is the East End, an industrial district of the capital. There are no parks or gardens in the East End and you can't see many fine houses there. Most of the plants and factories are situated there. London has many places of interest. One of them is Buckingham Palace. It's the residence of the Queen. The English are proud of Trafalgar Square, which was named so in memory of the victory at the battle. There in 1805 the English fleet defeated the fleet of France and Spain. The last place of interest I should like to mention is the British Museum, the biggest museum in London. The museum is famous for its library -one of the richest in the world.

All London's long-past history is told by its streets. There are many streets in London which are known all over the" world. Among them Oxford Street, Downing Street and a lot of others can be mentioned. And tourists are usually attracted not only by the places of interest but by the streets too. In conclusion I should say if you are lucky enough to find yourself in London some day you will have a lot to see and enjoy there.

1. **Historical Significance**

London has a history that spans over **two millennia**, dating back to Roman times when it was called **Londinium**. Over the centuries, London has grown from a small settlement to a major medieval city, surviving events such as the **Great Fire of London in 1666** and the **Blitz during World War II**. Many historical landmarks remain, including the **Tower of London**, **Westminster Abbey**, and **St. Paul's Cathedral**, which attract millions of visitors every year.

2. **Political and Administrative Center**

London is home to the **UK Parliament**, the **Prime Minister's residence at 10 Downing Street**, and the **monarchy at Buckingham Palace**. As the seat of government, London plays a central role in **decision-making, law-making, and national leadership**. The city hosts embassies and international organizations, reflecting its role in global diplomacy.

3. **Economic and Financial Hub**

London is one of the world's leading financial centers, with institutions like the **Bank of England**, the **London Stock Exchange**, and the global headquarters of multinational companies. The city attracts businesspeople from around the world and provides countless jobs in finance, commerce, technology, and creative

industries. Iconic financial districts include the **City of London** and **Canary Wharf**, where modern skyscrapers dominate the skyline.

4. **Culture and Tourism**

London is a cultural powerhouse with **museums, theaters, galleries, and music venues**. The **British Museum, National Gallery**, and **Tate Modern** showcase art and history from around the world. The **West End** is famous for theater and musicals, comparable to Broadway in New York. Tourists visit landmarks like **Big Ben, the London Eye, Tower Bridge**, and **Hyde Park**. London's multicultural population ensures a rich variety of festivals, cuisine, music, and arts.

5. **Education and Innovation**

London hosts some of the UK's most prestigious universities, such as **University College London (UCL), King's College London**, and **London School of Economics (LSE)**. Research, technology, and innovation thrive in London, making it a global center for science, medicine, and the arts. The city offers opportunities for students and professionals from across the world.

6. **Transport and Infrastructure**

London has an extensive transport network, including **the Underground ("the Tube")**, buses, trains, and international airports like **Heathrow and Gatwick**. Its connectivity makes it a vital hub for trade, tourism, and international relations. Modern infrastructure coexists with historic streets, bridges, and neighborhoods, giving London a unique charm.

7. **Social Diversity and Life in London**

London is one of the most multicultural cities in the world. People from **all continents, religions, and cultures** live together in harmony. Neighborhoods like **Notting Hill, Camden, and Southall** reflect diverse cultural traditions, food, music, and festivals. The city is vibrant day and night, offering cultural, educational, and entertainment opportunities to residents and visitors alike. London is more than just a capital city; it is a living symbol of **British history, culture, and modern achievement**. Its historical landmarks, political institutions, economic influence, cultural richness, and social diversity make it an essential part of both the United Kingdom and the global community. London continues to evolve, blending **tradition and modernity**, making it a city of endless discovery.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is London considered the political and administrative center of the UK?
2. How does London reflect both history and modernity in its architecture and landmarks?
3. In what ways does London serve as a global financial hub?
4. How does multiculturalism influence life and culture in London?
5. Compare London with another capital city you know in terms of history, culture, and economy.

6. Why is tourism important to London's economy and global image?
7. How do education and innovation contribute to London's international influence?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Map Activity:** Locate London on a map of the UK and mark key landmarks, rivers, and transport hubs.
2. **Tourism Project:** Create a travel brochure highlighting London's historical sites, museums, and cultural activities.
3. **Timeline Activity:** Make a timeline of major historical events in London, from Roman times to the present.
4. **Creative Writing:** Imagine a day in London as a tourist or a local resident—describe your experiences with landmarks, transport, and people.
5. **Discussion / Debate:** “Does London's modern development threaten or preserve its historical identity?”
6. **Research Assignment:** Investigate one of London's cultural institutions (museum, theater, or gallery) and present its significance.
7. **Comparative Study:** Compare London with your country's capital in terms of culture, economy, and history.

Traditional English Cooking.

English cuisine has a long history shaped by geography, climate, culture, and social traditions. While it is sometimes stereotyped as simple or plain, traditional English cooking reflects centuries of local ingredients, family meals, and festive celebrations. From hearty breakfasts to savory pies and Sunday roasts, English cuisine tells a story of regional diversity, seasonal produce, and culinary creativity. Learning about traditional English cooking offers insight into British culture, daily life, and historical food customs.

Traditional English food has been greatly influenced by other national cuisines in recent years. Despite this fact, if you travel to Britain, you can still be served up traditional English dishes in a restaurant or at a hotel. A typical English breakfast is usually quite big and substantial. It includes pork sausages, bacon and eggs, tomatoes, baked beans, mushrooms and a toast. Some people enjoy porridge, fruit and yogurt in the morning, followed by a toast and jam, or orange marmalade. A traditional breakfast drink is tea, which British people prefer having with cold milk. Another popular morning drink is orange juice.

For many Englishmen lunch is a fast meal. In big cities there are a lot of sandwich bars where office clerks can choose all sorts of sandwiches with meat, fish, chicken, ham, prawns, eggs, cheese, vegetables and lettuce. English pubs also serve good food for lunch, hot and cold. Quite a lot of workers go to famous “fish and chips shops” and buy their favourite deep fried cod or haddock with French fries.

A lot of Englishmen drink their 5 o'clock tea. It's a traditional light meal after work. People enjoy their favourite teas with cookies, cakes, freshly baked sweet buns, scones and other pastries. British people eat their evening meal at about 7 o'clock, when all members of the family are at home together. As a rule, a typical dinner is meat and vegetables. It can be roast chicken or lamb with potatoes, or steamed vegetables with meat gravy. For dessert, English wives cook various puddings and serve them with ice-cream or jam.

On Sundays British families like to sit together at the table enjoying roast beef, lamb or chicken, served with Yorkshire pudding and dressed with English mustard, apple sauce, cranberry sauce or mint sauce. English food is simple but very delicious. Today it continues to merge in national cuisines from all over the world.

Britain has some excellent traditional food: lamb from Wales, shellfish and fresh salmon from Northern Ireland, fresh or smoked fish from Scotland, cheeses from England and Wales. Unfortunately, good British food is difficult to find. Only 2 per cent of restaurants in London serve British food. There are many more Italian, Chinese and Indian restaurants. Restaurants serving «British» food tend to be either very expensive and found in luxury hotels, or cheap and nasty, serving mainly fried food. You can eat a good «British» meal without spending a lot of money by going to a pub. Most pubs now serve good value hot and cold meals. They often have family areas where people under 16 can sit and eat.

People in Britain are more likely to eat fast food than go out to eat in a posh restaurant. A hamburger and French fries is the most popular fast-food meal in Britain, but not all fast food is American. Kebab houses, often run by Greek or Turkish Cypriots, are also very popular. People spend less time cooking now. An increasing number of people eat convenience food in the evenings. Convenience meals are already cooked- all you have to do is heat them up in the microwave.

Since the 1970s eating habits in Britain have undergone a change. People have been encouraged by doctors, health experts and government advertisements to eat less fat and more fibre. Fat is believed to be one of the major causes of obesity and heart disease. Forty per cent of adults in Britain are overweight, and Britain has one of the highest death rates due to cardiovascular disease in the world. High fibre foods and low fat foods can now be found in all shops' and supermarkets. Britons have also become more aware of calories, the energy value of food. Some people count the number of calories they eat every day, so that they can try to take in fewer calories and lose weight. This is called a calorie-controlled diet. Manufacturers are increasingly producing special foods with harmful things.

1. **Historical Background**

Traditional English cooking has roots in **agriculture, fishing, and livestock farming**, which influenced the use of meats, grains, vegetables, and dairy products. Over centuries, English cuisine absorbed influences from **Europe, the Middle East,**

and the British colonies, introducing spices, tea, and new ingredients. Food was often simple and practical, focusing on **hearty meals to fuel daily work**, but festive and ceremonial meals added elegance and variety.

2. Typical English Meals

Breakfast: The classic “English breakfast” includes eggs, bacon, sausages, baked beans, mushrooms, tomatoes, black pudding, and toast. Tea or coffee usually accompanies it.

Lunch: Traditionally lighter than dinner, lunch may include sandwiches, soups, pies, or salads. Ploughman’s lunch—a plate of cheese, bread, pickles, and cold meat—is a classic pub dish.

Dinner / Supper: Dinner is often the main meal, featuring **roast meats**, such as beef, lamb, chicken, or pork, served with vegetables, potatoes, and gravy.

Afternoon Tea: A distinctive tradition, afternoon tea includes sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, and a variety of pastries, usually accompanied by tea.

3. Traditional English Dishes

Fish and Chips: Deep-fried fish served with thick-cut fries, traditionally wrapped in paper, originating in the 19th century.

Shepherd’s Pie / Cottage Pie: Meat pies topped with mashed potatoes, a staple of home cooking.

Sunday Roast: Roast meat served with roasted vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, and gravy, traditionally eaten after church on Sundays.

Puddings and Desserts: Includes sticky toffee pudding, treacle sponge, spotted dick, and jam tarts. Many desserts are simple yet rich in flavor.

Regional Specialties: Cornish pasties, Lancashire hotpot, Scottish haggis, and Welsh rarebit reflect local ingredients and culinary traditions.

4. Ingredients and Flavors

Traditional English cooking emphasizes **fresh, seasonal, and locally sourced ingredients**. Herbs like **thyme, rosemary, and parsley** are widely used. Meat, potatoes, bread, dairy products, and vegetables like cabbage, carrots, and peas are staples. Sauces and gravies enhance flavor, while sweets often feature sugar, custard, and dried fruits.

5. Cultural and Social Significance

Meals in England often reflect **family and community traditions**. Sunday roasts, pub lunches, and afternoon tea encourage social interaction. Food festivals and local markets celebrate regional specialties, preserving culinary heritage. Pub culture, with traditional dishes like pies and fish and chips, remains central to social life.

6. Modern Influences

Contemporary English cuisine blends traditional recipes with **global influences**, reflecting multicultural communities in cities like London, Manchester, and Birmingham. Chefs experiment with fusion cuisine, combining local ingredients with flavors from Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean. Despite innovation, many families and restaurants preserve **classic recipes** for generations.

Traditional English cooking is more than just food—it is **history, culture, and social life on a plate**. From hearty breakfasts to Sunday roasts, regional specialties, and festive desserts, English cuisine offers a glimpse into British daily life and heritage. While modern influences continue to shape it, traditional recipes remain a cherished part of British identity.

Discussion Questions

1. How do traditional English meals reflect history, climate, and local ingredients?
2. Why are dishes like the Sunday roast or afternoon tea important in British social life?
3. How have immigration and globalization influenced modern English cuisine?
4. Compare traditional English cooking with the cuisine of your country. What are the similarities and differences?
5. Why are regional specialties important for preserving cultural heritage?
6. How do pubs, markets, and festivals contribute to British food culture?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Recipe Research:** Choose a traditional English dish and prepare a step-by-step description of how it is made.
2. **Creative Writing:** Write a diary entry describing your first experience eating a traditional English meal.
3. **Cooking Project:** If possible, try cooking a simple English dish at home, such as shepherd's pie or scones, and describe the experience.
4. **Discussion / Debate:** "Should traditional recipes be preserved exactly as they are, or adapted to modern tastes?"
5. **Cultural Comparison:** Create a table comparing English traditional meals with those of your country in terms of ingredients, preparation, and social meaning.
6. **Poster / Presentation:** Make a visual presentation showcasing traditional English foods, drinks, and regional specialties.
7. **Storytelling Activity:** Imagine you are visiting England and describe a full day of meals, from breakfast to afternoon tea to dinner, highlighting traditional dishes and customs.

Traditions and customs of Britain.

Britain is a country rich in history and culture, and its traditions and customs reflect centuries of social development, monarchy, religion, and local community life. From festivals and royal ceremonies to daily social rituals, British customs reveal values such as respect, politeness, community, and pride in heritage. These traditions not only preserve Britain's past but also influence modern life, creating a unique blend of history and contemporary culture.

There are public holidays or bank holidays in Great Britain, those days on which people need not to go to work. They are Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, spring Bank Holiday and Late Summer Bank Holiday. The term "bank holiday" dates back to the 19th century, when in 1871 and 1875 most of these days were constituted bank holidays that is, days on which banks were to be closed. The observance of these days is no longer limited to banks.

All the public holidays except Christmas Day and Boxing Day observed on the 25th and 26th of December respectively, do not fall on the same date each other year. Good Friday and Easter Monday depend on Easter Sunday, which falls on the first Monday in May. The Spring Bank Holiday comes on the last Monday in August.

Most of these holidays are religious origin, though for the greater part of the population they have long lost their religious significance and are simply days on which people relax, eat, drink and have merry. Besides public holidays, there are other festivals, anniversaries simply days, on which certain traditions are observed, unless they fall on a Sunday, they are ordinary working days.

February 14th is St. Valentine's day, it's for choosing sweethearts. Generations of young people have considered St. Valentine to be the friend and patron of lovers and have send gifts and hand made valentines to their sweethearts.

Pancake Day is a popular name for Shrove Tuesday the last day of engagement before the fasting lent. On Shrove Tuesday Christians confessed their sin to a priest. Many people still traditionally eat pancakes race at Olney in Buckinghamshire.

The fourth Sunday in Lent is Mothering Sunday, a day of small family reunions. On this day absent sons and daughters return to their homes and gifts are made to their mother by their children of all ages.

April 1st is known in Britain as April Fool's Day- the day when practical jokes are played. On the 1st of April you can step in the basin of water or receive a letter with a deceiving message or invitation. You can take your sleeve or trousers-leg sewn.

Another popular British tradition is Halloween, celebrated on October 31st, the eve of All Saints' Day. Halloween's customs date back to a time when people

believed in devils, witches and ghosts. They thought that they could do all kinds of damage to property. Some people tried to ward off witches by painting magic signs or nailing a horseshoe. Today the day is usually marked by costume balls or fancy dress parties and is a popular tradition with young people.

About 95% of the English people live in urban areas. Only 5% live in rural areas. A little addition can be made to traditions. May 1st was an important day in the Middle Ages. In the very early morning young girls went to fields and washed their faces with dew. They believed this made them very beautiful for a year after that. Also on May Day young men of each village tried to win prizes with their bows and arrows, and people danced round the Maypole.

November 5th is Guy Fawkes's Day. All over the country people build wood fires or bonfires in their gardens. On top of each bonfire is a guy; this is a figure of Guy Fawkes. On November 5th, 1665 Guy Fawkes tried to kill king James I. He and a group of his friends put a bomb under the Houses of Parliament in London. But the king's men found the bomb and guy Fawkes. They took him to a Tower of London, where his head was cut off. Before November 5th, children use guys to make money. They stand in the street and shout: "Penny for the guy". English traditions include bowler hats, tea and talking about the weather.

Many English people spend the evening watching TV. Others visit their neighborhood, pub or local public houses, as many people call it, as an important part of social life in England. At a pub, people may drink beer or other beverages talk with friends. Another ones enjoy sports and outdoor activities. England's most popular organized sport is football, the game Americans call soccer. During the football season, which lasts from August to May, about 20 million spectators enjoy it.

Cricket has been popular in England for hundred years. Two 11-member teams using a bat and ball play cricket. The English probably began playing cricket as early as the 17th century.

Rugby football, which resembles American football, is played throughout England from late summer to late spring. Hunting, horseback riding, fishing and scooting are popular in the English countryside. Traditional English cooking is simple. The English like roasted and grilled meats and use fewer species and sauces than do other Europeans. On Sunday, the midday meal which is called dinner traditionally consists of a joint of beef, pone or lamp.

1. Royal Traditions

The British monarchy plays a central role in national customs. **Buckingham Palace** and royal ceremonies are symbols of continuity and tradition. Events like **Trooping the Colour**, celebrating the Queen's official birthday, and royal weddings attract attention worldwide. The tradition of the **Changing of the Guard** at

Buckingham Palace is a daily ceremony that combines military precision with pageantry, drawing tourists and locals alike.

2. Festivals and National Days

Britain celebrates numerous traditional festivals: **Guy Fawkes Night (Bonfire Night)** on November 5th, commemorating the failure of the Gunpowder Plot with fireworks and bonfires. **Burns Night** in Scotland, honoring poet Robert Burns with haggis, recitations, and music. **St. George's Day (England), St. David's Day (Wales), St. Andrew's Day (Scotland), and St. Patrick's Day (Northern Ireland)** celebrate national identity with parades, music, and food. Seasonal and agricultural festivals, such as **May Day** and harvest festivals, mark ancient customs tied to nature and rural life.

3. Social Customs

Politeness and etiquette are important in daily life. Saying “please,” “thank you,” and queuing patiently are cultural norms. **Afternoon tea** is more than a meal—it’s a social ritual fostering conversation and connection. Pubs (public houses) serve as centers for social life, where locals gather to eat, drink, and celebrate community events.

4. Traditional Food Customs

Traditional meals like **Sunday roast, fish and chips, and ploughman's lunch** reflect British culinary heritage. Seasonal foods, such as Christmas pudding or Easter eggs, are linked to holidays and family gatherings. Food is not only sustenance but a way to celebrate family, community, and seasonal cycles.

5. Arts, Music, and Folklore

Traditional music, such as **folk songs and bagpipes**, plays an important role in regional culture. Folklore and legends, like **Robin Hood, King Arthur**, and local ghost stories, are woven into festivals, performances, and storytelling traditions. Dancing, such as **Morris dancing**, remains part of local fairs and celebrations.

6. Modern British Customs

Modern Britain is multicultural, blending traditional customs with contemporary practices. Public holidays like **Boxing Day** and **New Year's Eve celebrations** continue, while cultural diversity brings celebrations such as **Diwali, Chinese New Year, and Caribbean Carnival**. Sports, particularly football, cricket, and rugby, are important social customs that bring people together. Britain's traditions and customs reflect a **balance of history, monarchy, community, and social values**. From royal ceremonies and national festivals to food, music, and etiquette, these customs enrich everyday life and create a sense of identity. Despite modernization and multicultural influences, British traditions continue to connect people with their heritage while evolving to reflect contemporary society.

Discussion Questions

1. How do royal ceremonies and traditions influence British identity?
2. What role do festivals play in connecting communities in Britain?
3. How do social customs like queuing and afternoon tea reflect British values?
4. How has multiculturalism changed traditional British customs?
5. Compare British traditions with those in your country. What is similar, and what is different?
6. Why is folklore and storytelling important in preserving cultural heritage?
7. How do sports serve as a cultural and social custom in Britain?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Research Assignment:** Choose a British festival or national day and create a report about its history, customs, and significance.
2. **Creative Writing:** Write a story describing a day at a traditional British festival or royal event.
3. **Poster / Presentation:** Illustrate different British customs, such as afternoon tea, Morris dancing, and national festivals.
4. **Discussion / Debate:** “Are traditions more important for preserving culture or adapting to modern society?”
5. **Role Play:** Act out a British social custom, such as afternoon tea, queuing at a shop, or a pub gathering.
6. **Comparative Task:** Compare traditional British etiquette with social customs in your country.
7. **Multimedia Project:** Create a short video showing British traditions, from food to festivals to folklore performances.

Way of life

Britain is a nation with a rich cultural heritage, and its ceremonial events, public holidays, and festivities reflect centuries of history, royal traditions, religion, and community life. From grand royal ceremonies in London to regional festivals in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, these events bring people together, celebrate national identity, and preserve cultural customs. Understanding these celebrations gives insight into British values, history, and the diversity of modern society

City life. About 90% of the population of the UK lives in urban areas. A number of important cities grew rapidly in the 1700's and early 1800's, during the Industrial Revolution. But, today many of those cities including London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds are in decline. They are faced with such problems as failing employment, rising, crime, and poor housing.

The British government in 1988 launched an urban renewal program called Action for Cities. The Purposes of the program is to revive the inner cities by means

of new housing and new development. The government also established areas called enter prize zones to attract new businesses to inner cities. Businesses within enter prize zones receive tax cuts and other advantages. But people continue to move away to find jobs and the inner cities do not attract enough private investment.

Rural life. About 10% of the population of the UK lives in rural areas. At one time, the rural areas were devoted mainly to farming. But the availability of convenient transportation enables people to work in a city and live in the countryside. In many rural communities, retired people, commuters and workers who serve the needs of tourists outnumber full-time farmers.

Recreation. The British love the outdoors. They flock to Blackpool, Brighton and other seaside resorts on vacation. Several million vacationers prefer mountain climbing or walking in Wales or in beautiful Lake District of northwestern England. Still others enjoy automobile or bicycle trips through the country. The British also spend much time in their gardens.

The British are enthusiastic sport fans. The most popular spectator sport by far is soccer, which the British call football. During the football season, thousands of fans jam the stadium every Saturday. Cricket has been popular in England for hundreds of years. Two 11-member teams using a bat and a ball play cricket. Other popular sports include golf, hockey, horseback riding, horseracing, rugby football, sailing and tennis.

Main ceremonial and traditional events, public holidays and festivities.

Royal Ceremonial Events

- **Trooping the Colour:** This ceremony celebrates the official birthday of the monarch. Soldiers in bright red uniforms and bearskin hats parade with precision, accompanied by music and fanfare. It is watched by thousands in London and millions worldwide on television.
- **The Changing of the Guard:** A daily ceremony at Buckingham Palace, where guards in traditional red coats and bearskin hats change shifts in a highly choreographed routine. Tourists and locals alike enjoy this display of British tradition.
- **State Openings of Parliament:** A grand annual event where the monarch delivers the Queen's or King's Speech, outlining the government's plans. It involves elaborate uniforms, ceremonial horses, and historic rituals.
- **Royal Weddings and Jubilees:** Royal weddings, such as that of Prince William and Catherine Middleton, and jubilees celebrating the monarch's reign are national celebrations, combining tradition, pageantry, and public festivities.

Public Holidays

New Year's Day (1st January): Marked by parties, fireworks, and parades, especially in London where the New Year's Eve fireworks along the River Thames are world-famous.

Good Friday and Easter Monday: Christian holidays commemorating the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. Easter traditions include church services, chocolate eggs, and Easter egg hunts.

May Day (1st May): Celebrates spring with traditional dances, maypole events, and folk music. It reflects ancient seasonal customs.

Christmas (25th December) and Boxing Day (26th December): Christmas is celebrated with family gatherings, decorated trees, festive meals, and gift-giving. Boxing Day is traditionally a day for visiting friends, sports, and shopping.

St. George's Day (England), St. David's Day (Wales), St. Andrew's Day (Scotland), St. Patrick's Day (Northern Ireland): National days celebrate the patron saints of each nation with parades, music, and cultural events.

• Traditional Festivals and Regional Celebrations

- **Guy Fawkes Night (5th November):** Commemorates the failed Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Bonfires are lit, and fireworks display in towns and cities. Effigies of Guy Fawkes are traditionally burned on the fires.
- **Burns Night (25th January, Scotland):** Honors the poet Robert Burns with readings of his poetry, traditional haggis, and Scottish music.
- **Notting Hill Carnival (London):** Celebrates Caribbean culture with parades, music, and colorful costumes, reflecting Britain's multicultural society.
- **Highland Games (Scotland):** Athletic competitions, traditional music, and dancing celebrate Scottish culture and history.
- **Royal Ascot and Wimbledon:** While not public holidays, these sporting events are ceremonial and festive occasions. Royal Ascot showcases fashion and tradition, while Wimbledon is an iconic tennis championship accompanied by cultural rituals like strawberries and cream.
- **Cultural and Social Significance** These events strengthen **community ties**, connect people with history, and promote national identity. They are opportunities for **family gatherings, tourism, and civic participation**, as well as occasions to experience local and regional customs. Public holidays offer rest, reflection, and celebration, allowing Britons to combine tradition with modern leisure.

Britain's ceremonial events, public holidays, and festivities are more than celebrations—they are expressions of **heritage, identity, and social cohesion**. From the grandeur of royal ceremonies to local folk festivals, these traditions honor the past while bringing communities together in the present. Whether through pageantry, sports, music, or communal meals, British cultural events continue to thrive in modern society, reflecting both history and contemporary life.

Discussion Questions

1. How do royal ceremonies like Trooping the Colour reflect British history and national identity?
2. Why are public holidays like Christmas and Easter important for social and cultural life?
3. How do regional festivals, such as Burns Night or the Highland Games, preserve local culture?
4. How has multiculturalism influenced British festivities, like the Notting Hill Carnival?
5. Compare British ceremonial events and holidays with those in your country. What similarities or differences do you notice?
6. Why do traditional and modern celebrations coexist in Britain?

Tasks / Activities

1. **Timeline Activity:** Create a calendar of main British public holidays, festivals, and ceremonial events.
2. **Creative Writing:** Write a diary entry as a participant or visitor attending a festival like Guy Fawkes Night or Notting Hill Carnival.
3. **Research Assignment:** Investigate the history and customs of a specific British holiday or festival and prepare a short presentation.
4. **Role Play / Simulation:** Act out a ceremonial event, such as the Changing of the Guard or a traditional Scottish celebration.
5. **Poster / Multimedia Project:** Make a poster or slideshow showing British festivities, including images, music, and traditional attire.
6. **Discussion / Debate:** “Which British festival or ceremonial event best represents national identity?”
7. **Cultural Comparison:** Compare how holidays and festivals are celebrated in Britain with those in your country, noting differences in customs, food, and rituals.

Population of the United States of America.

The United States of America is one of the most populous and diverse countries in the world. With a population of over **330 million people**, it ranks among the top three most populous nations globally. The population of the United States reflects centuries of immigration, natural growth, cultural exchange, and social change. Understanding the demographic structure of the country helps explain its economic development, political system, cultural diversity, and global influence.

1. Historical Population Growth

The population of the United States has grown dramatically since the country's founding in 1776. In the first national census in 1790, the population was about 4 million people. Over the 19th and 20th centuries, rapid expansion occurred due to:

- High birth rates
- Industrial development
- Westward expansion
- Large waves of immigration from Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa. The Industrial Revolution, urbanization, and economic opportunities attracted millions of immigrants seeking a better life.

2. Ethnic and Racial Diversity

One of the most distinctive features of the U.S. population is its diversity. The country is often described as a “nation of immigrants.” Major ethnic and racial groups include:

- European Americans
- African Americans
- Hispanic and Latino Americans
- Asian Americans
- Native Americans and Alaska Natives
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

Hispanic and Asian populations have grown rapidly in recent decades, making the United States increasingly multicultural.

3. Immigration and Cultural Influence

Immigration has played a crucial role in shaping American society. Major waves of immigration include:

- 19th-century immigrants from Ireland, Germany, and Italy
- Early 20th-century immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe
- Late 20th-century and modern immigration from Latin America and Asia. Immigrants contribute to economic growth, innovation, language diversity, and cultural traditions.

4. Urban and Rural Distribution

Most Americans live in urban and suburban areas. Major metropolitan regions include:

- **New York City**
- **Los Angeles**
- **Chicago**
- **Houston.** Urban areas offer employment opportunities, education, healthcare, and cultural activities. However, rural areas remain important for agriculture and natural resources.

5. Age Structure

The U.S. population includes: Children and youth, Working-age adults, An increasing number of elderly citizens. Life expectancy has increased due to medical progress and improved living standards. However, like many developed countries, the United States faces challenges related to an aging population.

6. Population and Economy

Population size and diversity influence:

- Labor markets
- Consumer demand
- Innovation and entrepreneurship
- Education systems. A large and diverse population strengthens the U.S. economy by providing a wide workforce and encouraging creativity and technological advancement.

7. Current Trends

Recent demographic trends include: Slower population growth compared to previous decades, Increased multiculturalism, Growth in southern and western states, Changing family structures

Population changes continue to shape social policies, education, healthcare, and politics.

The population of the United States is one of its greatest strengths. Its diversity, size, and dynamic growth have contributed to economic prosperity and cultural richness. While demographic changes present challenges, they also create opportunities for innovation and development. Understanding the population of the United States helps explain its global influence and internal social dynamics.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is the United States often called a “nation of immigrants”?
2. How has immigration influenced American culture and economy?
3. What are the advantages and challenges of having a highly diverse population?
4. Why do most Americans live in urban areas?
5. How does population growth affect economic development?
6. What challenges does an aging population create for society?
7. Compare the population structure of the United States with that of your country.

Tasks and Activities

1. Research Task

Find updated statistics about the U.S. population and prepare a short demographic report.

2. Comparative Analysis

Create a table comparing the population of the United States with your country (size, ethnic groups, urbanization, age structure).

3. Presentation

Prepare a 5–7 minute presentation about immigration waves in U.S. history.

4. Essay Writing

Write an essay on the topic: *“Diversity as a Strength of the United States.”*

5. Map Activity

Mark the most populated states and cities on a U.S. map and explain why people concentrate there.

6. Debate

Topic: *“Immigration has more positive than negative effects on the United States.”*

Educational system of the USA.

Americans have shown a great concern for education since early colonial times. The first settlers in fact included an unusually high proportion of educated people. American education is a complex topic because a single school can draw upon resources from several different public and private institutions. For example: a student may attend a private high school whose curriculum must meet standards set by the state, some of whose science courses may be financed by federal funds, and whose sports teams may play on local publicly owned fields. Despite this complexity however it is possible to describe the broad contours of American education.

Almost 90 percent of American students below the college level attend public elementary and secondary schools, which do not charge tuition but rely on local and state taxes for funding. Traditionally, elementary school includes kindergarten through the eighth grade. In some places however, elementary school ends after the sixth grade and students attend middle school, or junior high school, traditionally comprises grades nine through twelve, but in some places begins at the tenth grade. Most of the students who do not attend public elementary and secondary schools attend private schools, for which their families pay tuition. Four out of five private schools are run by religious groups. There is also a small but growing number of parents who educate their children themselves a practice known as home schooling.

The US does not have a national school system. Nor, with the exception of the military academies are there schools run by the federal government. Many colleges are independent and award bachelor's degrees to those completing a program of instruction that typically takes four years. But colleges can also be components of universities.

Today, there are more than 41 million pupils, students in public schools at . The elementary and secondary levels, and another 5 million in private schools throughout. The country, i.e. about 88 percent of American children attend public schools and almost 12 % go to private schools.

Every state has its own university and some states operate large networks of colleges and universities. For example: the state University of New York unlike public elementary and secondary schools, public colleges and universities usually charge tuition.

There are 45 universities in Great Britain including the open University. The character of an English university can be understood from the history of its foundation and development only. After graduating from higher universities young people in US, Receive diplomas qualifying them as specialists in a given field. They are guaranteed jobs in their chosen field.

The educational system of the United States is one of the most diverse and decentralized systems in the world. Education plays a central role in American society, promoting equality of opportunity, personal development, and economic growth. Unlike many countries with a centralized national education system, education in the United States is primarily controlled at the state and local levels. This structure allows flexibility and innovation but also creates differences in quality and funding across regions.

Structure of the Educational System

1. Early Childhood Education Early education includes preschool and kindergarten programs. Kindergarten usually begins at age five and prepares children for elementary school by developing basic literacy, numeracy, and social skills.

2. Primary (Elementary) Education Elementary school generally covers grades 1–5 or 1–6, depending on the state. Students study:

- Reading and writing
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social studies
- Physical education
- Art and music

The focus is on fundamental academic skills and social development.

3. Secondary Education Secondary education is divided into:

- **Middle School / Junior High School** (grades 6–8 or 7–9)
- **High School** (grades 9–12)

In high school, students take required courses and electives. Core subjects include English, mathematics, science, and history. Students may also choose foreign languages, arts, technology, and vocational subjects.

Upon completion of grade 12, students receive a **high school diploma**, which allows them to pursue higher education or enter the workforce.

4. Higher Education The United States has one of the largest and most respected higher education systems in the world. Higher education institutions include:

- Community colleges (2-year programs)
- Four-year colleges
- Universities
- Technical and vocational schools

Students can earn:

- Associate degree (2 years)
- Bachelor's degree (4 years)
- Master's degree
- Doctoral degree (PhD)

Some of the most internationally known universities include:

- **Harvard University**
- **Stanford University**
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**
- **University of California, Berkeley**

These institutions attract students from around the world.

Public and Private Education

Schools in the United States may be:

- **Public schools** – funded by state and local governments and free for residents.
- **Private schools** – funded by tuition payments and private organizations.
- **Charter schools** – publicly funded but independently managed.

Home-schooling is also legally allowed in many states.

Assessment and Evaluation Students are evaluated through: Continuous assessment, Standardized tests, Final exams, College entrance exams (such as SAT or ACT) Grading usually follows a letter system: A, B, C, D, and F.

Strengths of the U.S. Educational System

- Academic freedom and flexibility
- Wide choice of programs and institutions
- Strong research universities
- Opportunities for extracurricular activities (sports, arts, clubs)
- International student mobility

Challenges

- Unequal funding between wealthy and poor districts
- High cost of higher education
- Student loan debt
- Differences in educational quality across states

The educational system of the United States is complex, flexible, and influential worldwide. It offers broad opportunities for academic and professional growth while facing challenges related to equality and accessibility. Despite these challenges, American education remains a powerful force shaping the country's economy, culture, and global leadership.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is the U.S. educational system decentralized?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of public and private schools?
3. How does higher education in the United States attract international students?
4. What challenges does the system face today?
5. How does the American grading system differ from that in your country?
6. Should higher education be free for all students? Why or why not?
7. How do extracurricular activities contribute to student development?

Tasks and Activities

- 1. Comparative Analysis** Compare the educational system of the United States with that of your country (structure, grading, access to higher education).
- 2. Research Assignment** Choose one famous American university and prepare a short report about its history, programs, and achievements.
- 3. Debate** Topic: "College education in the United States should be free."
- 4. Essay Writing** Write an essay on the topic: "*Education as a Key to the American Dream.*"
- 5. Presentation Task** Prepare a presentation explaining the stages of American education from kindergarten to university.
- 6. Role Play** Act as a student applying to an American university and present your motivation letter.

The biggest cities of USA: Washington, New York. Washington

The United States of America is home to many large and influential cities. Among them, New York City and Washington, D.C. are two of the most important. Although Washington is not the largest city by population, it is the political heart of the country, while New York City is the largest city and a global center of finance, culture, and media. Both cities play significant roles in shaping American and international life.

New York

1. New York City is the largest city in the United States, with a population of over 8 million people. It is located in the state of New York on the Atlantic coast. New York is often called: "The Big Apple", "The City That Never Sleeps" It is one of the most important cities in the world.

2. Economic and Cultural Importance New York is a global center of: Finance (Wall Street), Business and trade, Fashion, Media and journalism, Art and entertainment. The **United Nations** headquarters is located in New York, making the city a center of international diplomacy.

3. Famous Landmarks Some of the most famous attractions include:

- **Statue of Liberty** – a symbol of freedom and democracy
- **Times Square** – famous for bright lights and celebrations
- **Central Park** – a large park in the center of Manhattan
- **Empire State Building** – one of the most famous skyscrapers in the world.

New York is also home to Broadway theaters and world-class museums

New York is the largest city in the USA and the biggest seaport. It is the business centre of the United States. New York is situated in the mouth of the Hudson river. In comparison with such ancient historical cities as, say, Rome, London, Moscow or Paris, New York is quite young. Dutch settlers founded it in 1613. There are five districts in the city: Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn and Richmond. Manhattan is the central and the oldest part of the city. It is the district of business and finance. It is here in Wall Street that many business offices, banks and the world famous New York stock exchange are situated. The New York stock exchange dominates business life of many countries. The total area of New York is 365 square miles or 900 square kilometres. Its population together with the population of its suburbs amounts to 16 million people. Among the inhabitants of New York one can meet people of almost all nationalities. They settled here during the immigration in the 19th and at the beginning of the 20th century. A traveller who visits New York for the first time wonders at the modern architecture. The Statue of Liberty, which is on Liberty Island, was a present from France in 1876 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of American independence. This statue and a few 18th and 19th century churches, hospitals, newspaper offices and other buildings are the only examples of "old" architecture in New York. Wherever your eyes travel, everywhere you can see sky-scrapers.

New York, one of the USA leading manufacturing cities, is the home of great firms and banks. The most important branches of industry are those producing vehicles, glass, chemicals and all kinds of machinery. The city has very busy traffic. Its streets and highways are full of cars and buses. The mouth of the Hudson river makes an excellent harbour for numerous passengers and cargo ships from all over the world. Speaking about New York one can't but mention the outstanding role, the city plays, in the cultural life of the country. New York has many museums and art galleries which have collected works of art of many peoples and of all times. Many of them are on constant display in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of Art. Most of the theatres and cinemas are in or near Broadway, the

longest street and the biggest shopping district in New York. The Metropolitan and Modern Arts Museums attract many visitors.

Washington, D.C.

1. General Information. **Washington, D.C.** is the capital of the United States. It was founded in 1790 and named after the first U.S. president, **George Washington**. Unlike New York, Washington is not part of any state. It is a special federal district called the District of Columbia.

2. Political Importance. Washington is the center of the U.S. government. It is home to: The White House (residence of the President), The U.S. Capitol (Congress), The Supreme Court. These institutions represent the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government.

3. Famous Landmarks. Important attractions include: **The White House, United States Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument**. The city also has many free museums, including the Smithsonian museums.

Washington, the capital of the United States of America, is situated on the Potomac River in the District of Columbia. The district is a piece of land ten miles square and it does not belong to any separate state but to all the states. The district is named in honour of Columbus, the discoverer of America. The capital owes much to the first President of the USA -George Washington. It was G. Washington, who chose the place for the District and laid in 1790 the corner-stone of the Capitol, where Congress sits.

Washington is not the largest city in the USA. It has a population of 900 000 people. Washington is a one-industry town. That industry is government. It does not produce anything except very much scrap paper. Every day 25 railway cars leave Washington loaded with scrap paper. Washington has many historical places. The largest and tallest among the buildings is the Capitol with its great House of Representatives and the Senate chamber. There are no skyscrapers in Washington because no other building must be taller than the Capitol. The White House is the President's residence. All American presidents except George Washington (the White House was not yet built in his time), have lived in the White House. It was built in 1799. It is a two-storied, white building. Not far from the Capitol is the Washington Monument, which looks like a very big pencil. It rises 160 metres and is hollow inside. A special lift brings visitors to the top in 70 seconds from where they can enjoy a wonderful view of the whole city.

The Jefferson Memorial was built in memory of the third President of the USA, Thomas Jefferson, who was also the author of the Declaration of Independence. The memorial is surrounded by cherry-trees. The Lincoln Memorial devoted to the memory of the 16th President of the US, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation, which gave freedom to Negro slaves in America. On the other bank of the Potomac lies the Arlington National Cemetery where President

Kennedy was buried. American soldiers and officers, who died in World Wars I and II are buried there too.

New York City and Washington, D.C. are two of the most important cities in the United States. New York is a symbol of opportunity, diversity, and global business, while Washington represents democracy and political authority. Together, they reflect the economic strength and political structure of the United States.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is New York City considered a global city?
2. Why is Washington, D.C. not part of any U.S. state?
3. What makes the Statue of Liberty an important symbol?
4. How do New York and Washington differ in atmosphere and function?
5. Which city would you prefer to visit and why?
6. How do these cities influence world politics and economy?

Tasks and Activities

- 1. Comparative Essay** Write an essay comparing New York City and Washington, D.C.
- 2. Map Task** Locate major landmarks in both cities on a map of the United States.
- 3. Presentation** Prepare a short presentation about one famous landmark in either city.
- 4. Role Play** Imagine you are a tour guide. Introduce tourists to New York or Washington.
- 5. Research Task** Find updated population statistics and explain why New York is much larger than Washington.

Religion in the USA.

Religion has played an important role in the history and development of the United States. From the arrival of early settlers seeking religious freedom to the modern multicultural society of today, religion has influenced American culture, politics, education, and social values. The United States is known for its principle of religious freedom, which allows people to practice any religion—or none at all—without government interference. This diversity makes religion in the U.S. both complex and dynamic. Some of the first settlers who landed on American soil came to the USA because they were looking for a place where they could practice their religion freely. Freedom of religion is guaranteed in the First Amendment to the US Constitution. This gives it a high priority in the USA and also enables different religions and denominations to exist side by side. Protestant Christians form the biggest religious subgroup in the USA, but there are a lot of other religions which

all enjoy equal rights and recognition before the law. While the US is a secular nation, religion and faith, and the moral standings that come with it, play a very large role in everyday political discourse. The more conservative Christian groups in particular often get involved in US politics and voice their opinion on political issues.

Historical Background

Religion was one of the main reasons many Europeans came to North America in the 17th century. Groups such as the Puritans, Quakers, and Catholics sought freedom from religious persecution in Europe. Over time, different religious communities formed across the colonies. The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of religion. It states that Congress shall make no law establishing a religion or prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This principle created a separation between church and state, meaning the government does not officially support any single religion.

Major Religious Groups. The United States is religiously diverse. The main religious groups include:

1. Christianity

Christianity is the largest religion in the U.S. It includes various denominations such as: Protestant churches, Roman Catholic Church, Orthodox Christianity. Protestantism historically dominated American religious life, but Catholicism is also a large and influential group due to immigration from Ireland, Italy, Latin America, and other regions.

2. Judaism. Judaism has been present in America since colonial times. The U.S. has one of the largest Jewish populations in the world. Jewish communities have significantly contributed to American cultural, economic, and intellectual life.

3. Islam. Islam is one of the fastest-growing religions in the United States. Muslim Americans come from diverse ethnic backgrounds, including African American, Arab, South Asian, and others.

4. Buddhism and Hinduism. These religions expanded in the 19th and 20th centuries due to immigration from Asia. Today, Buddhist temples and Hindu temples can be found across the country.

5. Religious Diversity and Non-Religious Population. In recent decades, the number of people who identify as atheist, agnostic, or religiously unaffiliated has increased. This reflects changing social attitudes and greater acceptance of secular viewpoints.

Religion and Society. Religion influences many areas of American life:

- Family values
- Education (private religious schools and universities)
- Charity and volunteer work

- Political debates on social issues. Many American holidays have religious roots, such as Christmas and Easter, although they are widely celebrated in secular ways as well.

Religion and Politics. Although there is a separation of church and state, religion often influences political discussions. Religious leaders and groups may express opinions on issues such as:

- Marriage
- Abortion
- Education
- Social justice. At the same time, the government does not establish an official national religion.

Religious Freedom and Tolerance. One of the central values of American society is religious tolerance. People are free to:

- Worship privately or publicly
- Build places of worship
- Change their religion
- Choose not to follow any religion. This freedom has helped create a multicultural and pluralistic society.

Religion in the United States is diverse, influential, and constantly evolving. While Christianity remains the largest faith, many other religions contribute to the country's cultural and spiritual landscape. The principle of religious freedom remains a cornerstone of American democracy, allowing individuals to practice their beliefs freely. This diversity reflects the broader values of liberty and equality in American society.

Discussion Questions

1. Why was religious freedom important in the early history of the United States?
2. What does the separation of church and state mean?
3. Why is the United States considered religiously diverse?
4. How does religion influence American culture and politics?
5. Why is the number of non-religious people increasing?
6. Compare religious freedom in the U.S. with that in your country.
7. Should religion influence political decisions? Why or why not?

Tasks and Activities

- 1. Research Assignment.** Choose one religious group in the United States and prepare a short report about its history and influence.
- 2. Comparative Analysis.** Create a table comparing religious diversity in the U.S. and in your country.
- 3. Essay Writing.** Write an essay on the topic: *“Religious Freedom as a Foundation of American Democracy.”*

4. Debate. Topic: “Religion should have no role in politics.”

5. Presentation. Prepare a presentation about how immigration has influenced religious diversity in the U.S.

6. Case Study. Analyze how a religious holiday is celebrated both religiously and secularly in the United States.

Holidays and Celebrations in the USA.

Holidays and celebrations in the United States reflect the country’s history, cultural diversity, religious traditions, and national values. American holidays include federal public holidays, religious celebrations, cultural festivals, and patriotic events. These occasions bring families and communities together, promote national identity, and allow people to honor historical events and shared traditions. Because the United States is a multicultural society, its celebrations combine influences from many different cultures around the world.

National and Federal Holidays

Federal holidays are officially recognized by the U.S. government. On these days, government offices, banks, and many businesses close.

1. New Year’s Day (January 1) Americans celebrate the beginning of the new year with parties, fireworks, and family gatherings. In **New York City**, the famous Times Square ball drop is watched by millions of people around the world.

2. Independence Day (July 4) Independence Day celebrates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. It is one of the most patriotic holidays in the country. Americans celebrate with: Fireworks, Parades, Barbecues, Concerts, Displaying the national flag

3. Thanksgiving (Fourth Thursday of November) Thanksgiving is a traditional family holiday. People gather to share a large meal that usually includes: Roast turkey, Mashed potatoes, Cranberry sauce, Pumpkin pie. The holiday remembers early settlers and their harvest celebration. It is also a day to express gratitude.

4. Memorial Day (Last Monday in May) Memorial Day honors American soldiers who died in military service. Many people visit cemeteries or attend ceremonies.

5. Labor Day (First Monday in September) Labor Day celebrates workers and their contributions to society. It also marks the unofficial end of summer.

6. Presidents’ Day (Third Monday in February) This holiday honors U.S. presidents, especially **George Washington** and **Abraham Lincoln**.

Religious Holidays Although the United States has separation of church and state, religious holidays are widely celebrated.

Christmas (December 25) Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. Traditions include: Decorating Christmas trees, Exchanging gifts, Family dinners, Singing carols. Even non-religious families often celebrate Christmas as a cultural holiday.

Easter (Spring) Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Children enjoy Easter egg hunts and chocolate eggs.

Cultural and Ethnic Celebrations, Because the United States is multicultural, many ethnic and cultural holidays are celebrated:

- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** (January) honors the civil rights leader **Martin Luther King Jr.**
- **Hispanic Heritage Month** celebrates the contributions of Hispanic Americans.
- **Black History Month** (February) recognizes African American history and achievements.
- **Chinese New Year, Diwali,** and other international festivals are celebrated in diverse communities.

Popular Non-Official Celebrations

Halloween (October 31) Children dress in costumes and go “trick-or-treating,” collecting candy from neighbors. Homes are decorated with pumpkins and spooky symbols.

Valentine’s Day (February 14) People exchange cards, flowers, and gifts to express love and friendship.

The Importance of Holidays in American Society. Holidays in the USA serve many purposes: Strengthening family bonds, Promoting national unity, Honoring historical events, Celebrating cultural diversity, Supporting local businesses and tourism. They reflect values such as freedom, gratitude, equality, and community spirit.

Holidays and celebrations in the United States are diverse and meaningful. From patriotic events like Independence Day to family-centered traditions like Thanksgiving and Christmas, these celebrations highlight the country’s history and multicultural identity. American holidays bring people together, encourage reflection, and strengthen social connections across communities.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is Independence Day one of the most important holidays in the USA?
2. How does Thanksgiving reflect American history and values?
3. Why are cultural and ethnic celebrations important in a diverse society?
4. How do American holidays compare with those in your country?
5. Should national holidays focus more on history or modern culture?
6. Why is Halloween especially popular among children?
7. How do holidays strengthen family relationships?

Tasks and Activities

- 1. Research Task** Choose one American holiday and prepare a short historical report about its origin.
- 2. Comparative Activity** Create a table comparing U.S. holidays with holidays in your country.
- 3. Essay Writing** Write an essay on the topic: “*The Role of Holidays in American Cultural Identity.*”
- 4. Creative Writing** Imagine you are celebrating Thanksgiving in an American family. Write a diary entry describing the day.
- 5. Presentation** Prepare a short presentation about patriotic holidays in the USA.
- 6. Debate** Topic: “Holidays are more commercial than meaningful in modern society.”

Country Studies of the United Kingdom (British Studies):

Main literature:

- 1. An Introduction to the United Kingdom** – John Oakland
One of the most widely used textbooks in British Studies. Covers history, politics, education, social structure, traditions, and contemporary issues.
- 2. Britain** – James O’Driscoll
A clear and student-friendly overview of British society, institutions, and cultural life.
- 3. British Civilization: An Introduction** – John Oakland
Comprehensive guide to British political system, monarchy, legal system, education, and regional diversity.
- 4. The Oxford Guide to British and American Culture** – Oxford University Press
Useful reference book for cultural terms, traditions, and historical background.
- 5. Understanding Britain Today** – David McKay
Focuses on modern Britain: politics, economy, multiculturalism.

Additional literature:

- 6. The Making of Modern Britain** – Andrew Marr
Historical development of Britain from the 20th century to modern times.
- 7. British Cultural Identities** – Mike Storry & Peter Childs
Analysis of British identity, class system, media, regional differences.
- 8. Contemporary Britain** – Paul Williams
Covers political reforms, social change, and globalization.

9. **The Cambridge Illustrated History of Britain** – Kenneth O. Morgan (ed.)
Visual and historical overview of British development.
10. **A History of Britain** – Simon Schama
Cultural and political history of Britain.
Political system & government:
11. **The British Political System** – Robert Leach et al.
Analysis of Parliament, Prime Minister, political parties.
12. **UK Parliament** – Official educational materials on monarchy and parliamentary system.
13. **BBC** – BBC Learning & News (culture, society, current events).
Culture, traditions & society:
14. **Watching the English** – Kate Fox
Study of English behavior, customs, and social codes.
15. **Everyday Life in Britain** – Cultural description of British daily life.
16. **British Council** – Educational and cultural materials about the UK.

Academic journals:

- *Journal of British Studies*
- *Cultural and Social History*
- *The Political Quarterly*

Country Studies of the United States of America (American Studies):

Main literature:

1. **American Civilization: An Introduction** – Ray Maunz
A general overview of U.S. history, political institutions, culture, and social life. Suitable for undergraduate students.
2. **An Outline of American History** – U.S. Department of State
Clear and accessible historical survey of American development.
3. **American Ways: A Guide for Foreigners in the United States** – Gary Althen & Janet Bennett
Explains American values, traditions, holidays, communication styles, and behavior patterns.
4. **American Cultural Studies: An Introduction to American Culture** – Neil Campbell & Alasdair Kean
Academic analysis of American identity, diversity, race, gender, and globalization.
5. **The Oxford Guide to American Culture** – Oxford University Press
Reference book explaining key terms in U.S. politics, society, and culture.

Additional literature:

6. **A People and a Nation** – Mary Beth Norton et al.
Comprehensive U.S. history textbook widely used in American universities.
7. **The American Political System** – Edward Lewine
Overview of American government: Congress, Presidency, Supreme Court.
8. **American Government and Politics Today** – Steffen W. Schmidt et al.
Detailed explanation of the U.S. political system and institutions.
9. **Religion in American Life** – Edwin S. Gaustad & Leigh E. Schmidt
Analysis of religious diversity in the United States.
10. **Daily Life in the United States, 1920–2020** – Joyce E. Moss
Cultural and social development of American everyday life.

Official & educational sources:

11. **Library of Congress** – Historical documents, educational resources.
12. **National Archives** – Constitution, Declaration of Independence, primary documents.
13. **U.S. Census Bureau** – Demographic and population data.
14. **History.com** – Articles on U.S. culture, holidays, historical events.

Academic journals:

- *American Quarterly*
- *Journal of American Studies*
- *American Studies Journal*
- *Presidential Studies Quarterly*

TEST FOR CONTROL:

Test Questions: Geography, Symbols, and Identity of the United Kingdom

1. What is the **official full name** of the country commonly known as Britain?

- A) Great Britain and Scotland
- B) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- C) The British Empire
- D) The Republic of Britain

2. How many **constituent countries** form the United Kingdom?

- A) Two
- B) Three
- C) Four
- D) Five

3. Which of the following is **NOT** part of the United Kingdom?

- A) England
- B) Wales
- C) Scotland
- D) The Republic of Ireland

4. What is the **capital city** of the United Kingdom?

- A) Belfast
- B) Edinburgh
- C) London
- D) Cardiff

5. The **Union Jack** combines the crosses of which patron saints?

- A) St. George, St. Patrick, and St. Andrew
- B) St. David, St. Patrick, and St. Michael

C) St. George, St. Peter, and St. Andrew

D) St. David, St. George, and St. Patrick

6. The **red cross** of St. George represents which country?

- A) Wales
- B) Scotland
- C) England
- D) Northern Ireland

7. The **white saltire** on a blue field in the Union Jack stands for:

- A) Scotland
- B) England
- C) Wales
- D) Ireland

8. Which flower is the **national emblem of Wales**?

- A) Rose
- B) Thistle
- C) Shamrock
- D) Daffodil (or leek)

9. What is the **highest mountain** in the United Kingdom?

- A) Snowdon
- B) Scafell Pike
- C) Ben Nevis
- D) Slieve Donard

10. The **temperate maritime climate** of the UK means that it is usually:

- A) Hot and dry
- B) Cold and snowy
- C) Mild and rainy
- D) Tropical and humid

11. Which of the following statements about **British identity** is true?

- A) It is simple and unified
- B) It includes multiple national and regional identities
- C) It is based only on language
- D) It excludes people from the Commonwealth

12. The **national anthem** of the United Kingdom is:

- A) "Rule, Britannia!"
- B) "God Save the King"
- C) "Land of Hope and Glory"
- D) "Jerusalem"

13. The **lion and unicorn** on the Royal Coat of Arms represent:

- A) England and Wales
- B) Scotland and Ireland
- C) England and Scotland
- D) Wales and Northern Ireland

14. The term "**devolution**" refers to:

- A) The separation of church and state
- B) The transfer of power from London to regional parliaments
- C) The expansion of the British Empire
- D) The withdrawal from the Commonwealth

15. Which statement best describes **modern British identity**?

- A) It rejects diversity and multiculturalism
- B) It focuses only on English traditions
- C) It combines tradition with cultural diversity

D) It is based purely on religion

16. Which of the following is a **modern challenge** to British identity?

- A) Discovery of new territories
- B) Brexit and regional independence movements
- C) Industrial revolution
- D) Agricultural decline

Test Questions: Historical Patterns — From Monarchy to Modern Democracy

1. What does the historical "pattern" of British political development primarily describe?

- A) Sudden revolutions and instability
- B) Gradual evolution from monarchy to democracy
- C) Complete rejection of monarchy
- D) Constant military rule

2. Who introduced the Norman system of monarchy to England in 1066?

- A) Henry VIII
- B) King John
- C) William the Conqueror
- D) Richard III

3. The **Magna Carta (1215)** is significant because it:

- A) Established the British Empire
- B) Declared the monarch divine
- C) Limited the power of the king by law
- D) Created universal suffrage

4. Which king signed the Magna Carta?

- A) Henry VIII
- B) King John
- C) Charles I
- D) Edward I

5. The **English Civil War (1642–1649)** was mainly fought between:

- A) England and France
- B) The monarchy and Parliament
- C) The church and universities
- D) Peasants and industrial workers

6. The execution of King Charles I in 1649 symbolized:

- A) The victory of the monarchy
- B) The temporary end of royal power and rise of republican rule
- C) The creation of the British Empire
- D) The beginning of the Tudor dynasty

7. Who ruled Britain as “Lord Protector” after the Civil War?

- A) William of Orange
- B) Oliver Cromwell
- C) Henry VII
- D) James II

8. The **Glorious Revolution of 1688** led to:

- A) The return of absolute monarchy
- B) The beginning of parliamentary sovereignty
- C) The end of the British Empire
- D) Civil war in Scotland

9. The **Bill of Rights (1689)** established which key principle?

- A) Rule by divine right
- B) Unlimited royal authority
- C) Government based on law and consent of Parliament
- D) Complete independence of colonies

10. The **Reform Acts** of the 19th century are associated with:

- A) Expansion of voting rights and representation
- B) The fall of the monarchy
- C) Industrial nationalization
- D) The founding of the British Museum

11. Universal suffrage in Britain (men and women voting equally) was achieved by:

- A) 1689
- B) 1832
- C) 1918–1928
- D) 1969

12. The **constitutional monarchy** means that:

- A) The monarch holds absolute power
- B) The monarch and Parliament share power according to the law
- C) The country has no monarch
- D) The army governs the nation

13. What is the main function of the **British monarch** today?

- A) To lead the government
- B) To symbolize national unity and continuity

13. What is the main function of the **British monarch** today?

- A) To lead the government
- B) To symbolize national unity and continuity
- C) To make laws independently
- D) To command the army in war

14. What is meant by “**devolution**” in modern British politics?

- A) Collapse of the monarchy
- B) Return to feudalism
- C) Transfer of powers to regional parliaments (Scotland, Wales, N. Ireland)
- D) Strengthening of royal authority

15. Which recent event challenged Britain’s democratic and national unity?

- A) World War II
- B) Industrial Revolution
- C) Brexit
- D) Glorious Revolution

16. Which statement best reflects the **pattern of British political evolution**?

- A) Frequent revolutions destroyed old institutions
- B) Change occurred through reform, not revolution
- C) The monarchy was completely abolished
- D) Parliament remained powerless

Test Questions: Political System of the UK

1. What type of government does the UK have?

- A) Presidential republic
- B) Federal monarchy
- C) **Constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy**
- D) Absolute monarchy

2. Who is the current Head of State of the UK?

- A) Rishi Sunak
- B) **King Charles III**
- C) Tony Blair
- D) Prince William

3. The Head of Government in the UK is:

- A) The monarch
- B) **The Prime Minister**
- C) The Speaker of the House
- D) The Chief Justice

4. The British constitution is:

- A) Fully written
- B) Based on one single document
- C) **Unwritten, based on laws and conventions**
- D) Only traditional

5. Which chamber is elected directly by citizens?

- A) **House of Commons**
- B) House of Lords
- C) Privy Council
- D) Cabinet

6. How many Members of Parliament (MPs) are in the House of Commons?

- A) 500
- B) 700
- C) **650**
- D) 550

7. The House of Lords mainly:

- A) Initiates all laws
- B) **Reviews and amends bills**
- C) Controls elections
- D) Represents the monarchy

8. What is the main political role of the monarch?

- A) Leading the Cabinet
- B) Making new laws
- C) **Performing ceremonial and symbolic functions**
- D) Controlling the military

9. What does “Parliamentary sovereignty” mean?

- A) The monarch’s word is law
- B) **Parliament can make or unmake any law**
- C) The PM controls the courts
- D) Judges can veto legislation

10. The Prime Minister is chosen because they:

- A) Are appointed by the monarch regardless of election results
- B) Are elected by the House of Lords
- C) **Lead the majority party in the House of Commons**
- D) Are nominated by the Supreme Court

11. The two main political parties are:

- A) Green Party and SNP

B) **Conservative and Labour**

- C) Labour and Liberal Democrats
- D) Conservative and Reform Party

12. Which principle ensures no one is above the law?

- A) Magna Carta
- B) **Rule of Law**
- C) Devolution
- D) Parliamentary convention

13. The UK Supreme Court was established in:

- A) 1875
- B) 1945
- C) **2009**
- D) 2016

14. Which region has its own devolved Parliament?

- A) Cornwall
- B) **Scotland**
- C) London
- D) Manchester

15. The House of Lords Reform debate focuses on:

- A) Removing all peers
- B) **Modernizing or electing the second chamber**
- C) Expanding the monarchy’s powers
- D) Abolishing Parliament

16. Which issue has recently influenced the UK’s political identity?

- A) Industrialization
- B) Colonial expansion
- C) **Brexit**
- D) Norman invasion

Test Questions: Legal and Educational Patterns in Britain

Each question has 4 options (one correct answer in **bold**).

1. The British legal system is based mainly on:

- A) Civil law
- B) Religious law
- C) **Common law and statute law**
- D) European law

2. What is the highest court in the United Kingdom?

- A) High Court
- B) Crown Court
- C) Court of Appeal
- D) **Supreme Court**

3. What does “common law” mean?

- A) Law made by the monarch
- B) **Law based on judicial decisions and precedents**
- C) International law
- D) Law written in one document

4. Which of the following is a feature of the UK legal system?

- A) Written constitution
- B) **Rule of precedent**
- C) Elected judges
- D) Codified civil law

5. What is the main role of solicitors?

- A) **Provide legal advice and prepare documents**
- B) Work only in the Supreme Court
- C) Make government laws
- D) Train judges

6. Barristers primarily:

- A) Write contracts
- B) **Represent clients in higher courts**
- C) Teach at universities
- D) Manage local councils

7. Equity law developed to:

- A) Replace criminal law
- B) **Ensure fairness when common law was too rigid**
- C) Enforce religious rules
- D) Control Parliament

8. Education is compulsory in the UK between ages:

- A) 6–16
- B) 5–17
- C) **5–18**
- D) 7–15

9. Which of the following is a public school in Britain?

- A) Oxford
- B) **Eton College**
- C) Cambridge
- D) King’s College London

10. The first major qualification after secondary school is:

- A) A-Level
- B) **GCSE**
- C) BA degree
- D) Master’s degree

11. A-Levels are taken at approximately what age?

- A) 14
- B) 16
- C) **18**
- D) 21

12. Which of these is NOT a core subject in the National Curriculum?

- A) English
- B) Mathematics
- C) **Law**
- D) Science

13. The key principle of the legal system that ensures equality before the law is:

- A) Habeas corpus
- B) **Rule of law**
- C) Common sense
- D) Social order

14. The two main types of lawyers in the UK are:

- A) Attorneys and advocates
- B) Prosecutors and defenders
- C) **Solicitors and barristers**
- D) Judges and clerks

15. British education values emphasize:

- A) Discipline over creativity
- B) Memorization
- C) **Critical thinking and individuality**
- D) Religious instruction only

16. What do the legal and educational systems have in common?

- A) They are both based on religion
- B) **They combine tradition with modern adaptation**
- C) They are controlled by the monarchy
- D) They are identical to the US system

Test: Economic Patterns and Social Welfare in the UK

1. What was the main basis of the British economy in the medieval period?

- A) Manufacturing
- B) Trade and finance
- C) **Agriculture and feudalism**
- D) Technology

2. Which development marked the start of major economic change in Britain?

- A) Norman Conquest
- B) Expansion of universities
- C) **Industrial Revolution**
- D) Brexit

3. What was a major social challenge of industrialization?

- A) Overpopulation of rural areas
- B) **Poor working conditions and urban poverty**
- C) Excess agricultural production
- D) Decline in global trade

4. The 19th and early 20th centuries saw:

- A) Decline of trade and industry
- B) Only agricultural growth
- C) **Expansion of trade and early social reforms**
- D) Complete privatization of services

5. Today, which sector dominates the British economy?

- A) Agriculture
- B) **Service sector**
- C) Mining
- D) Manufacturing

6. What is the City of London known for?

- A) Historic castles
- B) Universities
- C) **Finance and banking**
- D) Manufacturing

7. Which post-WWII development shaped modern British welfare?

- A) Industrial Revolution
- B) **Beveridge Report**
- C) Glorious Revolution
- D) Magna Carta

8. What does the NHS provide?

- A) Paid private healthcare
- B) **Free healthcare for all citizens**
- C) Only emergency services
- D) Healthcare for the elderly only

9. Which of the following is NOT a principle of British social welfare?

- A) Universality
- B) Equity
- C) Solidarity
- D) **Individual wealth accumulation**

10. State pensions are intended for:

- A) Children
- B) **Elderly citizens**
- C) Unemployed workers
- D) Private business owners

11. Which of the following describes the pattern of Britain's economy?

- A) Sudden shifts from agriculture to services
- B) **Gradual transition from agriculture → industry → services**
- C) Service sector dominance since the 18th century

D) Agriculture remains the main sector

12. How are welfare programs linked to economic changes?

- A) They are unrelated
- B) Only depend on taxes
- C) **They adapt to urbanization, industrialization, and service economy needs**
- D) They focus only on rural areas

13. Which event increased the need for social protection in Britain?

- A) Norman Conquest
- B) Glorious Revolution
- C) **Industrial Revolution**
- D) Brexit

14. What is the cultural significance of the NHS?

- A) Private profit generation
- B) Elite service only
- C) **Symbol of fairness and solidarity**
- D) A minor government program

15. Contemporary challenges to welfare include:

- A) Lack of universities
- B) Abundant rural labor
- C) **Aging population and regional inequalities**
- D) Overproduction of goods

16. Which statement best summarizes Britain's pattern of economic and social development?

- A) Random policy changes with no continuity

- B) Welfare exists only in rural areas
- C) **Economic growth and welfare evolve together, balancing tradition and adaptation**
- D) Economy always dominates social welfare

Test: Cultural and Religious Patterns of the UK

Instructions: Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. Which church became the state religion in England after the Reformation?

- A) Roman Catholic Church
- B) Presbyterian Church
- C) **Church of England**
- D) Methodist Church

2. Which city hosts a major arts and cultural festival in Scotland?

- A) London
- B) Cardiff
- C) Belfast
- D) **Edinburgh**

3. Wales is particularly known for:

- A) Highland Games
- B) Scottish bagpipes
- C) **Welsh language and Eisteddfod festivals**
- D) Northern Irish murals

4. Northern Ireland's culture is influenced by:

- A) Only English heritage
- B) Only Scottish traditions
- C) **Both Irish heritage and British influence**
- D) Exclusively Viking traditions

5. Which religions were introduced to Britain through immigration from South Asia?

- A) Christianity
- B) **Islam, Hinduism, and Sikhism**
- C) Judaism only
- D) Buddhism only

6. Tea culture, royal ceremonies, and football games are examples of:

- A) Economic patterns
- B) Religious patterns
- C) **Cultural patterns**
- D) Political patterns

7. The Church of England historically shaped:

- A) Only education
- B) Only secular life
- C) **Social, moral, and political life**
- D) Only Northern Ireland

8. Which of these illustrates Britain's modern cultural pluralism?

- A) Scottish kilts only
- B) English tea only
- C) **Celebration of multiple religious festivals and cuisines**
- D) Church of England services

9. Examples of regional identity within the UK include:

- A) London financial markets
- B) **Welsh choirs, Scottish kilts, Northern Irish murals**
- C) National Health Service
- D) British Parliament

10. Hobsbawm's *The Invention of Tradition* suggests:

- A) Traditions have never changed

- B) Only religious traditions matter
- C) **Many traditions are modern constructs shaping identity**
- D) Britain has no cultural traditions

11. A modern value reflecting Britain's religious diversity is:

- A) Mandatory Anglicanism
- B) **Tolerance and secularism**
- C) Monarchy-only worship
- D) Uniform cultural practices

12. Scottish cultural patterns include:

- A) Only English literature
- B) Only industrial heritage
- C) **Gaelic language, Highland games, and bagpipe music**
- D) Only modern architecture

13. The story of Britain's culture and religion demonstrates:

- A) Only continuity with no change
- B) Complete secularization
- C) **Coexistence of tradition and modern multiculturalism**
- D) Only historical conflict

14. Which of the following was NOT historically influential in shaping the UK?

- A) Anglo-Saxons
- B) Normans
- C) Vikings
- D) **Mongols**

15. Britain's multiculturalism is visible in:

- A) Only political institutions

- B) Only schools
- C) **Neighborhoods, festivals, and cuisine**
- D) Only religious buildings

16. Studying cultural and religious patterns helps us understand:

- A) Only public holidays
- B) Economic growth
- C) **Social norms, identity, and regional differences**
- D) Only royal families

Test: Geography, Symbols, and Identity of the USA

Instructions: Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. Which mountain range runs along the eastern United States?

- A) Rockies
- B) Sierra Nevada
- C) Appalachians
- D) Cascades

2. The Midwest is often called the nation's:

- A) Industrial hub
- B) Cultural capital
- C) **Breadbasket**
- D) Frontier

3. What is the national bird of the USA?

- A) Robin
- B) Hawk
- C) Dove
- D) **Bald Eagle**

4. Which monument symbolizes freedom and welcomes immigrants?

- A) Mount Rushmore

- B) Lincoln Memorial
- C) **Statue of Liberty**
- D) White House

5. What does the “Stars and Stripes” flag represent?

- A) Only the states
- B) Only independence
- C) **Unity, freedom, and democracy**
- D) Only the presidency

6. The “American Dream” emphasizes:

- A) Guaranteed wealth
- B) Government support
- C) **Success through hard work and opportunity**
- D) Inherited privilege

7. Which region is known for high population density and early European settlements?

- A) Midwest
- B) **Northeast**
- C) West
- D) South

8. Immigration has contributed to:

- A) Uniform culture
- B) **Multiculturalism and religious diversity**
- C) Only economic growth
- D) Decreasing diversity

9. Which U.S. holiday celebrates independence from Britain?

- A) Thanksgiving
- B) Memorial Day
- C) Labor Day
- D) **Independence Day (July 4)**

10. How do geography and natural resources affect states?

- A) They don’t affect states
- B) Only cultural identity
- C) **They influence economic and political power**
- D) Only climate

11. Regional identity in the USA includes:

- A) Only cuisine
- B) Only sports teams
- C) **Language, culture, history, and traditions**
- D) Only clothing

12. Which mountains are in the western United States?

- A) Appalachians
- B) **Rockies**
- C) Ozarks
- D) Alleghenies

13. Mount Rushmore represents:

- A) Religious freedom
- B) Immigration history
- C) **Historical presidents and national achievement**
- D) Economic growth

14. How does multiculturalism interact with national identity in the USA?

- A) It replaces national identity
- B) **It coexists, creating diversity within shared ideals**
- C) It only affects cities
- D) It eliminates symbols

15. The Great Lakes primarily affected:
- A) Agricultural patterns only
 - B) Climate only
 - C) **Commerce, transportation, and settlement**
 - D) Frontier life only

16. Which U.S. value is reinforced by civic rituals and national symbols?
- A) Individualism only
 - B) Wealth accumulation
 - C) **Liberty, equality, and democracy**
 - D) State independence only

**Test: Political System of the USA
(Including Key Historical Events)**

Instructions: Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. The weaknesses of which document led to the drafting of the U.S. Constitution?
- A) Declaration of Independence
 - B) **Articles of Confederation**
 - C) Federalist Papers
 - D) Bill of Rights
2. The Constitution of 1787 created:
- A) A unitary system
 - B) **A federal system**
 - C) A monarchy
 - D) A confederation
3. Which event clarified federal supremacy over states?
- A) Louisiana Purchase
 - B) Ratification debates
 - C) **Civil War**
 - D) Watergate

4. The **Seventeenth Amendment (1913)** changed:
- A) Presidential term limits
 - B) Voter eligibility
 - C) **Senators elected directly by citizens**
 - D) Electoral College votes

5. Who set early presidential precedents as the first U.S. President?
- A) Thomas Jefferson
 - B) Abraham Lincoln
 - C) **George Washington**
 - D) Franklin D. Roosevelt

6. Abraham Lincoln issued which executive order during the Civil War?
- A) New Deal
 - B) Louisiana Purchase
 - C) **Emancipation Proclamation**
 - D) Civil Rights Act

7. Franklin D. Roosevelt's **New Deal** expanded:
- A) State governments
 - B) Local governance only
 - C) **Federal government's role in economy and social welfare**
 - D) Supreme Court authority

8. Which scandal led to Nixon's resignation in 1974?
- A) Iran-Contra
 - B) Watergate
 - C) Teapot Dome
 - D) Pentagon Papers

9. The **Civil Rights Act (1964)** was passed by:
- A) President only

- B) Supreme Court only
- C) **Congress**
- D) State governments

10. The **Electoral College** system balances:

- A) Citizens' votes with congressional representation
- B) **State and popular representation in presidential elections**
- C) House and Senate votes only
- D) Judicial appointments

11. Which case established **judicial review**, allowing courts to interpret the Constitution?

- A) Brown v. Board of Education
- B) Roe v. Wade
- C) **Marbury v. Madison**
- D) United States v. Nixon

12. Congress consists of:

- A) Senate only
- B) **House of Representatives and Senate**
- C) Supreme Court
- D) President and Vice President

13. Federalism allows:

- A) Uniform national laws only
- B) **State-level policy experimentation**
- C) Total state independence
- D) Absolute presidential power

14. Landmark Supreme Court case **Brown v. Board of Education (1954)** addressed:

- A) Voting rights
- B) Presidential authority
- C) **School segregation**
- D) Immigration policy

15. Which event allowed the **Louisiana Purchase (1803)** and demonstrated presidential authority in foreign policy?

- A) Civil War
- B) Constitutional Convention
- C) **Thomas Jefferson's presidency**
- D) New Deal

16. The U.S. political system encourages:

- A) Passive citizenship
- B) **Active civic engagement**
- C) One-party rule
- D) Absolute presidential power

Test: Economic Patterns and Social Welfare of the USA

Instructions: Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. The economic system in the **colonial South** primarily relied on:

- A) Small-scale industry
- B) **Cash crops and enslaved labor**
- C) Service sector
- D) Technology

2. Which event marked a turning point for industrial transportation in the USA?

- A) Civil War
- B) **Erie Canal opening (1825)**
- C) Dot-com boom
- D) Affordable Care Act

3. The **Transcontinental Railroad (1869)** primarily facilitated:

- A) Immigration policy

- B) Industrial strikes
- C) **Trade and westward expansion**
- D) Social welfare programs

4. The **Civil War** led to:

- A) Expansion of slavery
- B) Deindustrialization in the North
- C) **Abolition of slavery and Southern economic restructuring**
- D) Creation of the dot-com industry

5. Labor unrest during the **Gilded Age** included:

- A) Affordable Care Act protests
- B) Social Security marches
- C) **Homestead Strike (1892) and Pullman Strike (1894)**
- D) Dot-com strikes

6. The **Great Depression (1929–1939)** was caused by:

- A) World War II
- B) Strong banking regulations
- C) **Stock market crash and economic collapse**
- D) Industrialization

7. The **New Deal** introduced:

- A) Only military programs
- B) Tax reduction only
- C) **Social Security, unemployment insurance, public works**
- D) Deregulation of banks

8. Post-World War II economic growth (1945–1973) was fueled by:

- A) Decline in manufacturing
- B) **Suburbanization, consumerism, and industrial growth**
- C) Dot-com companies
- D) Trade embargoes

9. The **Marshall Plan (1948)** aimed to:

- A) Promote social welfare domestically only

B) **Rebuild Europe and stimulate trade**

- C) Nationalize industries
- D) Regulate state economies

10. The **Civil Rights Act (1964)**

impacted economic opportunity by:

- A) Restricting labor unions
- B) **Providing equal access to employment and education**
- C) Creating Medicare
- D) Limiting immigration

11. The **dot-com boom (1990s)**

primarily affected:

- A) Agriculture
- B) **Technology and service sectors**
- C) Mining industry
- D) Social welfare

12. The **2008 financial crisis** led to:

- A) Industrial revolution
- B) Dot-com expansion
- C) **TARP program and banking reforms**
- D) Transcontinental Railroad

13. Social welfare programs like

Medicare and Medicaid (1965)

provide:

- A) Only education
- B) Only unemployment insurance
- C) **Healthcare access for seniors and low-income Americans**
- D) Only housing

14. The **Affordable Care Act (2010)**

aimed to:

- A) Expand industrial production
- B) Deregulate banks

C) **Expand healthcare coverage and access**

D) Limit federal welfare

15. The **Rust Belt** experienced economic decline due to:

A) Growth of agriculture

B) **Deindustrialization and factory closures**

C) Immigration

D) Dot-com industry

16. Regional economic diversity in the USA is influenced by:

A) Only federal policies

B) **Geography, resources, history, and state policies**

C) National symbols

D) Military power

Test: Legal and Educational Patterns in the USA

Instructions: Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. The U.S. legal system is primarily based on:

A) Civil law

B) **Common law**

C) Canon law

D) Socialist law

2. Which case established judicial review in the USA?

A) Brown v. Board of Education

B) Roe v. Wade

3. Which landmark case ended school segregation?

A) Roe v. Wade

B) Marbury v. Madison

C) **Brown v. Board of Education (1954)**

D) United States v. Nixon

4. The **Morrill Land-Grant Act (1862)** was important for:

A) Civil rights legislation

B) **Higher education expansion**

C) Healthcare

D) Labor unions

5. The **GI Bill (1944)** provided:

A) Voting rights

B) Only military training

C) **Educational and housing benefits for veterans**

D) Social Security

6. Federalism in law and education allows:

A) Uniformity across all states only

B) **Variation in state laws and education policies**

C) Complete national control

D) Only federal courts to set school standards

7. The **No Child Left Behind Act (2001)** emphasized:

A) State autonomy only

B) **Accountability and standardized testing**

C) Judicial independence

D) Free higher education

8. Courts continue to influence education through decisions on:

- A) Healthcare only
- B) **Civil rights and student rights**
- C) National defense
- D) Taxes

9. Immigration influences education by:

- A) Reducing diversity
- B) **Increasing multicultural classrooms and legal protections**
- C) Eliminating federal oversight
- D) Standardizing all schools

10. The U.S. Constitution guarantees:

- A) Only local laws
- B) Only education policies
- C) **Fundamental civil rights for citizens**
- D) Only presidential authority

11. Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) established:

- A) School integration
- B) Voting rights
- C) **“Separate but equal” doctrine**
- D) Executive power limits

12. Roe v. Wade (1973) addressed:

- A) Civil rights in schools
- B) Immigration law
- C) **Reproductive rights**
- D) Education funding

13. Early American education was shaped primarily by:

- A) Technology
- B) **Religion and local communities**
- C) Federal mandates
- D) Trade unions

14. Top U.S. universities like Harvard and MIT are known for:

- A) Trade schools
- B) Only liberal arts
- C) **Research, innovation, and cultural influence**
- D) Primary education

15. Federal social policies in education include:

- A) Only local teacher hiring
- B) **Funding incentives, accountability programs, and civil rights enforcement**
- C) Only school sports
- D) Judicial appointments

16. Legal and educational patterns in the USA reflect:

- A) Only federal authority
- B) Only state independence
- C) **Democracy, equality, and adaptation to social change**
- D) Absolute market control