

Box A: Key words and definitions

1. Empire - Large group of countries ruled by one single king / queen or country.
2. Imperialism - Process of increasing a country's power through building an empire. Often uses force.
3. Colony - A country controlled by another country with settlers living there.
4. Merchants - People who bought and sold items across the world.
5. Profit - The money made between gaining an item and selling it to another person.
6. Commonwealth - Former colonies of the British Empire being independent but working together.

Box B: Countries in the British Empire

1. Ireland
2. America (until 1781)
3. India
4. Australia
5. Canada
6. New Zealand
7. South Africa
8. Hong Kong (in China)
9. Gibraltar (in Spain)
10. Parts of the Caribbean (known as West Indies) including Anguilla, Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Monserrat, the Turks and Caicos.
11. Parts of Africa including Sudan, Lesotho, Benin, Botswana, Kenya, Northern Somalia, Eastern Ghana and British Cameroons.

Box C: Growth of Empire

1. The first English colonies were formed in North America in 1585.
2. Britain had control over Ireland from the late 1600s.
3. East India Company began to build up a group of trading posts in India after 1612.
4. English colonies in West Indies founded in 1620s.
5. In 1664, the English took over a Dutch colony in America, which included the state of New Amsterdam. The English renamed this New York.
6. Robert Clive helped Britain control India from 1757.
7. British won Canada from France in 1763.
8. By 1783, Britain controlled Gibraltar and Minorca.
9. From 1787, some crimes in Britain meant that people were transported (sent to) Australia to complete hard labour.
10. From 1881 to 1919, Britain gained colonies in Africa.
11. Britain conquered South Africa from 1902.

Box G: Indian Mutiny

1. Many Indians were distressed by the rapid cultural changes forced by the British on their country.
2. Indians were worried that Hindu and Muslim India would be Christianised.
3. In 1857, a new type of rifle cartridge was given to the soldiers of the British Indian Army. Rumors spread that the cartridges had been greased with pig and cow fat, a sin to both major Indian religions.
4. In 1857, the Indian Mutiny began with Bengali Muslim troops marching to Delhi and pledging their support to the Mughal emperor. After a year-long struggle, the rebels surrendered on June 20, 1858.

Year 8: Semester 2 **Expansionists and Empire Builders**



Box D: America

1. In 1585, a small group of English Colonists tried to settle at a place called Roanoke in America.
2. In 1607, 3 small ships left London and arrived in Chesapeake Bay in America.
3. In 1620, 101 men, women and children squashed on board a small ship called the 'Mayflower' and left Plymouth for America.

Box F: Australia

1. James Cooke discovered Australia in 1770.
2. Convict ships arrived in Sydney from 1788.
3. Population of aborigines (native Australians) dropped by 90% due to disease brought by British and conflict with colonists.

Box E: India

1. Britain had been trading in India since about 1600, but it did not begin to seize large sections of land until 1757, after the Battle of Plassey.
2. The East India Company traded in cotton, silk, tea, and opium. Following the Battle of Plassey, it functioned as the military authority in growing sections of India as well

Box H: Opium Wars

1. China was the only place where tea was grown but they refused to internationally trade.
2. Tea brought profit to the British government through taxation but the Chinese government would only trade for silver.
3. Britain did have opium (heroin). This was illegal but 12 million Chinese peasants were addicted. Britain slyly traded opium for tea with Chinese merchants who would sell it to the peasants.
4. The Chinese Emperor seized control of 1000+ tonnes of Opium in 1839 and this led to Britain sending gunboats.



Box I: Decline of Empire

1. 13 American colonies joined together and formed the USA. They declared themselves independent from Britain, stopped paying taxes and became a free country from 1781.
2. From 1867, Canada was given 'dominion' (self-governing status, followed by Australia and New Zealand in 1907.
3. In 1921, Ireland was divided into Northern Ireland, which was part of the UK, and the Republic of Ireland, which ruled itself.
4. In 1926, the Britain allowed Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa to become completely independent countries.
5. In 1947, India and Pakistan were given independence.
6. Most of Britain's African and Caribbean colonies achieved independence in the 1960s.

Box L: Want to know more?

The British Empire through time:

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/guides/zf7fr82/revision/1>

British Empire facts:

<https://www.britannica.com/place/British-Empire>

Video clips about the British Empire:

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zsnp34j/resources/1>

Box K: Rebellions

1. 1641, 1798 and 1857 - Ireland
2. 1756 - Calcutta in India
3. 1763 - Native Americans
4. 1857 - Indian Mutiny
5. 1860s - New Zealand
6. 1839 to 1860 - China (Opium Wars)

Year 8: Semester 2 **Expansionists and Empire Builders**



Box J: Scramble for Africa

1. As late as the 1870s, only 10% of Africa was under direct European control.
2. At this time, many white people thought they were better than black people. Europeans thought they could civilise African with Christianity, trade and western education.
3. European countries met at the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 to discuss the future of Africa, stating they wanted to end slavery in that continent.
4. in reality, they wanted to agree which country should own what part of Africa to increase wealth through access to previously untouched raw materials.
5. This led to Africa being separated into colonies owned by different European countries. The land was divided up by what the Europeans wanted with no regard to ancient tribal ownership.