

TOPIC 1: The Transatlantic Slave Trade, its abolition & national memory (1532 – 2023)



Key Word	Definition
Slavery	Where individuals are owned by others, who control where they live and what they do.
Indentured servants	A person who agrees to work for another for a certain amount of time (usually in return for payment of travel expenses and living costs).
Colonies	An area of land that has been conquered and claimed as part of a country's empire.
Middle Passage	The journey slaves were taken on between Africa and America.
Plantation	An area of land where a particular type of crop is grown in large quantities e.g. sugar.
Revolution	An attempt to overthrow those in power.
Abolition	The act of getting rid of something.
Boycott	To refuse to buy something as a means of protesting.
Passive resistance	Resisting against plantation owners by using peaceful or sneaky methods.
Active resistance	Using violence as a method of resistance.
Commemorate	To remember and to and show respect for (someone or something).
Compensation	Something, typically money, given to someone in recognition of loss, suffering, or injury.

DATE	EVENT
1400-1500	Europeans began to trade valuable items with Africa throughout the century. At the beginning of this century, slave trading was relatively small.
1526	The first voyage carrying enslaved people direct from Africa to the Americas.
1660-63	Britain gained royal approval to begin trading enslaved Africans, with the establishment of the Royal Africa Company under King Charles II.
1700-1800	Britain became one of the leading slave-trading powers in Europe alongside the French, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish.
1728-1734	Nanny of the Maroons led a successful slave rebellion against the British in the colony of Jamaica.
1787	The Sons of Africa is founded by African abolitionists including Olaudah Equiano.
1791-1804	A slave revolt broke out in the French colony of Haiti (in the Caribbean), resulting in Haiti's independence.
1807	The British Parliament created a law outlawing the trade of enslaved Africans. The system of slavery, however, is still legal.
1831	Sam Sharpe led a slave rebellion of almost 60,000 enslaved people in Jamaica.
1833	Slavery was abolished in all of Britain's colonies. However, the slaves are told they must work for another 6 years without pay. The slave owners were also paid £20 million (£17 billion today!) in compensation for losing their enslaved workers.
1839-1840	A slave revolt took place on the Amistad ship. The infamous trial led to release of the enslaved Africans who were being held against their will.
2020	The statue of the slave owner Edward Colston is torn down by Black Lives Matter protesters in Bristol.

TOPIC 2: The First World War (1914-1918)



Key Word	Definition
Militarism	The belief or desire of a government that a country should have a strong military.
Alliances	Agreements or promises to defend and help another country.
Imperialism	Trying to build up an empire (by gaining land, resources, and influence).
Nationalism	Taking pride in the country you are from and believing it is better than any other.
Empire	A group of countries ruled over by a single monarch.
Patriotism	Showing an intense love for a country and being proud of it.
Western Front	A long stretch of land covering parts of France and Belgium, where Britain and France fought against the German army.
Trenches	A line or series of dug-up areas of land where soldiers who stay and defend their position.
Propaganda	Information that tries to persuade people to think or do something.
Conscientious Objectors	People who refused to engage in fighting due to religious or moral beliefs.
Trench foot	A serious infection of the feet caused by standing around in wet, muddy conditions for very long periods of times.

DATE	EVENT
June, 1914	Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria is assassinated by the Black Hand, a Bosnian terrorist group that were angry at Austria's ownership of Bosnia.
August, 1914	Germany invades Belgium and France, prompting Britain to declare war.
1916	Britain calls for all able-bodied men over the age of 18 to be conscripted (forced to) fight in the war.
July, 1916	The Battle of the Somme begins. This was the bloodiest battle of the war, which resulted in 420,000 casualties. There were 57,000 casualties on the first day alone.
April, 1917	The Battle of Arras begins. British and German soldiers tunneled under their trenches in an attempt to attack the enemy.
July 1917	The Third Battle of Ypres begins. This battle was notorious for atrocious weather conditions.
1918	Germany surrenders, and the First World War comes to an end.

