

*British History:*  
*Churchill 1930 to 1951*  
*Britain 1951` to 1997*

**What do the following headings mean to you?**

Politics

Social Change

Economy

Political Opposition

Trade Unions

Foreign Policy

Define the following terms. Use your own knowledge first, then use internet search to check if you were right.

Unit Y113: Britain 1930–1997	
Enquiry Topic: Churchill 1930–1951	
Key Topics	Content Learners should have studied the following:
Churchill's view of events 1929–1940	Why Churchill was out of office 1929–1939; his attitude to the Abdication Crisis; his views about Empire and India and clashes with his party; attitude towards Germany after 1933; his views about rearmament and appeasement; why Churchill became Prime Minister.
Churchill as wartime Prime Minister	Why Churchill became Prime Minister; stance in 1940 and style of leadership; relations with his generals and his impact on strategic decisions in the Mediterranean, bombing of Germany and the war in Europe 1944–1945; plans for reconstruction and loss of 1945 election.
Churchill and international diplomacy 1939–1951	Churchill's view on Britain's world and imperial role; relations with other wartime leaders (Roosevelt, Stalin and de Gaulle); contribution to international conferences; plans for post-war Europe; Iron Curtain speech; attitude to Empire and Europe after 1945.

Read through the outline of the course.

British Period Study: Britain 1951–1997	
Key Topics	Content Learners should have studied the following:
Conservative domination 1951–1964	Reasons for the Conservative victory 1951; social changes, immigration, unrest, social mobility and tensions, education, living standards, housing, prosperity and unemployment; Conservative economic policies, Butskellism, industrial growth and stagflation; Conservative leadership of Churchill, Eden, Macmillan and Home; scandals including the Vassall affair, Philby, Argyll and Profumo; reasons for Conservative decline; Labour leadership, divisions and electoral failures of the Labour Party.
Labour and Conservative governments 1964–1979	Labour victory 1964, Wilson as leader 1964–1970; economic problems and policies; relations with the Trade Unions; Labour party divisions; 1970 election, Heath as party leader and Prime Minister; aims and policies of Heath's government; industrial relations, miners' strike; Wilson and Callaghan 1974–1979, problems and policies 1974–1979.
Thatcher and the end of consensus 1979–1997	Election victories; Thatcher and her ministers; reasons for support and opposition; social and economic policies including monetarism, free-market, supply-side economics and privatisation; social policies and unrest; unemployment and the Trade Unions, the Miners' Strike; fall of Thatcher and replacement with Major; Conservative divisions under Major and electoral defeat 1997.
Britain's position in the world 1951–1997	Relations with and policies towards the USA and the USSR; Britain's influence at the UN; role in Europe; nuclear policy; response to crises: Korean War, Suez, the Falklands War, First Gulf War; decolonisation and changing attitudes to the Commonwealth.

Read through the outline of the course.

A level.

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>Using these four sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that Churchill was proposing unrealistic policies with regard to gaining international support against Hitler in the 1930s.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In discussing Source A, answers might argue that there are so many 'ifs' that the view is unrealistic – it depends on Britain building air power, acting jointly with</li> </ul> <p><b>Source A: In his account of the lead-up to the war, Churchill comments on government policy.</b></p> <p>It would have been possible in 1933 or even 1934 for Britain to have created an air force which would have imposed the necessary restraints on Hitler's ambitions or, perhaps, would have enabled the military leaders of Germany to control his violent acts. Had we acted with reasonable prudence and healthy energy, war might never have come to pass. Based on superior air power, Britain and France could safely have invoked the aid of the League of Nations, and all the states of Europe would have gathered behind them.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Churchill, The Gathering Storm, 1948</i></p> <p>divided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In discussing Source B, answers might show that Churchill was unrealistic as the military leaders were urging reducing enemies and pointing out the limitations of taking action because of worldwide responsibilities.</li> <li>In discussing the provenance of Source B, answers might consider the habitual caution of military leaders, but refer to them having more accurate information than Churchill.</li> </ul>	30

Exam question styles.

A level.

Question	Answer	Marks
2*	<p>'The most important reason for Conservative political domination in the period from 1979 to 1997 was the weakness of the Labour party.' How far do you agree?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In arguing that the weakness of the Labour party was the most important reason, answers might consider the divisions within the party, particularly issues such as Militant Tendency and the breakaway of the SDP.</li> <li>• Answers might consider the Labour Party's attitude towards nuclear disarmament, particularly under Michael Foot.</li> <li>• Answers might consider the weakness of the leadership of Michael Foot and the election manifesto described as the longest suicide note in history.</li> <li>• Answers might consider the labour party's strong links with the Unions and the contribution of this to industrial strife, which led to many no longer seeing Labour as a party of government.</li> <li>• In arguing that there were other reasons, answers might consider the leadership of Thatcher and the strong leadership provided over issues such as the Falklands and the Miners' Strike.</li> <li>• Answers might consider the appeal of popular capitalism with the selling of shares.</li> <li>• Answers might suggest that the popular appeal of John Major in his election campaign of 1992 helped win an unexpected victory.</li> </ul>	20

Second exam question style.

## A Level.

### Mark Scheme Section B

'The strength of Conservative leadership was the most important reason for their domination in the years from 1951 to 1964.' How far do you agree?

In arguing that the strength of Conservative leadership was the most important reason,

- Answers might consider the popular appeal of Churchill as a war hero and Macmillan and his image of 'Supermac'.
- Answers might compare the leadership of the Conservative party with that of Labour.
- Answers might consider the appointments Macmillan made, such as Butler.

In arguing that it was other factors,

- Answers might consider the weakness of both Eden (over Suez) and Home.
- Answers might consider other factors such as economic prosperity and the rise in living standards, with issues such as a 'property owning democracy'.
- Answers might consider the liberal social measures of Butler as Home Secretary.
- Answers might consider the weaknesses and divisions in the Labour party, over nuclear weapons.

How successfully did the Labour governments in the period 1964-1979 deal with the problems they faced?

In considering the successes of the Labour governments,

- Answers might consider the success of the social reforms, such as Race Relations, Abortion, Abolition of Death Penalty, The Open University.
- Answers might consider the success of the 1968 Immigration Act in responding to racial violence.
- Answers might consider the survival of the government after 1974 despite only a small majority.
- Answers might consider the EEC referendum and the unity it brought to the Labour party.

In arguing that it was not successful,

- Answers might consider the economic and industrial problems Labour faced with declining industries and later rising oil prices with resultant rising unemployment.
- Answers might consider the financial problems, inflation and devaluation and loans from the IMF.
- Answers might consider the problems of Labour's relationship with the Trade Unions, in particular the Winter of Discontent which led to their fall in 1979, the growing number of strikes.

Answers might consider the failure of Labour to gain entry to the EEC.

Mark scheme to the second question style.



### *LEARNING OBJECTIVES*

- Explain the strengths of Churchill as wartime leader.
- To evaluate if Churchill was a Great wartime leader.
- To explain the term consensus politics.
- To evaluate the main aims of British governments between 1945-79, a period labelled 'consensus'.



## “Churchill a great wartime leader.” How far do you agree with this statement?

- Watch the clip from “Darkest Hour”.
- Add information to either side of the argument if you agree or disagree with it.

### **“Churchill a great Wartime leader.” How far do you agree with the statement?**

Evidence agree with the statement	Evidence that disagrees with the statement.

Fight them to the end. Speech.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skrdyoabmgA>

Dunkirk decision.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YpDd1nVthI>

Video showing and notes. Read the statement carefully and in bullet points note down arguments that agree and disagree with the statement.



**M**IXED ECONOMY

NATIONALISATION OF ALL KEY INDUSTRIES!

EVERYONE DESERVES A NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE!

**A** WELFARE STATE

**W**HAT WAS POST-WAR POLITICAL CONSENSUS?

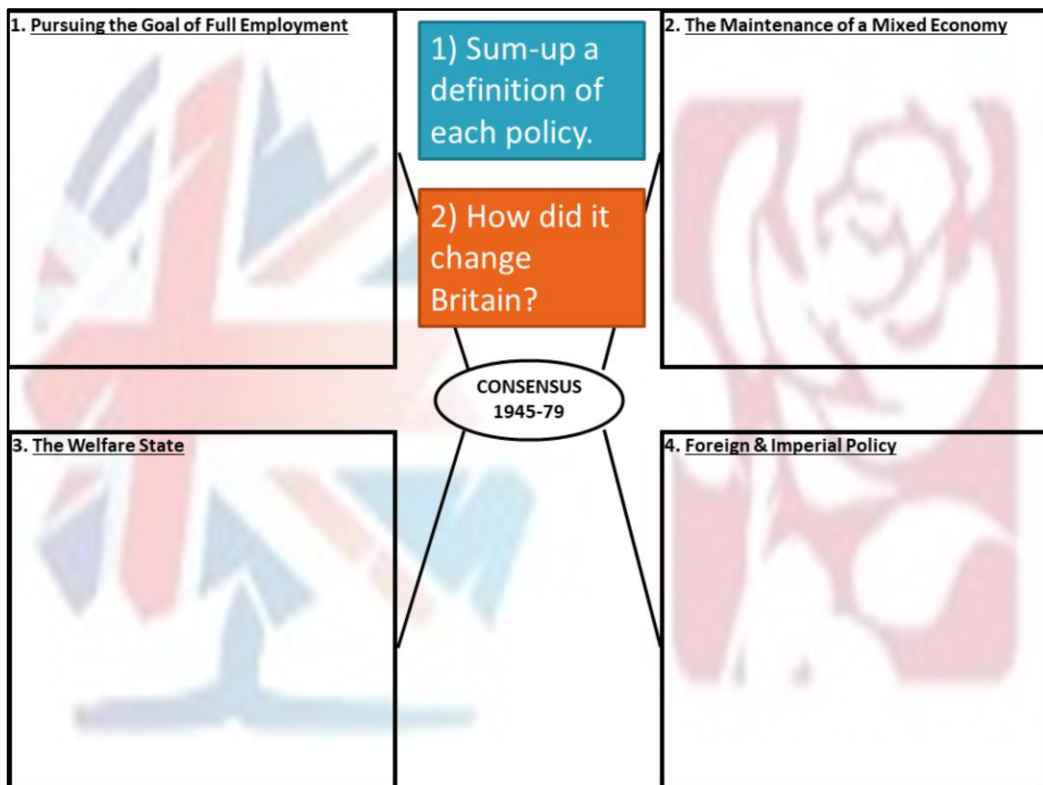
IN PLACE OF STRIFE THERE MUST BE HARMONY!

**I**NDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION

EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE A JOB!

**F**ULL EMPLOYMENT

PUTTING BRITAIN FIRST



In each box answer the two questions.

### **Pursuing the Goal of Full Employment**

Churchill's 'white paper' in 1944 stated that "the Government accepts as one of its primary aims the maintenance of a high and stable level of employment".

Unprecedented assumption that governments should try to achieve full employment.

No major political parties challenged this idea, and fear of rising levels of unemployment would heavily influence government economic policy under Conservative and Labour administrations.

Information to complete the task.

### **The Maintenance of a Mixed Economy**

Labour governments brought some sectors of the economy directly under state control, in a process known as nationalisation (Bank of England, coal mining, transport, telecommunications, electricity, gas and iron/steel production).

Conservative governments made no attempt to return any of these sectors to private ownership (except iron/steel).

Many of these industries (particularly coal and transport) needed levels of investment that only the government could provide.

Some nationalised industries (such as gas/electricity) produced services that should be available to everyone wherever they lived; they needed to be managed in the interests of the community, rather than the shareholders.

Information to complete the task.

### **The Welfare State**

Notion that governments should provide basic provision for its poorest citizens dates back to Liberal Social Reforms (old age pensions & national insurance) before the First World War.

The 1942 Beveridge Report provided the foundations for the modern welfare state under Labour between 1945-51: a National Health Service and the provision of social services.

The NHS, despite its relentless demand for money, manpower and resources, led to political parties competing with each other to prove who can fund and administer the service most effectively.

Social services created on the assumption that as poverty was reduced, so would the demand for these services. However, poverty refused to disappear and welfare made increasing demands on government budgets, gradually polarising opinion over whether to exclude social services from government provision.

Information to complete the task.

### **Foreign & Imperial Policy**

Acceptance that Britain's imperial days were in the past, due to changing attitudes to national self-determination, the erosion of Britain's wealth, and events like the 1956 Suez Crisis.

Bulk of the British Empire granted independence under Labour government between 1947-48, and under the conservatives from 1957-64.

Concept of Britain as a major power retained: continued commitment to independent nuclear capability, Britain's membership of NATO and her close alliance with USA, all influenced British foreign policy.

Information to complete the task.



## DEMONSTRATION

Explain three reasons why political parties after the Second World War agreed on 'consensus politics.'

*One reason why political parties agreed on consensus politics was to support the growth of the economy...*

*Another reason why political parties agreed on consensus politics was to protect the welfare state...*

*Finally, political parties agreed on consensus politics to maintain the country's international position and status...*

Use the information you have gathered today to finish off the writing frames.



## ***SUMMER TASK 2020***

Choose one of the following Prime Ministers:

- Harold MacMillan
- Harold Wilson
- Edward Heath
- Margaret Thatcher

Write a 1000 word biography on their political career while Prime Minister of the country. Use the following website <https://spartacus-educational.com/pm.htm> to Consider the following:

1. The reasons why they got into power;
2. Achievements and failures during their time in power;
3. The reasons why they eventually lost power.