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**Лингвострановедение
англоязычных стран
(Великобритания и США)**

Учебно-методическое пособие

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Учебно-методическое пособие содержит краткое изложение курса лекций (опорные конспекты) по географии, истории Великобритании, перечень тем рефератов, список тем к семинарским занятиям, вопросы к зачету по дисциплинам «Лингвострановедение (Великобритании, США)» и «Социально-экономическая и политическая ситуация в англоязычных странах (Великобритания, США)», список рекомендуемой литературы. В приложении даны схемы и карты по истории Великобритании.

Издание рекомендовано студентам вузов, обучающимся по профилю подготовки «Зарубежная филология (английский язык)», а также всем интересующимся Великобританией, США и английским языком.

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Предисловие

Пособие «Лингвострановедение англоязычных стран (Великобритания и США)» предназначено для студентов филологических факультетов, обучающихся по профилю «Зарубежная филология (английский язык)». Пособие способствует формированию у студентов чётких представлений об истории, государственной и экономической системах, традициях, обычаях и культуре Великобритании и США, что является необходимым для полного осознания и правильного употребления реалий языка, встречаемых в иностранной речи и литературе.

Целями данного пособия являются:

- формирование у учащихся лингвострановедческой компетенции;
- приобщение к ценностям культуры Великобритании, США;
- воспитание уважительного отношения к менталитету, национальным особенностям носителей изучаемого языка;
- формирование у студентов культуры речи изучаемого языка;
- расширение кругозора студентов, повышение уровня их общей культуры и образования, а также культуры мышления, общения и речи.

Задачи пособия:

- сформировать систему знаний о географии, экономике, государственном устройстве и символике, системе образования, выдающихся деятелях, культурном наследии, национальных особенностях, праздниках и традициях страны изучаемого языка;
- развить умение ориентироваться по карте Великобритании, США.
- научить осознавать роль страноведческой и лингвострановедческой компетенции в реализации адекватного общения и взаимопонимания представителей различных культур;
- сформировать представление о языковых реалиях со страноведческой направленностью, связанных с географическими понятиями, особенностями национальной культуры, общественно-политической жизни, с государственным устройством, экономикой, традициями и обычаями страны изучаемого языка.

Пособие «Лингвострановедение англоязычных стран (Великобритания и США)» включает в себя краткое изложение курса лекций (опорные конспекты) по географии, истории Великобритании (*The Geographical Context, The Formation of the British Nation, The Norman Conquest, Great Britain in the Middle Ages, The Stuart (Stewart) Dynasty, The period of Restoration, The House of Hanover, The Industrial Revolution (the 18th century), The Victorian Era (1837-1901), The Edwardian Epoch (1901-1910), Great Britain in the first half of the 20th century, Great Britain in the second half of the 20th century*), при помощи которых студент может как на аудиторных занятиях, так и самостоятельно быстро сориентироваться в изучаемом материале, используя все вспомогательные ресурсы, и усвоить основные положения курса.

Кроме того, пособие содержит перечень тем рефератов, список тем к семинарским занятиям, вопросы к зачету по дисциплинам «Лингвострановедение (Великобритании, США)» и «Социально-экономическая и политическая ситуация в англоязычных странах (Великобритания, США)», список рекомендуемой литературы. В приложении даны схемы и карты по истории Великобритании. Все представленные в пособии материалы помогут самостоятельно получать и структурировать знания по изучаемым дисциплинам и эффективно использовать их при подготовке к аудиторным занятиям и итоговому контролю.

CHAPTER I. The Geographical Context

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

The UK is an island state: 5,500 islands. The biggest are:

- **Great Britain** (England, Scotland, Wales)
- **Ireland** (Northern Ireland, Independent Irish Republic);
- *The Irish Sea*.

Other islands: - ***The Shetland Islands*** (in the north)

- ***The Isle of Man***
- ***The Orkney Islands*** (north)
- ***The Isles of Scilly***
- ***The Hebrides*** (off the west coast of Scotland)
- ***The Channel Islands***
- ***The Isle of Wight*** etc.

AREA: 242,000 sq km (93,000 sq miles). The longest part from the south to the north – 955 km (about 600 miles). The widest part the east to the west – 483 km (300 miles).

Great Britain is washed by:

the Atlantic Ocean – in the north & northwest;

The North Sea – in the East

The Irish Sea (between Great Britain & Ireland);

The English Channel (La Manche)

The Strait of Dover (Pas de Calais).

RELIEF

Lowland Britain: *Yorkshire plain*

Cheshire plain

Lancashire plain

The Thames Valley

& The Central Lowlands of Scotland.

Highland Britain:

Scotland: *The Scottish Northern Highlands*

*The Grampian Mountains (**Ben Nevis** (1,343 m))*

The Southern Uplands

The Cheviot Hills (borderline between England & Scotland).

England: *The Pennines*

Cornish Uplands (Cornwall)

The Lake District

Devon Uplands

The Midlands

The Chalk Cliffs of Dover Coast.

Wales: *Cambrian Mountains* (***Snowdon*** (1,085 m))

Northern Ireland: *The Mourne Mountains.*

RIVERS: flow from the west to the east. Why? _____

England: *the Severn* (388 km long);

the Tyne (in the north)

The Thames (354 km long) – the most important

the Trent (in the east)

The Ex

the Avon etc.

Scotland: *The Clyde* *The Tay* *The Spey* *The Tweed*

Wales: *The Taff River* (near Cardiff)

Northern Ireland: (rivers are short, but deep) *The Shannon*

System of Canals (XVIII-th century):

Grand Union Canal (London-Liverpool);

Liverpool-Manchester Canal etc.

LAKES: *The Lake District* (England)

The Lochs (lakes) of Scotland: e.g.

Loch Ness (156 sq km, 40km long, 230m deep)

Loch Lomond etc. **Give other examples**

Northern Ireland: *Lough Neagh* (the largest freshwater lake in Great Britain) (396 sq km)

CLIMATE: The factors influencing the climate:

1. The Gulf Stream.
2. Warm southwest winds.
3. The broken coast line.
4. The position of the mountains.

Temperatures: from -10°C to $+32^{\circ}\text{C}$. The climate is very wet & it's milder than in Europe. Fogs. Green grass all the year round. Most rivers don't freeze in winter.

FLORA: Only 8% of the territory is covered by forests.

National Parks:

England: *Dartmoor, Exmoor, the Lake District, North York Moors, Northumberland, the Peak District, Yorkshire Dales.*

Wales: *Snowdonia, Brecon Beacons, the Pembrokeshire Coast.*

Scotland: *Loch Lomond, Fife, Clyde Muirshiel, Pentland Hills.*

40 National Scenic Areas. 77 national nature reserves.

Trees: oak, beech, ash, birch, alder, maple, lime, elm, fir-tree, pine (mostly in Scotland), larch, cedar.

Bushes: hazel, chestnut, wild rose, heather.

Grass: fern, bracken, clover, etc.

National Flowers: England _____

Scotland _____

Wales _____

Northern Ireland _____

FAUNA: Mainly species of smaller **MAMMALS** (about 56 species): TRANSLATE: fox, hare, squirrel, deer, bear, wolf, fallow deer, roe deer, wild boar, grey seal, common seal, badger, otter, wild cat, Scottish pony, Dartmoor pony, polecat, rats, mice, stoat, water rats, etc.

230 species of **BIRDS:** blackbird, swallow, sparrow, starling, swift, chaffinch, goose, duck, seagull, swan, pheasant.

FISH: trout, pike, perch, cod, etc.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Coal: deep mines, opencast mines (Scotland, Wales). About 60 millions tonnes a year.

- The main three coalfields:

1) Yorkshire; 2) Northumberland-Durham; 3) South Welsh.

Coalfields in Scotland (along the Central Lowlands)

Lancashire coalfields

Western Midlands coalfields.

The coal industry is in decline nowadays.

Oil & Gas: (first found in the 1960s) Offshore production of oil & gas since 1975: in the North Sea (main fields); the Irish Sea.

Metals. *Ferrous metals:* fields:

1) the Eastern part of the Midlands;

2) Cleveland (the North East of England)

3) Frodingham

Non-ferrous metals:

tin (Cornwall), copper, lead, zinc, tungsten (Lake District), uranium (Scotland)

Shale, sandstone, potash, ball clay, caolin, gold (Wales), etc.

ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS.

Nuclear waist _____

Water pollution _____

Greenhouse effect/ozone layer destruction _____

Acid rains _____

Air pollution _____

Noise pollution _____

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION. ‘Green Peace’, ‘National Trust’, ‘Friends of the Earth’, etc.

TASK: DRAW THE MAP. MARK ALL THE GEOGRAPHICAL POINTS.

CHAPTER II. The Formation of the British Nation

Four periods of cold – *the Ice Ages*. The last of the Ice Ages – in about 20,000 BC. By 12,000 BC the ice finally receded. Britain was still joined to Europe. It was visited by hunters.

About 5000 years ago the land link with Europe was broken. *The Strait of Dover* was created. People built *huts*. First villages.

About 2000 years BC – *the Beaker Folk* (from Northern Europe).

Bronze was made from *copper* (from the mountain of Ireland) & *tin* (from Cornwall) _____

Religion: *the Stonehenge* (1800–1400 BC) _____

Celtic Britain (7th century BC – 43 AD)

The Celts arrived about 1000 BC from France and the Low Countries. *Druids* – the Celtic priests. The Celts introduced *iron* to Britain. Iron ore – in the Forest of Dean, in Kent & Sussex Weald. *The Belgae* – the most warlike of the Celtic tribes _____

First permanent homes appeared – one circular wall within another _____

Traders from Egypt, the Baltic _____

The Roman Conquest (43 AD – 409 AD)

Julius Caesar. August 25, 55 BC – Roman fleet from France fought against the Celts (the Belgae, led by their king *Cassivelaunus*). Romans were not a success. _____

54 BC the Romans made another attempt to conquer Britain. Cassivelaunus surrendered.

By 43 AD **Cunobelinus** (the Belgae king). _____

The Roman Emperor **Claudius**. The Roman Army landed at Richborough in Kent _____

In 84 AD the Romans marched to Scotland. 121 AD – **Hadrian's Wall**. _____

First cities, roads, baths, a central government, one ruler, laws administered by courts of justice. Agriculture. Latin words. Londynium (London) _____

367 AD – **the Picts** from Scotland. **The Scots** from Ireland. **The Saxons & Gauls** from France. 406 AD – the Roman legions left Britain. _____

The Anglo-Saxon Invasions (430 AD – 8th century AD)

The Celtic King **Vortigern** _____

The Jutish chiefs **Hengist & Horsa** (from north-west Germany) _____

The Angles (from the Elbe & Rhine districts) – occupied *Norfolk & Suffolk*, **the Saxons** (from north-west Germany) – occupied *Essex, Middlesex, Sussex & eastern parts of Wessex*.

7 kingdoms (see Supplement 1):

Northumbria (from Humber to Edinburgh & Westwards to the Lancashire coast)

Mercia (the Midlands) – King *Offa* described himself “King of the English”

Wessex (Southern England) – 9th cent. King *Egbert of Wessex* ruled England;

Sussex (south-east of England);

Kent (south-east of England);

Essex (eastern England);

East Anglia (eastern England).

Anglo-Saxons brought *feudalism* from Europe. The kings settled *feuds*. _____

King Arthur _____

Christianity comes to Britain

The Romans brought their religion. In 313 AD the Roman Emperor **Constantine I** was converted to Christianity.

432 AD – **Patrick** in Ireland _____

563 AD a monk **Columba** (an Irishman) – in Scotland _____

597 AD – Christianity returned to England – Pope Gregory sent Augustine with 40 monks. _____

Life in Anglo-Saxon Britain

A village was still composed of small huts. The towns – centres for defence, administration and trading. Roman roads: the Saxons used them as links between one market town and another, but didn't

keep them in good repair. River were widely used for transport. The Romans had introduced coins to Britain. The Anglo-Saxons didn't mint any money until the 7th century: at first gold was used, then silver coins. Many crimes were tried by ordeals supervised by the clergy. Arson, murder, treachery to one's lord, and some thefts were punished by death. Fines.

Warriors from the North

June 793 AD – ***the Vikings (The Norsemen)*** occupied the Shetland Islands, the Orkneys & the Faroes.

851 AD – ***the Danes*** – Norfolk & Suffolk, Isles of Thanet & Sheppey in Kent.

839 AD – ***Turgeis*** (a Norwegian) in Ireland. The city of Dublin was founded. '*King of all the foreigners*'. _____

In Scotland: The Vikings, the Picts & the Scots were all at war with one another. **839 AD** – a decisive battle: ***Kenneth*** (a Scot) proclaimed himself '*first king of Scotland*'.

866 AD – York was invaded by the Danes, then Mercia & East Anglia.

878 AD – only Wessex remained independent mostly due to **King Alfred (The Great)** – the beginner of the English kings' dynasty. He defeated the Danish forces at a battle near Southampton (south of England). _____

The Danish leader ***Guthrum*** was baptised. Alfred's terms: The Danes were not to strip the land of England bare, but to settle down & farm it. ***Alfred the Great*** – the founder of the English Fleet.

Danelaw (Danish lands). Danish money – Danegold _____

Edward the Elder (Alfred's son) _____

Aethelstan – called himself ‘*the king of the English & all the nations round about*’

979 AD – **King Edward** (*‘the Martyr’*) (Alfred's great great grandson) was murdered.

Ethelred (his half-brother) _____

1016 AD – **Edward** (*the Confessor*) (see **Supplement 2**) (was more suited to be a priest or a scholar). He spent a lot of time in France with a distant relative **William, Duke of Normandy** (*the Conqueror*)

1066 – **King Harold** (son of Earl Godwin of Wessex). William, Duke of Normandy wanted the throne of England. **Harald Hardrada** (king of Norway) had similar ideas.

20 September – *the Battle of Stamford Bridge* (in the north of England) _____

Harald Hardrada was killed in action by Harold's men _____

14 October, 1066 – the Battle of Hastings _____

Harold was killed. *William, Duke of Normandy* – **William The Conqueror**

CHAPTER III. The Norman Conquest

*William, Duke of Normandy – William I of England
(The Conqueror)* _____

The **Feudal System**. Manors. *The features of the British feudalism:*

1) All the feudalists were dependent on the king:

The king → barons or priests → knights → peasants/ serfs.

2) There were **serfs** (who were not free) and **free peasants**.

Agriculture prospered. *Fine-fleeced sheep*. The Saxons – second class citizens.

1072 – William I marched his armies to Scotland _____

Malcolm (the Scottish king) _____

The invasion of Wales _____

The Norman Castles: Cardiff, Swansea, Newport.

1087 The '**Domesday Book**' (like Judgement Day) _____

William II (Rufus) (1087–1100) _____

Henry I (1100–1135) _____

Matilda _____

Stephen (1135–1154) _____

Plantagenet dynasty (see Supplement 3)

Henry II (1154–1189) – the first **Plantagenet** king _____

Richard I (1189–1199) – **Richard Coeur de Lion** (Richard the Lion Heart). Crusades _____

John "Lackland" (1199–1216) _____

June 15, 1215 – the Great Charter (the Magna Carta), had 63 clauses.

39: No freeman might be imprisoned, outlawed, exiled ‘or in any way destroyed ... except by the lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land’.

The civil war _____

Henry III (1216-1272) _____

1265 – the Norman baron Simon de Mortfort gathered the first **English Parliament**:

- 1) the “House” of Lords; 2) bishops and archbishops;
3) rich merchants; 4) craftsmen and merchants.

→ The beginning of the crisis of the feudal system (crisis of manors).

Edward I (1272–1307) – ‘the Hammer of the Scots’ _____

The Stone of Scone _____

1287, at Stirling – Sir William Wallace defeated the English force. He was executed in 1304.

Robert Bruce _____

Edward II (1307–1327) _____

Edward III (1327–1377). 1348 – **Black Death**. About 1/3 of the population of the country died. _____

Richard II (1377–1399). Poll Taxes _____

1381 – Peasants’ Revolt: Jack Straw _____

Wat Tyler _____

John Ball _____

Trade and Towns _____

Merchants and craftsmen formed guilds. Britain exported wool, tin, iron ore, coal, lead. The cloth trade flourished _____

CHAPTER IV. Great Britain in the Middle Ages

The Hundred Years War (1338–1453)

Between Great Britain and France. It was a number of isolated campaigns. **Edward III** (1327–1377), **Richard II** (1377–1399), **Henry IV** (1399–1413), **Henry V** (1413–1422), **Henry VI** (1422–1461). *Joan of Arc* (19-year-old girl) led the French troops to victory at Orleans.

The War of Roses (1455–1485)

The House of York (‘*The White Rose*’) _____

The House of Lancaster (‘*The Red Rose*’) _____

Only 13 weeks of fighting in general. August, 1453 – **King Henry VI** (the House of Lancaster) had gone mad. **Richard Duke of York** – legitimate heir to the throne. The Queen (*Margaret of Anjou*) gave birth to a son (Lancaster). **Edward Earl of March** (York). 1461 – the two forces clashed. The Yorkists won.

Edward IV (York) (1461–1483) _____

The Princes in the Tower – Edward V & Richard Duke of York. Their guardian – **Richard, Duke of Gloucester** (their uncle) → **King Richard III** (1483–1485). He was killed on the orders of **Henry Tudor** (from the house of Lancaster) → the end of the *War of Roses*.

The Tudor Dynasty (see Supplement 4)

Henry VII (1485–1509). ‘*The Yeomen of the Guard of our Lord the King*’. ‘The Law of High Treason’ _____

Henry VIII (1509–1547) – ‘*Prince Charming*’. An irritable & ruthless tyrant. *Thomas Cromwell*. _____

Henry VIII broke away from Rome and appointed himself ‘*Head of the Church of England*’. He extended the Royal dockyards,

encouraged building of faster better armed warships; made Ireland into a kingdom; did much to assist the universities.

Henry VIII's wives: 1. Catherine of Aragon (divorce)

2. Anne Boleyn (was beheaded)

3. Jane Seymour (gave birth to the future Edward VI; she died shortly after his birth)

4. Anne of Cleves ('Flanders mare'; the marriage was annulled)

5. Catherine Howard (was beheaded)

6. Catherine Parr (outlived Henry VIII).

Protestantism. Cromwell & the Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Cranmer. **English Bibles.** _____

Edward VI (1547–1553) _____

Mary Tudor (Mary I) (1553–1558) – '*Bloody Mary*' – an almost fanatical Catholic. _____

Elizabeth I (1558–1603) – a Protestant. She had '*the heart and stomach of a king*'. _____

The Irish Troubles _____

1582 – *Sir Humphrey Gilbert established* an English colony in Newfoundland. *Sir Walter Raleigh* – Virginia ('the Virgin Queen') – potatoes & tobacco from North America. New re-valued coinage. A central system of wage & price control administered by *Justices of the Peace*.

Industry was prospering. The copper mines in the Lake District, English iron ore – the best in the world, lead – Bristol, tin – Cornwall & Devon, coal – Tyneside & Durham.

Literature, poetry, music were flourishing. Renaissance. New fashion. Pictorial Art – mostly portraits.

Thomas Nashe produced the first adventure novel; *Spenser* – a poem about *King Arthur* & '*The Faerie Queen*'. *Sir Philip Sidney* wrote sonnets.

The Age of the Theatre. The Globe Theatre (1599). Ben Jonson, Marlowe

William Shakespeare. Hamlet. The Rose Theatre, The Curtain Theatre _____

CHAPTER V. The Stuart (Stewart) Dynasty (see Supplement 4 and 5)

James VI of Scotland became ***James I of England*** (1603–1625), a protestant. "*The Wisest fool in Christendom*" (Henry IV of France); '*A nervous Idiot*' (historian Macaulay). Honours no longer had to be earned; they could be bought. _____

The Gunpowder Plot. 5 November 1605. A group of Catholics under Robert Catesby and Thomas Percy decided to blow up the houses of Parliament at the state opening. The technical expert was Guido (Guy) Fawkes who understood explosives. Barrels of gunpowder in the cellars of the House of Lords. One of the conspirators warned his friend in the House of Lords of the coming explosion. The plot was discovered. Guy Fawkes and his accomplices were executed.

Charles I (1625–1649). Married *Henrietta Maria* (a Roman Catholic) – the king of France's daughter. Charles needed money for his wars in Europe. Problems with Parliament. *Petition of Rights* (1628) _____

Parliament was dissolved for 11 years. Charles had levied taxes (Ship Money), custom duties on almost all goods. 1640 – Parliament was recalled, dissolved & recalled again. ***The long Parliament*** (for twenty years) _____

The Court of Star Chamber (dealt with religious matters) was abolished.

1641 – *The Grand Remonstrance* (204 clauses) – a catalogue of royal misdeeds _____

The Queen was sent off to the continent to enlist the help of Catholic & Dutch rulers. _____

The Civil War

The Civil War (1642–1649). October 23, 1642 – Edgehill – the first battle was fought, ended in a draw. The Royalists – ***Cavaliers***,

Parliament's troops – ***Roundheads***. _____

The *north* and *west* of the country sided with the King. Parliament was strongest in the *south* and *east*. *Marston Moor* (Yorkshire) – the first decisive battle, the roundheads won.

Ironsides, Oliver Cromwell. The New Model Army _____

1645 – *Naseby*. Charles I was in trouble. Charles surrendered to the Scots, but they sold him to Parliament for £ 400,000. ***The Rump Parliament***. _____

January 30, 1649 – Charles I was beheaded for being a '*tyrant, traitor, murderer and public enemy of the Commonwealth*'. The House of Lords was abolished. Britain was declared a ***Commonwealth***. _____

The Navigation Act. In 1653 Oliver Cromwell made himself supreme ruler of Britain, '*Lord Protector*' _____

The '*Protectorate*'. Puritanism in the country. 1658 – Richard (Cromwell's son) – Lord Protector for 9 months. _____

CHAPTER VI. The period of Restoration

1660 – *General Monck, Sir Thomas Fairfax* asked the exiled **Charles II** (1660–1685) to return to Britain. _____

1672 – *the Declaration of Indulgence*. 1673 – *The Test Act* (Catholics could not hold important public positions. Future *James II* had to resign his post of *Lord High Admiral* in charge of the Navy).

‘A golden Age’. The poet & playwright **John Dryden** – the first *Poet Laureate*. Actresses were employed in theatres. *Royal Society for Promoting Natural Knowledge*. *Isaac Newton* (the law of gravity), *Sir Christopher Wren* (architect), the *Rev John Flamsteed* (the first Astronomer Royal). _____

In Parliament: **Tories** – the King’s party _____
Whigs (after ‘whiggamore’) – the opposition _____

1665 – **bubonic plague** in London. _____

The death rate – 3000–4000 people a week. “Lord have mercy upon us”. The Lord Mayor imposed a curfew. The frosts killed off the germs.

September 2-5, 1666 – **The Fire of London**. Fire broke out in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane in the City. Only 6 people died. L 10,730,000’s worth of damage. 87 churches, 13,200 houses, all public buildings & 2 prisons were destroyed. *Sir Christopher Wren* produces a plan for the rebuilding of London. He rebuilt the churches.

James II (1685–1688). *The Earl of Argyll* (in Scotland); *The Duke of Monmouth* (in south-west of England). Parliament was worried. James was a Roman Catholic. 1687 & 1688 – *The Declaration of Indulgence*. *Mary* (James’ daughter) = *the Duke Prince William of Orange* (both Protestants). _____

The Glorious Revolution

James II – an act of abdication. ***William III & Mary II*** (1689–1702) _____

James II – in Ireland. William defeated him on 12 July, 1690 at the river Boyne. A triumph of Irish Protestants – ***Orange Day***. ____

In Scotland – rebellions against William III. The New Year of 1692. *Macdonald of Glencoe*. _____

1689 – ***the Bill of Rights*** (*Declaration of Rights*). _____

1701 – *the Act of Settlement*. “*A Threannual Act*” _____

The War of Spanish Succession

1700 (with France), ***Queen Ann*** (1702–1714). Duke of Marlborough. _____

1713 – *The Treaty of Utrecht*. Britain received parts of Canada, the right to hold on to Gibraltar, & the monopoly of the slave trade between Africa & South America.

Relationship with Scotland

James II of England was also ***James VII of Scotland*** _____

The Scots had their own Parliament, laws, religion, trading. 1694 *William Peterson* (a Scotsman) helped to found the *Bank of England*.

1707 – ***The Union Act***. The Scottish Parliament was abolished, Scottish members were elected to the House of Commons

at Westminster. The Scots retained their own religion, system of law, education. _____

First English newspapers: *The Daily Courant*
 The Tatler
 The Review
 The Spectator

CHAPTER VII. The House of Hanover (see Supplement 6)

Georgian Britain. “The Age of Elegance”

The Elector of Hanover had already been chosen in 1701 in Germany. ***George I*** (1714–1727). _____

1708 – *Robert Walpole* (from Norfolk) – a Secretary for War in the Whig ministry. _____

1710 – *The South Sea Company* – traded in the Pacific & on the east coast of South America. By 1720 it did very well. But then something went wrong. The company was in ruin. Walpole was asked to clear up the mess. He became the most powerful man in the Government, together with *First Lord of Treasury & Chancellor of the Exchequer*. _____

Elections to Parliament. Not many people could vote at the elections. Bribery. _____

Robert Walpole – ‘***chief minister***’ (later to be called ***Prime Minister***) _____

George II (1727–1760) _____

William Pitt (elected to Parliament in 1735) produced more warlike speeches. People wanted war. _____

1739 - Britain threw down a challenge to Spain. Robert Jenkins (master mariner, carried out illegal trade with the Spanish colonies in the Caribbean). ***The War of Jenkins Ear*** _____

The War of Austrian Succession (for the throne of Austria). Britain was against France. _____

Ended in 1748.

1756 – ***The Seven Years War*** – the struggle between Britain and France to dominate the world. _____

1763 – ***The Treaty of Paris***. Britain received Canada & the French possessions in India. _____

Life in Georgian Britain: Large houses were built in a new style of architecture, surrounded by large gardens and parks. In the early 18th century ***John Nash*** (architect) planned Regent Street, designed Marble Arch, on ***George III*** 's (1760–1820) command, transformed Buckingham House into a building befitting the home of kings & queens.

Painting: ***Joshua Reynolds*** (portrait painter) – in **1768** he became the first president of the newly formed ***Royal Academy of Arts***.

Theatres: ***Sheridan***'s plays (e.g. "*The School for Scandal*"); ***John Gay***'s plays ("*The Beggar's Opera*")

Literature: ***Daniel Defoe*** ("*Robinson Crusoe*" (1719)); ***Dean Swift*** ("*Gulliver Travels*" (1726)); ***Fielding*** ("*Tom Jones*" (1749)). In the Lake District – ***William Wordsworth*** (poems).

In Scotland – **Robert Burns** (1759–1796).

Music: **Handel** (“*Messiah*” – was composed in 23 days & first performed in Dublin in 1741).

Joseph Priestley – conducted experiments with electricity, & found out how to isolate oxygen.

Benjamin Franklin – invented a lightning conductor (Buckingham Palace).

1604 – the first English dictionary.

1727 – **Nathaniel Bailey** – *Complete English Dictionary* (the first book of its kind with pictures).

1755 – **Dr Samuel Johnson** (writer & poet) published *A Dictionary of the English Language*. _____

In London the streets were still narrow and mean, there were no drains, no lamps, no policemen. Crime.

Tyburn (now Marble Arch) – a favourite outing for many families.
St. James’s Park – flogging of soldiers.

1715 – **the Riot Act** _____

CHAPTER VIII. The Industrial Revolution (the 18th century)

Coal was produced from surface seams. Digging mines. Necessity to have pumps.

1698 – **Thomas Savery** ('the Miners' Friend') patented the first steam engine for industrial purposes.

1701 – **Thomas Newcomen** – a better version of a steam engine

In 1775 **James Watt** (an instrument maker at Glasgow University) & **Matthew Boulton** (hardware merchant) built a factory & sold their first steam engine to Whitbread's brewery in London for £100. It replaced 24 horses that worked 6 at a time on a treadmill. _____

In the middle of the century a Preston barber **Richard Arkwright** invented a spinning machine for spinning cotton. Later he came in contact with James Watt, & the machine was powered by a steam engine. _____

1742 – Britain's first long distance canal in Northern Ireland (18,5 miles long, was built for 13 years).

1759 – the 3d Duke of Bridgewater decided to build a canal with the help of **James Brindley**, who raised this tunnel up on embankments, built tunnels, produced an aqueduct to enable it to cross the river Irwell.

By the end of the century, Britain's canal system was growing rapidly. _____

Rebellion in America (1775-1781) ***The American War of Independence***

By the middle of the 18th century the population of Britain was about 7 million. Over the eastern seaboard of America there were 2 million settlers. New York, Boston, Philadelphia.

American colonists had to pay taxes to the British government, but they were not represented in British Parliament. The settlers objected to this. 1770 – riots in Boston. The British government cancelled all taxes except the duty on tea.

In 1775 – the American War of Independence (The American Revolution; The American Revolutionary War). _____

George Washington _____

1777 – a British force, marching south from Canada, was cut off at Saratoga. France on the side of the Americans. The British were not a success. Two main British Armies were cut off from each other. ***October 17, 1781*** – the British surrendered. British control of North America was over. _____

George III (1760–1820) _____

In 1768 the royal Society asked ***James Cook*** to carry out work in the South Seas. In his ship *Endeavour* he discovered *New Zealand*, explored *the east coast of Australia*, named it ***New South Wales*** & claimed it for Britain.

The American colonies had long been a dumping ground for British criminals. Now it was the turn of New South Wales. In ***1788*** the first shipload of convicts was sent to *Botany Bay*, and a penal settlement was established. The colonists were allowed to run things their own way. But as for trade, everything belonged to Britain. These overseas possessions were very valuable as a source of cheap raw materials.

Adam Smith – all customs duties should be abolished & nations should trade freely with one another.

1784 – the son of William Pitt (now *Earl of Chatham*) became Prime Minister at the age of 24. He remained in his office until his death in 1806 (except the period between 1801-1804). He was wise, ready to accept new ideas. It was just as well, for King George was going mad.

July 14, 1789 – ***The French Revolution*** took place. _____

In 1793 the new French government declared war on England. 1796 – *Napoleon Bonaparte* forced the British out of the Mediterranean. In Britain – rebels in the Navy _____

February 14, 1797 – a force of British ships led by *Admiral John Jervis* smashed the Spanish Fleet.

Captain Horatio Nelson _____

1798 – the French were defeated on their way to Egypt in *the Battle of the Nile* _____

October 21, 1805 – *the Battle of Trafalgar*. Napoleon's fleet was smashed by Nelson's fleet. Nelson was killed. Napoleon's chances of invading Britain had gone for ever. _____

The Parliamentary Reform of 1832

1807 – Parliament passed an act suppressing the slavery trade. The workmen in the north & midlands were practically in the state of slavery. Coming together of workmen was forbidden.

Trade Unions (created by working people) were abolished for people not to have any opportunity to protest. _____

The steam engines of Boulton & Watt, new textile machinery were used → high unemployment & starvation. Long hours of working – 12 – 14 hours a day. *Luddites* – the workers smashed machines. They protested against machines, long working hours, children's labour, low wages.

Luddites _____

In the rural areas – new agricultural methods; rectangular fields. Not enough work. Unemployment.

1802 – **Robert Peel the elder** – the *First Factory Act* _____

1824 – The Act banning Trade Unions was abolished _____

1832 – another *Factory Act* _____

1832 – the first Parliamentary reform changed the structure of the elections. Any person could vote (who lived in a particular place not less than 2 years and if he was 21). Women did not vote.

Whigs got a new name **The Liberal Party** (1839) _____

Tories – **The Conservatives** (1830) _____

1802 – a first steamboat '*Charlotte Dundas*'.

1803 – First steam locomotive (by *Robert Trevithik*). The early steam locomotives were built to haul coal from the pits.

In **1825** – the first public railway was opened between Stockton and Darlington. _____

1830 – the formation of the first railway company (the Liverpool and Manchester).

By 1838 – there were 2 steamships on the North Atlantic service – *Serius* and *Great Western*. _____

CHAPTER IX. The Victorian Era (1837–1901)

The Duke of Kent. The Gypsy's prophecy. 1819. George III (1760–1820), George IV (Prince Regent) (1820–1830). Princess Charlotte. William IV (1830–1837).

Queen Victoria (1837–1901) _____

28 June, 1838 – coronation

Law and Order. 1808 – *William Romilly* managed to persuade the House of Commons to accept transportation for life as an alternative to hanging convicted pick-pockets. But there were still 220 different offences punishable by death. They ranged from big crimes such as murder and highway robbery to defacing Westminster Bridge in London, or stealing the equivalent of 25p from a shop.

In the 1820s, *Sir Robert Peel*, the Home Secretary, – ***Penal Reform***, which reduced the number by half. _____

By 1838, murder and attempted murder were the only crimes punished by hanging. The last public execution took place in 1863. In 1867, transportation to Australia came to an end.

In the provinces, parish constables assisted by watchmen attempted to enforce law and order. In London, it was in the hands of a squad named *the Bow Street Runners* - which had been formed fifty years earlier by two magistrates, *John and Henry Fielding*. In Ireland, *the Duke of Wellington* had established an effective *police force*. When, in 1822, *Sir Robert Peel* became Home Secretary, the two men worked on ideas for a similar force in London. In 1829, *the Metropolitan Police* was founded in *Scotland Yard*. The men (known as 'peelers' or 'bobbies' after their founder) wore top hats, belted blue frock coats, and carried truncheons. By the middle of the century most of the urban areas in Britain had police forces. _____

Schooling. When Queen Victoria came to the throne, about one-third of Britain's working class children were completely uneducated. In 1833, the House of Commons had agreed to an annual grant to be spent on school building – only £20,000.

The Reform Act of 1867: workmen in towns could vote at elections.

The Education Act of 1870. School boards; education was made compulsory until the age of thirteen; parents who could not afford to pay fees received help (but free education in all British elementary schools was not introduced until 1891). For middle and upper class boys, – the public schools, such as *Eton* and *Harrow*, or grammar schools.

Public Schools _____

Reforms: *Dr Thomas Arnold*, headmaster of Rugby from 1828 until 1842, introduced mathematics, modern history and modern languages to the curriculum. Monitor (prefects). Education only for boys.

University education was more advanced in Scotland than in England, where it was still very much in the hands of the church. E.g., there were no science laboratories at Oxford until 1855.

Mechanics' Institutes (originated in Scotland) – spread throughout industrial England between the 1820s and the 1830s: the stress was on scientific knowledge.

Hunger. Britain in the first part of the 19th century: large factories, growing cities, expensive houses alongside with *terrible poverty*. Unemployment.

Workhouses – created by ***the New Poor Law of 1834*** – no better than prisons. _____

In Ireland, the poverty was fearful. In 1828, for example, the population of Cork was 117,000. Of this 60,000 were paupers; 20,000 did not even possess beds. *In 1845, the Great Famine* began. In one week the entire harvest of potatoes was wiped out by a blight, which

in no time crossed the sea to the lowlands of Scotland and moved north until it reached the Orkneys. During this and the next year, 700,000 people died, either from starvation, or from disease brought on by it.

In the Highlands of Scotland, the small farmers (crofters) faced another peril: sheep. People were swept off the land by a tide of animals; nobody wanted them. Migration to the United States, Canada, Australia and other places overseas, which seemed to be lands of opportunity. 'Fever ships'. A quarantine station - on *Grosse Isle* at the approaches to Quebec, it was soon nick-named '*Death Isle*'.

This was a fine time to live in Britain - if you were rich, if you had a job, if you were wanted. If not (as some professed) it was better to be in jail (prison).

The Great Exhibition

In February, 1840, Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha in the Chapel Royal at Windsor. He delighted in technical progress. In 1850, Albert had an idea for a great exhibition, which would show Britain's industrial skill to the world - and give the world an opportunity to demonstrate its achievements to Britain. This great display of the world's inventions was to be housed *in a crystal palace*.

By 1 May, 1851, everything was ready. Queen Victoria performed the opening ceremony. During the next 140 days, over six million people attended. It was open from May to October. The profits (over £180,000) were, on the Prince's insistence, spent on educational projects. These were the forerunners of *the Science Museum*, the *Victoria and Albert Museum*, and so on, in *South Kensington*.

Chaos in the Crimea

Russia, Britain, France & Turkey. The Mediterranean _____

1878 – Prime minister *Benjamin Disraeli* – ***the Treaty of Berlin***. Britain had possessions of the Mediterranean island of Cyprus. _____

Mutiny in India

The East India Company. Muslims & Hindus. Missionaries to India: to convert the population of India to the Christian faith. Indian soldiers – *sepoys*. On 10 May, *the Indian Mutiny* began on the parade ground at *Meerhut*. The *sepoys* were ordered to practice using the new cartridges. They refused. When the British colonel repeated the order, they turned on their officers, killing several of them. Afterwards mutineers were executed by the score, usually without trial. Peace was proclaimed on 8 July, 1858. In August of that year, ***the India Act*** was passed. The government of India was taken away from the Company and assumed by the Crown. _____

The Widowed Queen

Queen Victoria was a strict mother to nine children. The eldest, Princess Victoria, became the mother of Kaiser William II of Germany. The second, Edward, was to become Edward VII. Despite her position in life, she believed that women should remain in the background. She opposed their entry into the professions.

Prince Albert had been very concerned about the living conditions of the working class. In November, 1861, Prince Albert became ill with typhoid fever. He died at 10.45 on the evening of 14 December. Queen Victoria was broken hearted. ‘My life as a *happy* one is ended,’ she wrote in her diary. At last, in March, 1864, Queen Victoria ended her silence by sending a letter to *The Times* newspaper. During the latter part of her life, two Prime Ministers dominated politics: *William Ewart Gladstone* (whom she disliked) and *Benjamin Disraeli* (whom she loved). But nobody could ever take the place of Albert. *Prince Albert’s Memorial* (£60,000). _____

Passing the Time

The 19th century was an important time for **sport**.

1867 – **boxing** (rules were written by the *Marquis of Queensberry*).

Football – in 1846 proper rules were established (11 player in a team). 1863 – *the Football Association*. The first *FA Cup final* was played in 1872 at *the Oval* in London.

Rugby _____

Cricket (1719; 1864 – today's version) _____

Tennis – introduced to Britain during the 16th century. In the 1860s – **lawn tennis** (at *Leagmington Spa*). 1872 – the first lawn tennis club in the world.

Croquet _____

Literature. Charles Dickens. Stevenson ('Treasure Island'). Conan Doyle ('Sherlock Holmes').

Theatre. The works of *Gilbert and Sullivan*. *Oscar Wilde*; *George Bernard Shaw*.

The **gramophone** had already been invented.

On 26 June, 1896, *the world's first cinema was opened in New Orleans*. They called it a '*Vitascope*'. But the new craze did not reach Britain until 1901, when a picture palace was opened in the London borough of Islington.

Trouble in Ireland

In 1829, *the Catholic Emancipation Act* was passed (Roman Catholics could now fill any office except that of *Regent*, or *Lord Chancellor* or *Lord Lieutenant of Ireland*) _____

Charles Stewart Parnell – the leader of the *Home Rule Association*. 1822 – *the Crime Act*. 1886 – Mr Gladstone – *Irish Home Rule Bill*. _____

The Great Empire

The Union Jack (Flag) – over nearly a quarter of the earth's surface; nearly a quarter of the world's population (possessions from remote islands in the West Indies, to territories in China; from a great deal of Africa to all of India; to Australia, Canada and New Zealand –with Burma and part of New Guinea).

1899 – ***the Boer war*** with Dutch colonists in Africa _____

1864 – The First International. _____

1868 – London Trade Union. _____

1867 – Parliamentary Reforms (Prime Minister – Derby). _____

1901 – Queen Victoria died. “*I shall see another star in the sky*” (Zulu chief). _____

CHAPTER X. The Edwardian Epoch (1901–1910)

Albert Edward (Edward VII (1901–1910)). After the *Boer War* ended in 1902, the years of *Edward VII*'s reign were a period of stability. The king was shrewd, especially in affairs of foreign policy.

In 1904 *the Entente Cordiale* was established between Britain and France. Later, when Russia joined, it became *the Triple Entente*

King Edward VII was one of the first people to undergo an operation for appendicitis. The first motorcar to be manufactured was exhibited at *the Paris World Fair in 1889*. Edward had his first trip in one when visiting an exhibition in London in 1896. On 1 December, 1900, he bought the first ever royal car (*Daimler*).

In 1906, a revolutionary new battleship was completed for the Royal Navy – *HMS Dreadnought*.

Balloons. 1903 – *Orville and Wilbur Wright* – first airplanes.

Wireless had already arrived when Edward VII came to the throne. 1901 – a message from Cornwall and to Newfoundland. _____

George V (1910–1936). In 1912, *Captain Robert Falcon Scott* – attempts to reach the South Pole (but Norwegians led by *Roald Amundsen* had got there first).

In May of that year the giant liner *Titanic* was on her maiden voyage to New York, when she struck an iceberg and sank. Only 843 of the 2,340 people on board her survived _____

In Britain, women were still not allowed to vote. 1903 – *Emmeline Pankhurst* formed *the Women's Social and Political Union*. _____

CHAPTER XI. Great Britain in the first half of the 20th century

The First World War

28 June, 1914 – *The Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria* and his wife were paying a state visit to the Bosnian town of Sarajevo. The royal couple was killed _____

Austria immediately issued an ultimatum to Serbia. Austrian troops crossed the frontier. One by one, all the major European powers became involved. As for Britain, an agreement signed in 1839 compelled the Government to support Belgium, should that country be invaded.

Kaiser William of Germany. The plan of *Field Marshal von Schlieffen*. On 1 August, 1914, Germany declared war on Russia. On 3 August, it declared war on France, and invaded Belgium. On the following day, Britain declared war on Germany.

The casualties were beyond belief. Between July and November, 1916, there was heavy fighting along the line of *the River Somme*. During the first day of the attack by the Allies, 20,000 British troops were killed. When it ended, 420,000 British soldiers lay dead; 20,000 French, and about 450,000 Germans.

On the Somme and, later, in *the Battle of Cambrai* (November, 1917) the British used tanks.

In April, 1915, London suffered its first air attack. _____

On 31 May, 1916, the *German High Seas Fleet* and *the British Grand Fleet* clashed in the vicinity of *Jutland*: six German & six British ships were sunk.

Submarines _____

6 April, 1917 – the United States came into the war _____

On 11 November, 1918, the German high command signed an armistice agreement. The war had cost three-quarters of a million British lives. _____

Life in the 'Twenties

In 1918, ***the People Act*** – gave the vote to all men over twenty-one years of age; to all women over thirty _____

Education Act – education became free up to 14 _____

In 1921, the unemployment figure reached two million. In May, 1926 – ***General Strike*** (workers in heavy industry, miners) – “a nine-days’ wonder” _____

1927 – a law making general strikes illegal was passed (until 1946) _____

In 1919, *John Alcock* and *Arthur Whitten Brown*, took off from a field in Newfoundland and, flying an adapted *Vickers Vimy* bomber, became the first to fly the Atlantic non-stop.

Cinema, picture houses all over the country. 1927 – the first talking picture (***The Jazz Singer***).

Wireless sets. 1922 – the ***British Broadcasting Company***; in 1927 it was changed to the ***British Broadcasting Corporation*** _____

Life in the 'Thirties

The economic depression, the abdication of a king, and the fear of war.

In 1930 – the economic depression _____

In 1929, a Labour Government under *Ramsay Macdonald* had come to power. Mr Macdonald and his ministers grappled with the crisis – and failed.

In 1931 the Cabinet was replaced by *a national coalition* (a government made up from people of all parties). Unemployment. _____

January 20, 1936 – *King Edward VIII* (in December, **1936** he *abdicated* the throne because of *Mrs Wallis Simpson*) _____

King George VI (1936–1952). 1919 – *the Treaty of Versailles* (harsh terms on Germany). _____

1933 – *Adolf Hitler* was elected Chancellor. He renounced the Treaty of Versailles. In 1936 German troops re-occupied the *Rhineland*; in 1938, Austria; later in the year Czechoslovakia; then Poland.

In 1938 the British Prime Minister, *Neville Chamberlain*, visited Hitler. On his returning he happily announced that he had achieved ‘peace in our time’.

But at the beginning of September *The Second World War (1939–1945)* began.

In spring of 1940 Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium were invaded. By 29 May, a large part of the British army was trapped on the French coast at Dunkirk - surrounded on three sides by German armour. By June 22, 1940 – France surrendered.

Hitler had a plan for invasion of Britain – ‘*Operation Sea Lion*’.

Throughout August and into September, the Luftwaffe (German air force) attacked British aerodromes (RAF) _____

May 10, 1940 – *Winston Churchill* became Prime Minister. Soon Hitler realised that Operation Sea Lion could not take place. He or-

dered his aircraft to bomb British cities instead. The Battle of Britain gave way to what people called the '*Blitz*'. _____

On 10 June, *Mussolini* declared war on Britain (in British colonies and Mediterranean). _____

On 22 June, 1941 the invasion of Russia began.

On 7 December, 1941, the Japanese fleet attacked the United States naval base at *Pearl Harbor*. Next day, America and Britain declared war on Japan.

August 1942 – North Africa in the hands of the British 8th Army (general *Montgomery*).

By the end of 1943 the Germans had been driven out of North Africa, and British and American soldiers were advancing northwards up Italy from Sicily. On 4 June, 1944, the 5th Army entered Rome.

1944 – Air raids over Britain stopped.

On 30 April, 1945, Hitler committed suicide in his Berlin headquarters.

On 8 May, the war in Europe came to an end.

On 6 August, the Americans dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima; three days later, on Nagasaki. On 14 August Japan surrendered.

CHAPTER XII. Great Britain in the second half of the 20th century

After War Period. On 5 July, 1945, the nation went to the polls. Churchill (a Conservative) had been an admirable leader in wartime. But now, with peace at hand, the nation declared itself in favour of a Labour government headed by **Clement Attlee** _____

1941 – *W.H. Beveridge* was employed on a scheme to protect people from hardship. It was based on a system of national insurance.
→ *Welfare State*.

1948 – the National Health Service.

The coal mines and the railways were nationalized. Steel was nationalized by one government (Labour), denationalized by another (Conservative), renationalized by a third (Labour) and, later, re-denationalized by a fourth (Conservative).

Overseas, the British Empire was breaking up. _____

In 1947, **Earl Mountbatten** was appointed *Viceroy of India*.

The partition of India: India was established for the Hindus and Pakistan for the Muslims.

Then Britain started to lose the rest of its Empire: Palestine, Malaya, Kenya and Cyprus; later the West Indies and the other African colonies.

1956 – **the Suez Crisis** – British confrontation with Egypt about control of the vital shipping route, *the Suez Canal*. _____

Britain was up to its eyes in debt to America. Rationing, introduced in wartime, continued. Empty shops _____

1951 – the Festival of Britain (in London and throughout the country). _____

In 1952, King **George VI (1936–1952)** died and **Queen, Elizabeth II (1952–)**, came to the throne. The Queen became head of the new **Commonwealth** (a league of ex-colonies).

‘Elizabethan’ era. On the day of her coronation, **2 June, 1953**, Mount Everest, had been conquered by two members of a British expedition led by *Colonel John Hunt, Edmund Hillary* (New Zealand) and *Norgay Tenzing* (Nepal).

The Changing World

‘The generation gap’ _____

Hippies _____

The Beatles _____

The Rolling Stones with a new kind of sound _____

The fashion industry: *Mary Quant* (mini-skirts). *‘Unisex’*: a *tee-shirt* and a *pair of blue denim jeans*. It was worn by girls and boys alike. Long hair.

Education systems were reviewed. Comprehensive schools. New universities. Revolutions in sciences, engineering. _____

Television had been invented by **John Logie Baird** as long ago as **1926**. *The coronation of George VI in 1937* was the first big event to be broadcast live. The **BBC** - at the Alexandra Palace in north London.

1954, the Independent Television Authority was established – making commercial TV possible.

In 1967, *the first colour transmission* took place.

In 1946, **the de Havilland Aircraft Corporation** began work on a jet-powered airliner – *Comet*.

On 2 May, 1952, the first Comet in commercial service took off from London to South Africa. In October, 1958 Comet IV began regular flights across the Atlantic to New York.

A new means of generating electricity appeared in Britain – nuclear energy. In 1956, the Queen opened *Calder Hall nuclear power station in Cumberland* _____

The Serious ‘Seventies

In the early ‘seventies, war broke out in the Middle East between Egypt and Israel. The war disrupted the supply of oil. The developing economies of Western nations depend on oil. Oil prices increased. The oil supply was limited. The world’s economies – Britain’s especially drifted into chaos. The lines of the jobless grew. Inflation. Strikes in Britain. The fuel crises. _____

Pollution. Attempts to use ‘natural’ energies. The word ‘*alternative*’ crept more and more into people’s vocabulary. ‘Alternative’ lives, ‘alternative’ (health) foods and ‘alternative’ medicines. _____

A new era of ‘*green*’ awareness. At the end of the ‘eighties ‘*green*’ policies became part of government legislation. _____

4 May, 1979, – a Conservative government headed by **Margaret Thatcher**, Britain’s first woman Prime Minister. _____

Unemployment in 1979 was running at 1.5 million. By June 1982, this figure had doubled. In the same year, conflict in the South Atlantic (the Falklands Campaign): on 2 April, Argentina invaded a British colony, the Falkland Islands. After eleven weeks of fighting on land, sea and in the air, Argentina surrendered.

February, 1971 – **Decimalization**: New pounds and pennies replaced old pounds, shillings, pence and half-crowns _____

The New Face of Britain

1964 – Oil was first discovered in the North Sea. _____

1970s–1980s – Financial problems in Britain. _____

In the ‘eighties – *a new industrial revolution was (and is) taking place*: the development of electronics – the computer, the silicon chip, the world of ‘high tech’. New jobs. New products. Inflation. New taxes. _____

The 1980s – The Conservative government. State-run services and industries nationalized under past (Labour) governments, were denationalized. Public spending was carefully monitored. In 1987, there were 19,249,000 private and light goods vehicles licensed, 129,000 public transport vehicles (including 71,000 buses), 978,000 motorcycles and scooters, and 609,000 heavy goods vehicles.

Britain is gradually being transformed into a multi-cultural society. Mass immigration from former British colonies began in the 1950s. People from India, Pakistan and the West Indies. They were not always made welcome by their new neighbours. ‘**Race**’ **riots** first broke out in **1958**, in London’s Notting Hill. The problems of adjustment continue. _____

In the 1970s – terrorism _____

Ireland

Ireland had been given ***Home Rule in 1922***. Later, it became a republic. But the six counties of Northern Ireland clung to the UK. Religious prejudices: Protestants (‘*Loyalists*’ (i.e. ‘loyal’ to the United Kingdom)) against Roman Catholics.

Those who would prefer to be part of the Republic of Ireland are represented by ***Sinn Féin*** ('ourselves alone'). _____

The *Irish Republican Army (IRA)*. In 1956 – the troubles began. In 1969, after rioting had broken out in Londonderry, British troops returned to Ireland; bomb attacks, murders, and other acts of brutality committed by both Catholic and Protestant terrorists.

The IRA's most famous victim was *Earl Mountbatten* (the last Viceroy of India) who was killed while on holiday in Ireland in 1979.

In **1985**, an agreement, ***the Anglo-Irish Accord***, was signed by the leaders of both Britain and the Irish Republic

1957 – the Treaty of Rome – *The European Economic Community (EEC)* – the Common Market.

1963, 1967 – Britain applied for membership, 1970 – a successful attempt. ***1 January, 1973, Britain became a full partner of the EEC***

December, 1990 – The Channel Tunnel: 15 June, 1993 – *the first train* _____

In 1990, Britain joined the ***Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM)***, a system to link and control the values of the member currencies.

Since the late 1980s, **the 'green movement'**. The 'greenhouse effect' _____

Britain at the beginning of the 21st century

Topics for Reports

Country Study. Great Britain

1. Henry VIII.
2. The Tower of London: history and modern times
3. Elizabeth I
4. The Restoration Period. The Stuarts: people rebels, conspiracies and plots.
5. Puritanism in England in the XVII century
6. The Civil War in the XVII century and its role in the history of Great Britain
7. Richard the Lion Heart
8. King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table: the myth and the reality
- 9 The Role of the Tudors Dynasty in the history and development of Great Britain
- 10 The British Empire in the XX century.
11. The ecological problems in Great Britain
12. W. Shakespeare: one of the greatest mysteries in the modern world.
13. Great Britain in the XIX century – «the workshop of the world».
14. British literary heritage
15. Your own topic

«Social, Economic and Political Situation in Great Britain»

1. British holidays and traditions of celebrating
2. London – the world city
3. Modern music in Great Britain

4. Legendary rock and pop groups and singers (e.g. The Beatles, The Queen, etc.).
5. British Monarchy and its role in Modern Society
6. Young People in Great Britain
7. Class structure in British Society
8. British National Character
9. The Church and Religion in Modern British Society
10. Great Britain and European Union
11. Your own Topic

Topics for Seminars

Seminar 1. The Geographical Context

1. Draw the map of the UK. Mark all the geographical points.
2. British area and borders.
3. The Relief.
4. Rivers and lakes.
5. Climate.
6. British flora and fauna.
7. Ecological Problems. The Protection of the countryside.

Seminar 2. British Arts

1. British Theatre. Its history. Drama. Opera. Ballet. What is the following:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Covent Garden | – The Coliseum Theatre |
| b. ENO | – The National Theatre |
| c. The Old Vic | – The Globe Theatre |
| d. Laurence Olivier | – The Royal Shakespeare Company |
| e. William Shakespeare | – Oscar Wilde |
| f. George Bernard Shaw | – The Edinburgh Festival |
| g. The Shakespeare Festival | – RADA |

2. British Festivals.

3. British Arts. Painting. Painters: John Constable, Thomas Gainsborough, David Hockney, William Hogarth, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Joseph Turner, William Blake, etc.

Seminar 3. British System of Government. Political Life

1. British Constitution and system of government.
2. British Parliament. Its history.
 - The House of Lords. Its head.
 - The House of Commons. Its head.
3. The cabinet of ministers.
4. The 'shadow cabinet'.
5. How does a bill go through Parliament and become an *Act of Parliament*?
6. British main political parties.
7. British electoral system. The results of the latest general election.
8. British Monarchy.

Seminar 4. British Population

1. Density. Nationalities. Languages. Class Structure.
2. British towns and cities. Types of British cities.

Seminar 5. British Economics

1. British Industry. The history of its development. General characteristics. The industrial Revolution.
2. 'Old' and 'New' Industries.
3. British Transport. British roads system.
4. British Trade: Export, Import.
5. British Agriculture: The main products. Protection of the countryside.
6. Ecology and environmental protection. National Parks (What are they for?).

Seminar 6. Social Services. British Educational System

1. Social Services. Social Security.
2. National Health Service.
3. British Educational System. The History of its development. Educational Act of 1988.
 - a. British schools: State maintained; Private schools; Public schools (Why are they called 'public'?).
 - b. The system of British Higher Education. British Universities: 'Old Universities', 'Red Brick Universities', 'New Universities'.
 - c. The system of examinations.
 - d. The system of school leadership and management.

Seminar 7. London

1. London.
 - a. Its history.
 - b. System of government.
 - c. Administration of London.
 - d. Cultural life. Museums and Art Galleries in London and in the UK in general.
 - e. Theatres in London.
 - f. Places of Interest.
 - g. London transport. London Taxi.

Seminar 8. British National Character

1. British National Holidays. The National Days of England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland.
2. Religious Holidays.

3. British Festivals.
4. Traditions and Superstitions.
5. Religion. History of Religion in the UK. Religion and its role in the life of British people.
6. Sport in Britain. National Sports.
7. Free time activities. Hobbies.

Seminar 9. British Mass Media. Cinema and Music

1. British Mass Media: Their history.
2. Radio. TV.
3. Press:
 - h. Newspapers (National, Local. Serious, Popular). Give examples.
 - i. Magazines.
4. British Cinema. The history of its development. British actors. Films. Cinema Awards.
5. British Music. Classical and modern music.

The USA

1. The Geographical Context of the USA. Climate. Flora and fauna. Ecological problems.

2. The main stages of the USA history.

- Early America
- First Europeans, first settlers
- The colonial Period. The first English colonies
- The Road to independence. The American War for Independence (1775-1781)
- The Declaration of Independence of 1776
- The First American Constitution. The Formation of a National Government
- Westward Expansion and Regional Differences
- The Civil War (1861-1865) and Reconstruction
- The Abolition of Slavery
- Indian Reservations
- Industrialization
- The USA between 1877-1920
- The US becomes a World Power
- The First World War
- The Post-War Period. Prosperity of the 1920s and Depression of the 1930s
- The Second World War
- The USA between 1945 – 1961
- The USA between 1961-1989. The Cold War
- The USA at the beginning of the XXI century

3. The USA Arts. Architecture, Culture, Paintings

USA Architecture. The main Monuments. USA Museums. Theatres. The Library of the US Congress. USA Art Galleries and Painters

4. The USA Government. The Federal Government. State Government. Local Government. Social and Political Life

5. The USA Constitution. The USA Congress

6. The USA Population. The Density of Population. Ethnic Groups. Age. Afro-Americans. The Native Americans

7. The USA States and Cities: Washington DC, New-York, San Francisco, Dallas, Detroit, Philadelphia, Huston, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, etc.

8. The USA National Symbols. The USA Flag, The Pledge of Allegiance, Uncle Sam, The Liberty Bell, The American Eagle, The Statue of Liberty, The Donkey and The Elephant

9. The USA Outstanding People. The USA Presidents

- Social and political leaders. Martin Luther King and his speech “We are the people”
- Famous scientists

10. American Holidays. New Year. Martin Luther King Day. Presidents’ Day, The Memorial Day, The Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas

11. The USA Sport

12. The USA Economics. The Economic Relations between Russia and the USA

13. The USA System of Education. The USA Health Care System. Social Services, Social Security

14. The USA Mass Media

15. The USA Cinema and Music

Questions to the Final Test

«Country study (Great Britain)»

1. Geographical context and climate of Great Britain. Natural resources.

2. Flora and fauna.

3. British ecology and environmental protection.

4. The formation of the British nation. Celtic Britain, the Roman Conquest, the Anglo-Saxon Invasions.

5. The Norman Conquest. The formation of the feudal system. The “Domesday Book”.

6. Plantagenet Dynasty. Britain in the 12-15th centuries.

7. The Tudor Dynasty (1485-1603)

8. The Civil War. Oliver Cromwell. The Commonwealth.

9. The Restoration Period. The “Glorious” Revolution. The War of Spanish Succession.

10. The House of Hanouver. Georgian Britain.

11. The Industrial Revolution of the 18-19th centuries.

12. Rebellion in America. Britain at the end of the 18th -- beginning of the 19th centuries.

13. Trade Unions. Parliamentary reform of 1832 and its consequences.

14. The British Empire in the second half of the 19th century. The Victorian Era.

15. Britain at the beginning of the 20th century. The First World War. The post-war period (Life in the ‘Twenties).

16. Britain in the ‘thirties. The Second World War.

17. The Post-War period. Britain in the second half of the 20th century.

18. British Theatre: drama, opera and ballet.

19. British cinema, its history. General characteristics.

20. British arts. Painting. British museums and art galleries.

«Social, Economic and Political Situation in Great Britain»

1. Agriculture. Protection of the countryside.
2. British industry and transport. British Trade. General characteristics.
3. “Old” and “new” industries.
4. British constitution and system of government. General characteristics.
5. British Parliament. The House of Lords and the House of Commons.
6. British main political parties.
7. British Electoral system. The results of the 2005 general elections.
8. British Monarchy.
9. Population of Great Britain. Density of population, class structure, national character. Languages.
10. Religion and its role in the life of British people.
11. London – historical, economic and cultural center of the country.
12. Social Services. Social Security. The National Health Service (NHS).
13. British educational system, the history of its development.
14. British national holidays. Religious holidays. British Festivals.
15. British Mass Media: press, radio, TV.
16. Sport in Britain.

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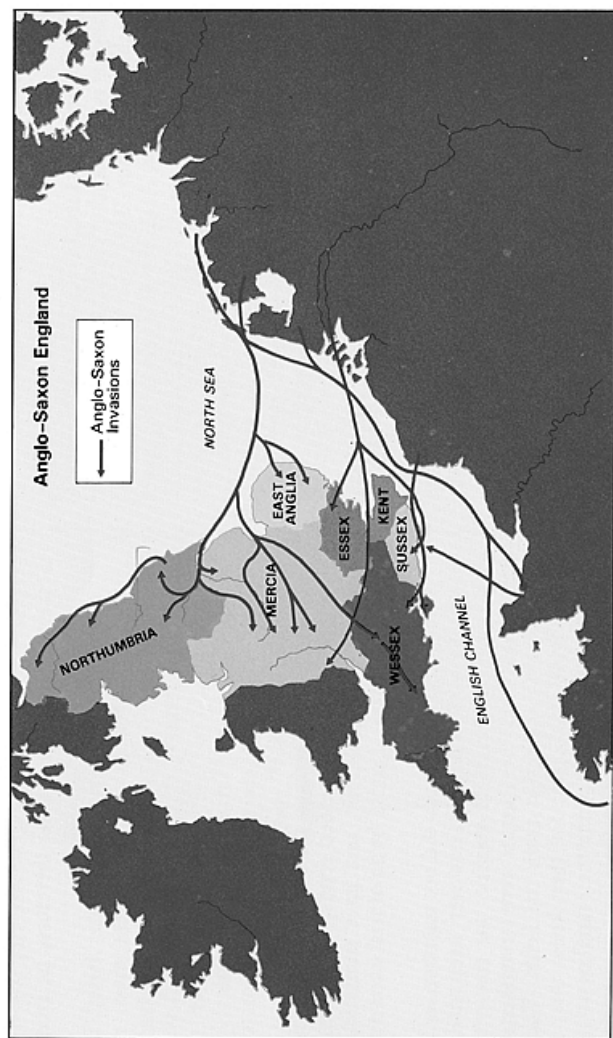
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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

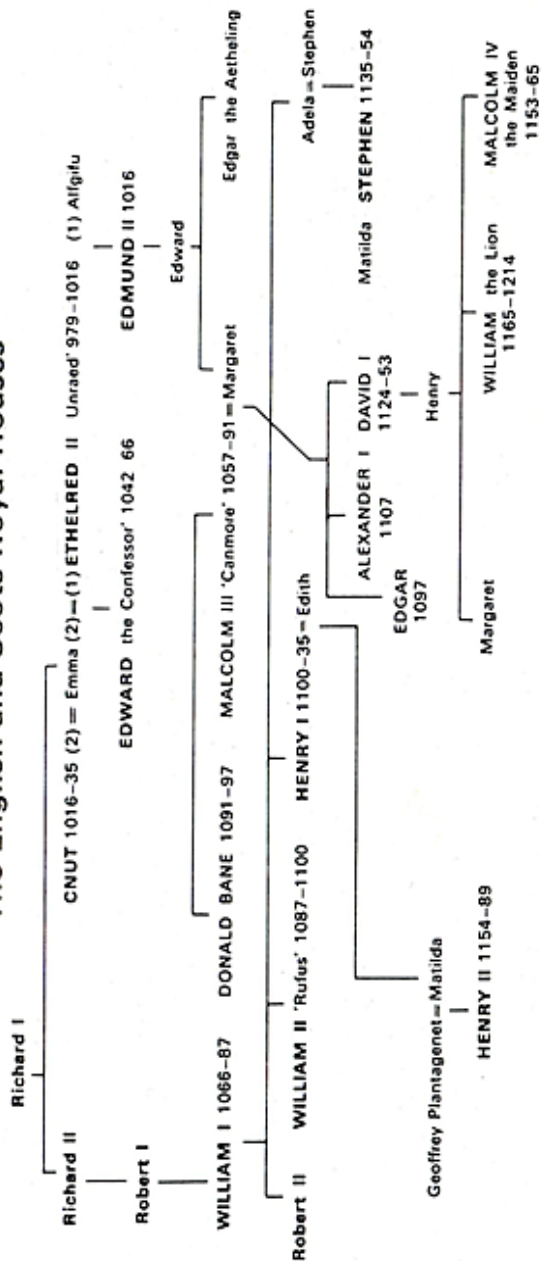
Supplement 1



Above: A map of England divided into the Seven Kingdoms, showing the Anglo-Saxon invasions in the 5th and 6th centuries.

(from *The Story of Britain* by Richard Garrett)

The English and Scots Royal Houses



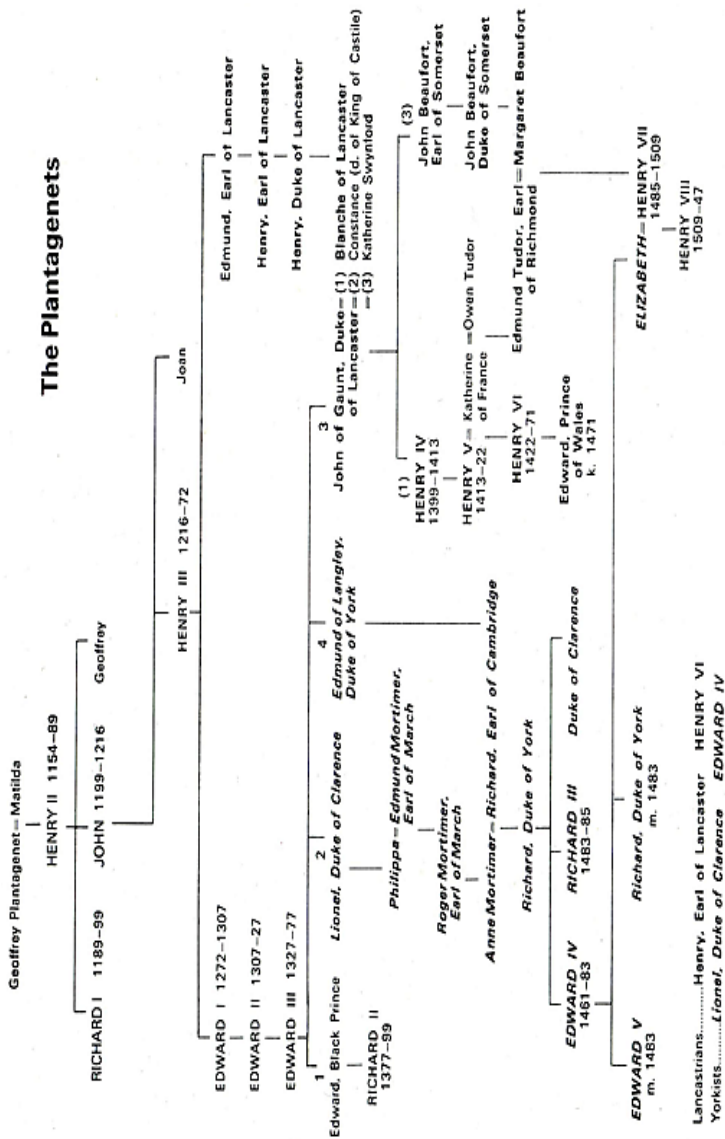
Norman Dukes.....Richard I

English Kings.....EDWARD

Scots Kings.....WILLIAM

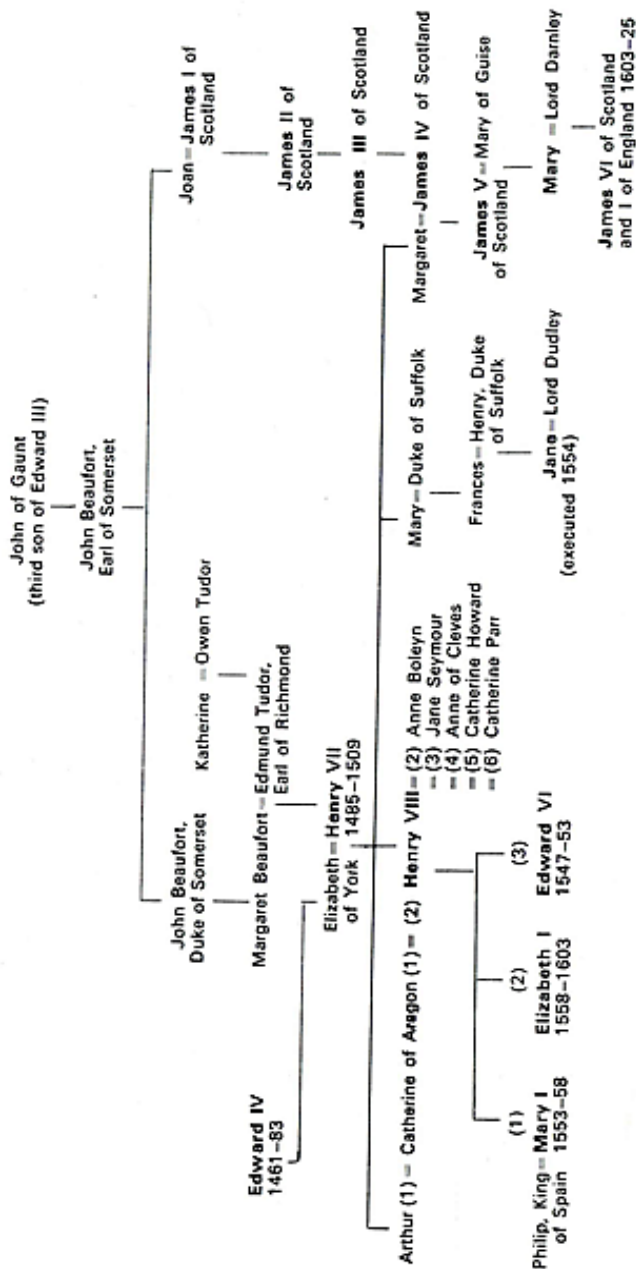
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The Plantagenets



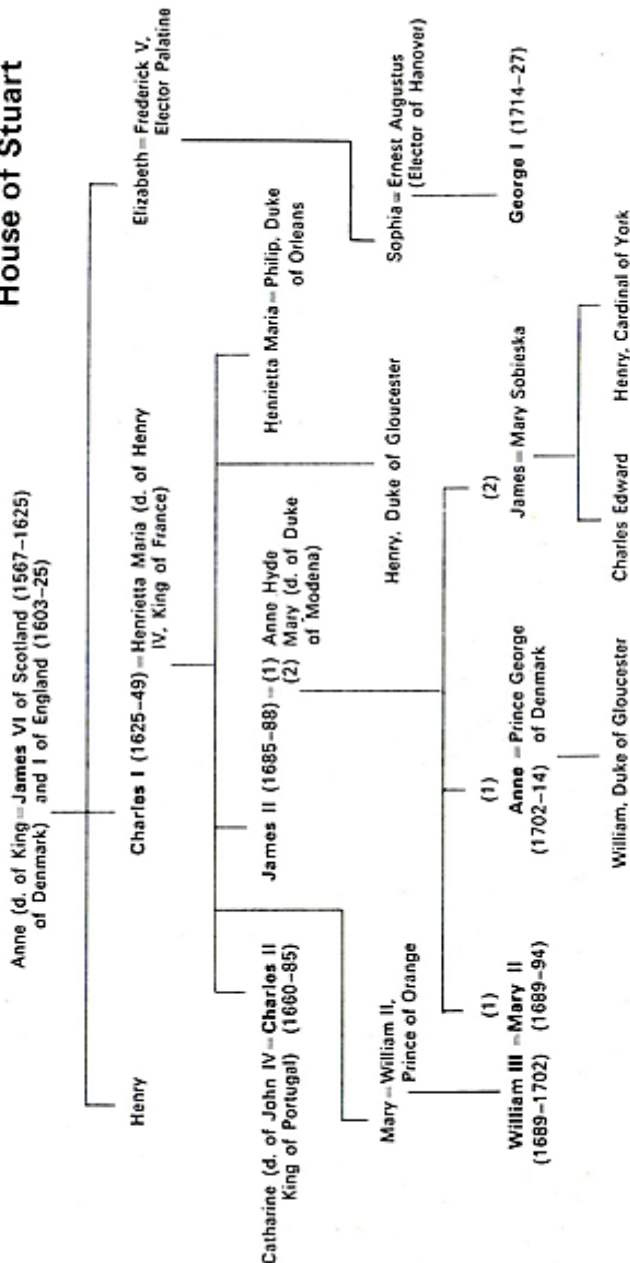
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Tudor Family Tree and Stuart Succession



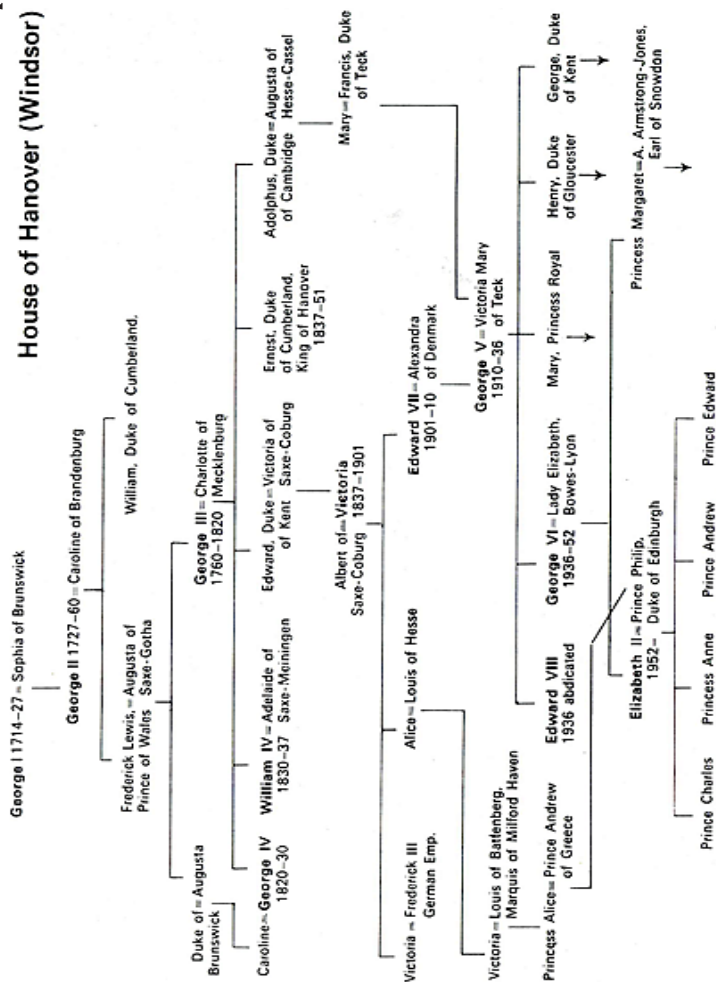
(from *The Story of Britain* by Richard Garrett)

House of Stuart



(from *The Story of Britain* by Richard Garrett)

House of Hanover (Windsor)



(from *The Story of Britain* by Richard Garrett)

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