




Development of themes throughout the history curriculum

Theme	Early Years	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
<p>civilisation</p> 			<p><u>Ancient Egypt</u> <u>Maya Civilisation</u> <i>What is a civilisation?</i> A group of people with a shared language, customs, religion and technology. <i>Why did the Ancient Egyptians or Maya not have an empire?</i> They did not have control over any neighbouring countries. <i>Can different civilisations have things in common?</i> Both Ancient Maya and Ancient Egyptian civilisations built pyramids, used a hieroglyphic alphabet and had different deities for different aspects of life.</p>	<p><u>Ancient Greece</u> <i>How was Ancient Greece a civilisation and not an empire?</i> The different city states had a shared religion, technology, customs and language. They warred with other countries (Persia) but did not invade or control them during the Ancient Greece period.</p>
<p>empire</p> 		<p><u>Nelson and the Battle of Trafalgar</u> <i>How did Britain have an empire?</i> During this time, Britain was in charge of Australia, large areas of North America and India. An empire is a group of countries under the control of one country. <i>How did Nelson and the Royal Navy help protect the empire?</i> Nelson and the Royal Navy stopped other country's navies from helping an invasion of Britain. The Royal Navy protected ships containing goods that were sailing to or from Britain.</p>	<p><u>Roman Britain</u> <i>Did Britain have an empire at this point? Why?</i> Britain did not have an empire, but the Romans did. <i>How did the Romans control their empire?</i> Powerful, well-trained army, road networks, technology <i>How big was the Roman Empire at its height? How does this compare with the later British Empire?</i> They controlled Southern Europe and the North of Africa. The British Empire was bigger.</p>	<p><u>A History of Migration</u> <u>A History of Wolverhampton</u> <i>How are human migration and the ideas of empire linked?</i> Human migration (of explorers and armies) can cause empires to grow. Migrants from different countries can move between empires and spread culture and ideas.</p>


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		<p><i>How big was the British Empire?</i> After Nelson's death, the British Empire grew to cover 1/3 of the world. The Royal Navy played a big part in this.</p>		<p><i>Was the British Empire a good or a bad thing?</i> Good: the spread of the English language, of Christianity, of technology, of culture, law and governing. Bad: native people lost land, culture and suffered prejudice. Raw materials were exploited.</p>
<p>parliament</p> 		<p><u>Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot</u> <u>Great Fire of London</u> <i>What does parliament do?</i> Nowadays, Parliament members are voted for by adults. They make laws and discuss important topics. The Prime Minister is the most important member of parliament. <i>How do the monarchy and parliament work together?</i> Nowadays the monarchy does not use its power over the monarchy. In the time of the Great Fire, the monarchy (King Charles 11) was in charge of parliament. There was no Prime Minister then. <i>Do people always like their parliament?</i> Guy Fawkes, Robert Catesby and other Catholics in Britain did not like Parliament, who made laws stopping Catholics having religious freedom and taking certain jobs. Catholics wanted to get rid of the king and his parliament, changing them for Catholics.</p>	<p><u>Anglo Saxons</u> <i>Did parliament exist in Anglo Saxon times?</i> No, but there was a similar, important group of people called the Witan, who the king was discuss topics and make laws with. People did not vote for them, though. <i>What is democracy and how does it work? Did the Anglo Saxons live in a democracy?</i> Democracy is when the population of a country votes for who can join a Parliament. The Anglo Saxon people could not vote for the members of the Witan. There was no democracy in Britain then. <i>How were laws made during the Anglo Saxon period?</i> The King and his Witan made the laws.</p>	<p><u>Ancient Greece</u> <i>Was there a parliament in Ancient Greece? Who made the laws?</i> There was an ecclesia made up of citizens of Athens. There were thousands of members (most adult males). They decided matters such as military strategy and how should lead the army. <i>What do the Ancient Greeks have to do with democracy?</i> <i>Was it a democracy like ours?</i> Democracy started in Ancient Greece over 2,500 years ago. About 30% of the adult population could join the ecclesia and vote. Only men could join. Nowadays in Britain, all adults over the age of 18 can vote unless they are in prison.</p>


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				<p><u>Crime and Punishment Through the Ages</u></p> <p><i>How do the laws made by parliament affect ordinary people?</i></p> <p>Through history, peasants have been most affected by laws and punishments as they have not had the power or wealth to challenge the people making the laws, nor have they been able to join Parliament, which did not pay its members before 1911.</p> <p><u>Home Front During the Second World War</u></p> <p><i>How did parliament help win the war? Did we still have a democracy in Britain during the Second World War?</i></p> <p>Parliament made many laws (blackouts/rationing/army conscription) and introduced many initiatives (Dig for Victory, etc.) during the War.</p> <p>There were no local or national elections during the War and Churchill was not an elected leader. Essentially, democracy was 'put on hold' until 1945 when Churchill was voted out in a General Election.</p>
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<p><u>peasantry</u></p> 		<p><u>Castles</u> <u>What is a peasant?</u> A peasant is an old word describing someone who owned (or rented from a landlord) and worked on a small farm. <u>Did they live in castles? How did they live?</u> Peasants were too poor to build or own castles. They lived on their farms in small wooden one or few room houses with thatched roofs. They might have lived near to a castle.</p>	<p><u>Roman Britain</u> <u>Maya Civilisation</u> <u>Anglo Saxons</u> <u>The Vikings</u> <u>Who would be described as peasants during these periods?</u> Free farmers during the Roman, Anglo Saxon and Viking periods could be called peasants. <u>How do peasants lives in these periods compare to other people?</u> In all three of these periods, peasants were the least wealthy free people, who did most of the work and grew and produced the food that they and wealthier people ate. <u>What is the difference between a slave and a peasant?</u> A peasant is free to move from location to location. A peasant has some form of payment for their job, either through money or ownership of land, tools or animals. A slave has no wealth, no property and no legal rights. They can be killed by their master without the master being punished. They were 'property' not people.</p>	<p><u>A History of Migration</u> <u>Were freed American slaves peasants? Were their lives improved after slavery?</u> Freed American slaves did become peasants and owned property, tools and land. Their lives were better then when they were slaves, but they still suffered terrible racism and could only do certain jobs (farming/agricultural work).</p> <p><u>Crime and Punishment Through the Ages</u> <u>Did peasants in these periods commit more crimes than wealthier people? Why? Were all people treated equally by the law in the past?</u> Peasants were punished more than wealthier people. They were not represented in the parliaments or Witan of the day. Because they had less money and property, they might resort to crime to acquire things they could not afford to survive/thrive.</p>
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<p>monarchy</p> 		<p><u>Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot</u> <i>What does the word monarchy mean? Who are the monarchy?</i> Monarchy is a way a country/civilisation/empire is run with a single person in charge. Often the monarchy is a member of a ruling family, whose eldest child becomes monarch after their parent dies. <i>Are the monarchy always popular?</i> King James I was not popular with Catholics as he did not change laws that made Catholicism illegal and which stopped Catholics having certain jobs.</p> <p><u>Great Fire of London</u> <i>How did the monarchy help during the Fire?</i> The popular King Charles II ordered buildings to be pulled down to stop the spread of the fire. He visited the camps outside of the city where Londoners were living in tents. The king and his brother James joined and helped the people trying to put out the Fire.</p>	<p><u>Maya Civilisation</u> <u>Did the Maya have a monarchy?</u></p> <p><i>How were their lives different from other people?</i> The Maya king and queens were the most powerful people in their kingdom. They had royal families. Ordinary Maya thought the monarchy could communicate with the gods and had to keep the gods happy. They ordered sacrifices, conducted mass prayers and held parades through their cities. They lived in the palaces bigger than other homes in their kingdoms.</p> <p><i>What was different/the same about the monarchy of the Maya compared to other monarchs that we know?</i> Like the Maya, during the time of the Great Fire and the Gunpowder Plot, most ordinary people believed that the monarchy had a special relationship with God, being favoured and protected by Him.</p> <p>The monarchy of Britain came from one family, lived in palaces, ordered religious festivals and held parades. They didn't offer human sacrifices to God, though!</p>	<p><u>Victorian Britain</u> <i>How popular/powerful was Queen Victoria?</i> By this time, the Parliament made laws rather than the monarchy. When Prince Albert died, she mourned in private and became distant and unpopular. Towards the end of her reign, as the British Empire became more powerful, she became more visible and popular again.</p> <p><i>What changed during her time as monarch?</i> Most people lived and worked in the countryside when she became Queen. When she died, cities had grown much larger, industry had replaced manual labour, and most people lived in the growing cities.</p> <p><u>Home Front During the Second World War</u> <i>How did the British monarchy help during the war? What was their role?</i> The Royal Family (including a young Princess Elizabeth) all made regular speeches, radio appearances and visits around the country to encourage people to help with the War Effort. The Royal Family was very popular during the war and there was a big celebration in front of Buckingham Palace when the war ended.</p>
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<p>How Britain has influenced the world and been influenced by it.</p> 		<p><u>Nelson and the Battle of Trafalgar</u> <i>How powerful was the Royal Navy during Nelson's time?</i> <i>What was its purpose?</i> The Royal Navy was the most powerful in the world at this time and stopped other countries (such as France) invading Britain and taking it over. Its job was to protect the islands from invasion and to protect ships carrying goods to and from Britain being attacked and stolen by ships from other countries.</p>	<p><u>Stone Age to Iron Age</u> <u>Roman Britain</u> <u>Anglo Saxons</u> <u>The Vikings</u> <i>How did these periods change Britain forever?</i> The idea of farming arrived in Britain from what is now the continent of Europe at the end of the Stone Age (6,000 years ago).</p> <p>Roman Britain:</p>	<p><u>Victorian Britain</u> <i>How did Victorian Britain change so many different countries around the world?</i> The spread of the English language, of Christianity, of technology, of culture, law and governing.</p>

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		<p><u>Castles</u> <i>Where did the idea of castles come from? Who built the first castles in Britain?</i> The idea of castles came from France and was introduced to Britain by the Normans after 1066.</p>	<p>towns, roads, theatres, stadia, running water, baths, food, animals, plants, religion.</p> <p>Anglo Saxons: language, politics, names of the days of the week</p> <p>Vikings: language, place names, names of the days of the week</p>	<p><u>Home Front During the Second World War</u> <i>How did other countries assist Britain during the Second World War? How did the USA change Britain?</i> In 1939, 25% of the world's population was part of the British Empire or Commonwealth. 2.5 million Indian men enlisted in the British Army. Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa from the Commonwealth all declared war on Germany on the side of Britain. USA joined the war on the British (Allied) side in 1941. 2 million American servicemen were based in Britain during the war maintaining and operating the many aircraft that flew from Britain to bomb Germany.</p> <p><u>A History of Migration</u> <i>How has migration since the Second World War changed Britain?</i> Migrant workers from the Caribbean and from Asia (particularly from India and Pakistan) helped rebuild Britain after the damage caused by German bombing. Migration to Britain has significantly contributed to the culture of Britain since the Second World War.</p>
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