GOLDEN KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER for the Modern World (1939 – present day)

Overview

This unit is designed to teach you how Britain changed after WWII. We developed a welfare state, saw cultural change as society became more liberal, lost our Empire, made new connections with Europe, and faced terrorist 'Troubles' with Ireland. You will also learn about how the world changed because of the horrors of the Holocaust, with the development of human rights. Lastly, we will learn about the changing world of global politics through the development of the Cold War and the rise of global terrorism.

Key figures























Key questions

- How did Britain change after WWII?
- To what extent did Britain change in the 50s and 60s?
- Why did the British Empire end?
- Why did the Troubles with Ireland begin and what was the impact?
- How did British society become more liberal?
- How did Thatcher, Blair, and Brexit impact on Britain?
- What happened in the Holocaust and how did it lead to international human rights?
- How did the world change during the Cold War?
- How did the Clash of Civilisations emerge at the end of the Cold War?
- What has been the impact of global terrorism on society?

Timeline

- 1939 1945 WWII; Holocaust
- **1945** First atomic bomb dropped on Japan; end of WWII, beginning of Cold War
- **1947** Truman Doctrine
- 1948 Founding of the NHS; UN Declaration of Human Rights
- **1954** End of Rationing
- 1956 Suez Crisis
- **1965** End of the death penalty in
- **1967** Sexual Offences Act (legalisation of homosexuality)
- 1968 Race Relations Act and Troubles with Ireland start
- **1979** Thatcher elected
- 1990 Cold War ends
- 1991 Collapse of Soviet Union
- 1997 Tony Blair elected
- 2001 9/11; 'War on Terror' begins
- 2016 Brexit vote; Trump elected 2020 Covid 19 Pandemic

Key words

- Welfare state A country that provides public money to look after its people's well-being
- Welfare Money paid by a government to its citizens to promote wellbeing
- **Liberal** A political viewpoint that promotes tolerance, civil rights, and individual freedom
- **Conservative** A political viewpoint the promotes tradition, free enterprise, and a small state
- **Socialist** A political viewpoint that promotes equality and public ownership of the economy
- **Public / private sector** Part of the economy run by the government / private business
- **Capitalism** When the economy is run by private business rather than the state
- **Communism** An extreme form of socialism which bans the ownership of private property
- Arms / space race A competition between two or more countries to develop the best military capability or capability to go into space
- Cold War The long post-WW2 conflict between the USA and the USSR characterised by competition, ideological disagreement, suspicion, and proxy wars (e.g., Vietnam)
- **Human Rights –** Rights that belong to all humans regardless of race, religion etc
- United Nations Organisation set up in 1945 to promote world peace and cooperation
- Nationalisation / privatisation Moving to state control / moving to private company control
- **Terrorism** The use of fear and violence to achieve political aims
- **Post-truth** The idea that facts are relative to one's perception
- **Pandemic** Outbreak of an infectious disease that spreads over a large area
- **Immigration** The movement of people into a country