

Tudor Britain

Why we are learning about Tudor Britain

You are learning about the Tudors as it was a period of history that helped to shape the Britain we live in today over 500 years later. Although best known for the two most dominant monarchs-Henry VIII (who married 6 times) and his daughter Elizabeth I (who never married), it was the change of religion of most people from Catholic to Protestant that has had the longest-lasting effect. The Tudor dynasty also changed England from a small, obscure island to one of Europe's largest powers, thanks to the exploits of men like Francis Drake and the defeat of the Spanish Armada. It was at this time that Britons began to live in new territories in America. And, of course, we mustn't forget the start of the theatre and our most famous playwright, William Shakespeare.



Henry VIII becomes the king, the second Tudor, and marries Catherine of Aragon, his brother's widow

1509

Henry VIII begins plans to divorce Catherine of Aragon and marry Anne Boleyn

1527



Henry VIII breaks with the Pope and becomes Head of the Church

1533



Death of Henry VIII

1547



Elizabeth I becomes Queen after Mary I who was a catholic

1558



Francis Drake sails around the world

1577



Spanish Armada is defeated

1588

Elizabeth I dies, the last of the Tudors

1603

Beginnings of the theatre and works of Shakespeare

Arts
Religion
Military

Protestant

Catholic

Elizabeth's Protestant church tries to steer a 'middle way'

Growth of English Navy

Exploration – British people settle America for first time



Armada



New World

Key vocabulary

Armada	A large fleet of warships.
Catholic	A type of Christian led by the Pope in Rome
Colonies	New settlements in foreign lands controlled by England.
Dynasty	A family of rulers who rule a country for many years.
Exploration	Traveling to new places to discover land, people, or riches.
Heir (<i>say, air</i>)	The person who is next in line to be king or queen.
Monarch	A king or queen who rules a country.
New World	The name given to the Americas by European explorers.
Nobility	Rich and powerful people in Tudor society.
Protestant	A branch of Christianity that most Tudors followed after the Reformation.
Reformation	A period when England broke away from the Catholic Church to become Protestant
Reign	The time during which a king or queen rules a country.

Top takeaways

1. Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I between them ruled powerfully for over three quarters of the period.
2. Henry VIII famously married 6 times and was very keen to produce a male heir. He was such a strong ruler that he would even have two of his wives beheaded.
3. One of the most important and long-lasting changes was what was known as the Reformation where Protestantism largely replaced Catholicism.
4. Elizabeth I was a powerful and successful ruler, showing how strong women could be as rulers.
5. During the later period the exploits of Francis Drake helped to make Britain a strong country, especially after Britain defeated the Spanish Armada, and set up colonies in America
6. The later period saw the flowering of the arts, especially the theatre and the plays of Shakespeare.

I already know...

History can be divided into two parts - within living memory and beyond living memory.

Vocabulary



ancient - belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

civilisation - the society, culture and way of life of a particular area.

settlement - a place where people live; where they build a community.

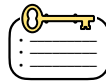
archaeologist - a historian who finds out about the past by looking at what people have left behind.

decipher - translate, or change, a text into a known language.

trade - people exchange items they need or want with each other.

technology - the use of knowledge to invent new devices or tools.

Key Facts

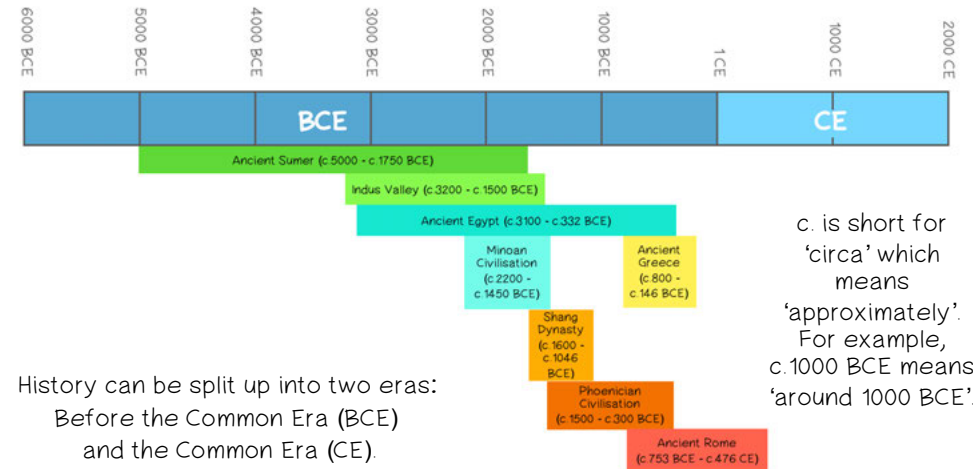


- There have been many great civilisations throughout history, including the **ancient Sumerians**, the **Indus Valley civilisation**, the **ancient Egyptians** and the **Shang Dynasty**.

- These civilisations have all found out new things and discovered new ways of making life better and more advanced.

- A lot of evidence for these ancient civilisations can still be seen today.

Timeline



c. is short for 'circa' which means 'approximately'.
For example, c. 1000 BCE means 'around 1000 BCE'.

Sources



We can use these sources to find out about early civilisations.



artefacts



written sources



historical sites



monuments

Enquiry questions



- What **similarities** between the different early civilisations were there?

- What **differences** between the different early civilisations were there?

- How have the inventions and developments during early civilisations **impacted on modern life**?

Enquiry skills



We can compare and contrast early forms of writing:



Ancient Sumerian cuneiform on a clay tablet

Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics on a wall



Britain during the Second World War

Why this period is important

In this topic you will learn why Britain went to war and was threatened with invasion by Hitler's Germany during the Second World War from 1939-45, just over 20 years since the horrors of the First World War. But most of the time will be devoted to working out how the British people managed to cope with life on the Home Front for 6 years, much of that time with rationed food, restricted freedom and the threat of bombing, especially in large cities. You will learn how families were torn apart, with men fighting in all parts of the world, older men preparing to stop any invasion, women working on the land and in factories and children evacuated to the countryside. What kept people going was what came to be known as the 'Blitz spirit', which people sometimes refer to today when times are hard. One of the most important things you will learn about relates to the world of 'fake news' today. To keep up people's spirits the government produced a lot of propaganda as well as censorship to put a positive spin on events. You will learn how to spot this - an important skill for life. In terms of the wider world war, you will learn much more about the fighting itself in KS3.

1939

Summer 1939
Plans for
evacuation in
place

1 September 1939
1.5 million people
took part in 3 day
evacuation



1940

September 1939-April 1940 The Phoney war. As there was no fighting many evacuees returned home

3 September
1939 Britain
declared war
on Germany



January
1940 Food
rationing
began



May 1940
British troops
had to leave
Dunkirk

June 1940
France
surrendered
to Germany.
Britain now
fights alone.

1941

Sep 1940-1941 The Blitz

1940 August
Battle of
Britain



1942

December
1941 USA
enters the war
on Britain's
side



1943

June 1944
DDay
landings



1944

1945

May 1945
End of the
war





Morale	The amount of confidence felt by a person or group of people.
Morrison shelter	Indoor shelters for those without gardens
Propaganda	The government made sure that posters and radio messages persuaded people that the war was going well.
Rationing	Because German ships stopped food coming into the country, there were shortages of food. People had to use a card which allowed them only a limited amount of certain items, including essential food.

Key vocabulary

Allies	Countries fighting on the same side
Anderson shelter	Outdoor steel cage shelters put up in gardens and covered with earth
ARP - Air Raid Patrol warden	Responsible for making sure people wore gas masks, hid in shelters and put lights out at night
Battle of Britain	Famous victory in the air battle involving Spitfires which took place in the skies of Kent in the summer of 1940 when Britain alone was fighting Germany
Billeting	Place of evacuated children in volunteer foster parents' homes
Black market	Illegal sale of scarce goods people couldn't get through rationing.
Blitz	Lighting attacks by German bombers on British ports and cities, London and Coventry were worst hit.
Censorship	The government control of news to make sure it didn't help the enemy
Civilian	Someone not in the armed forces
Dunkirk	A place in France where British army was trapped and had to be rescued by all sorts of small boats coming from the UK
Evacuation	Large-scale sending of children from cities likely to be bombed to safe places in the countryside
Home Guard	1.5 million men between ages of 17 and 65 who guarded the coast and important army posts

Top takeaways

1. Britain was at war with Germany and her allies for 6 years but managed to win the war, despite all the hardship people faced.
2. Britain was led through the darkest days of the war by Winston Churchill and was helped especially by the USA, Russia and troops from across the British Empire, to win the war.
3. Many British cities were badly bombed and people killed, especially during what was known as the Blitz which saw massive destruction in the main industrial cities and ports as well as London.
4. Many children had to be evacuated to the countryside and billeted on foster families to avoid being bombed or gassed in air raids.
5. Everyone had a part to play in the war effort including 1.5 million women who worked in factories, farming transport and defence doing jobs such as delivering planes.
6. People still talk about the 'Blitz spirit' of coping with hardship, but not everyone behaved wonderfully. Propaganda was widely used to lift people's morale.
7. The government made use of propaganda to persuade the people that the war was going well.