

20th century is a period of the decline of Britain as a world power a period of crises of the two world wars, from which Britain emerged as a victor, but greatly weakened. It is characterised by the disintegration of Britain's colonial empire and the effort to adjust Britain to the new situation by joining the other developed capitalist countries of ern rope in EE

became king. Edward died in 1910, to be succeeded by George V, who reigned 1910-36. George V was the Briish monarch who, with Queen Mary, established the modern pattern of exemplary conduct for British royalty, based on middle-class values and virtues. Edward VIII. With a reign of

Edward VIII. With a reign of 326 days, Edward was one of the shortest-reigning monarchs in British history.

George VI was King of the UK. He was the last Emperor of India and the first Head of the Commonwealth.



### Important dates in Great Britain(20" 21st century)



- Central Powers in World War L
- 1931 The Commonwealth of Nations was established.
- 1945-1951 Britain became a welfare state.
- 1947-1949 India, Pakistan and Ceylon became independent members of Commonwealth of Nations.
- 1956 Britain, France and Israel invaded Egypt, but withdrew under pressure from other countries.
- 1963 Britain's application for membership in the European Common Market was reject.
- 1967 Britain's second application for membership in the European Common Market was reject. The government devalued the pound.
- 1973 Britain became a member of Common Market.
- 1982 British troops defeated Argentine troops in battles for control of the Falkland Islands.
- The 2008 economic c

### World War I



It began in 1914. The war was caused chiefly by political and economic rivalry among the various nations.

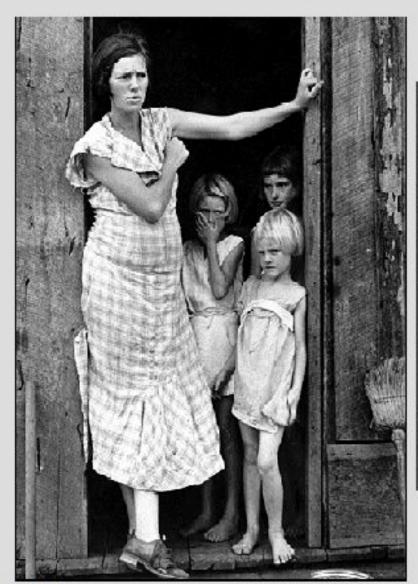
Britain entered the war on August 4, 1914.

The war created severe economic problems for Britain and shook its position as a world power.



In January 1924 a new party, the Labour Party, came to power under James Ramsay McDonald. The party represented socialistic societies and workers' groups. It began to develop in the late 1800's and gathered strength through the years. In the 1929 elections, the Labour Party, became the largest party for the first time.

# THE GREAT DEPRESSION







# World War II 1939 - 1945

On September 1 Germany invaded Poland and World War II began. Two days later Britain and France declared war on Germany.

Germany conquered France in June, and Britain stood alone against the Nazi war machine.

Britain prepared for invasion, and Churchill urged his people to make this "their finest hour".

The British refused to be beaten, and Hitler give up his invasion plans. In June 1941 Germany invaded the Soviet Union. In December Japan attacked Perl Harbor, in Hawaii, and the United States entered the war. Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union and the other Allies finally defeated Germany and Japan in 1945.

## Decline of the empire



World War II sealed the fate of British Empire, though Britain had begun loosening control over its empire earlier. In 1931 Britain granted independence within the empire to Australia, Canada, the Irish Free State, New Zealand, Newfoundland and South Africa. They became the first members of the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of countries and dependencies that succeeded the empire.

# The 2008 economic crisis



In the wake of the global economic crisis of 2008, the United Kingdom economy contracted, experiencing negative economic growth throughout 2009. The announcement in November 2008 that the economy had shrunk for the first time since late 1992 brought an end to 16 years of continuous economic growth. Causes included an end to the easy credit of the preceding years, reduction in consumption and substantial depreciation of sterling, leading to increased import costs, notably of oil.

# Arrange in the correct sequence

# Answer



### Important dates in Great Britain(20<sup>th</sup> - 21st century)?

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Great Britain and the other Allies defeated Germany and the other Central Powers in World War I.

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The Great Depression

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