

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced GCE**

**HISTORY**

**2591**

Themes in History 1763–1996

INSERT 1

Friday

**24 JUNE 2005**

Morning

1 hour 30 minutes

**TIME** 1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

This Insert contains a table of developments and events for each of the Themes in this Unit. You may use it to help answer any of the questions – the arguments in your answers need to be supported by historical examples.

Teachers may indicate to candidates in the examination room the part(s) of the Insert which cover(s) the Theme(s) studied.

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**This insert consists of 11 printed pages and 1 blank page.**

## Britain 1793–1921

### Key Theme: Britain and Ireland 1798–1921

- 1798: Wolfe Tone's Rising
- 1800: The Act of Union (came into effect 1801)
- 1823: O'Connell formed the Catholic Association
- 1828: Election of O'Connell as MP for Clare (d.1847)
- 1829: Catholic Emancipation Act opened up most offices to Catholics; Catholic Association suppressed
- 1830: Anti-Tithe Campaign began, leading to a Tithe War (Tithe Act 1838)
- 1841: O'Connell established National Repeal Association
- 1845: Maynooth Grant increased
- 1845–50: Great Irish Famine – population 1841: 8,178,124; 1851: 6,552,386
- 1848: Young Ireland rising suppressed
- 1858: Fenian Brotherhood established (first Fenian Rising 1867)
- 1869: Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Irish Church
- 1870: First Irish Land Act
- 1873: Butt founded Home Rule League; defeat of Irish Universities Bill
- 1874: 59 Home Rule MPs elected – collapse of Liberal party in Ireland
- 1877: Parnell elected President of the Home Rule Confederation of Great Britain
- 1879: Land League formed by Davitt (Parnell as President) to campaign for the Three Fs
- 1880: Parnell became leader of the Home Rule party
- 1881: Coercion Act; Gladstone's Second Irish Land Act enacted the Three Fs
- 1882: Kilmainham 'Treaty'; the Phoenix Park Murders; National League founded
- 1885: Ashbourne Land Act; Gladstone declared for Home Rule
- 1886: First Home Rule Bill defeated in Commons and Liberal party split; Plan of Campaign
- 1887: Parnell accused but cleared of involvement in the Phoenix Park Murders and in agrarian outrages (Times letter)
- 1888: Land Purchase Act (& another 1891)
- 1890: Parnell deposed as leader of the Home Rule party
- 1893: Second Home Rule Bill defeated in the Lords; Gaelic League founded
- 1903: Wyndham's Land Act
- 1905: Ulster Unionist Council formed; Griffith founded Sinn Féin
- 1912: Third Home Rule Bill; Ulster Volunteers formed and Ulster's Solemn League and Covenant signed; Bonar Law's Blenheim Palace speech
- 1913: Irish Volunteers formed in South
- 1914: Curragh Mutiny; First World War delayed implementation of Home Rule
- 1916: Easter Rising; Ulster Division slaughtered on the Somme
- 1917: Irish Convention met and de Valera elected leader of Sinn Féin
- 1918: General Election – landslide victory of Sinn Féin in Ireland
- 1919: Anglo-Irish war began; Dáil Eireann met but declared illegal; de Valera elected President of a Provisional Irish Government
- 1920: Bloody Sunday in Dublin; Government of Ireland Act partitioned Ireland and created a six-county Ulster (came into effect 1921)
- 1921: Anglo-Irish Treaty established Irish Free State with Dominion status

## Britain 1793–1921

### Key Theme: War and Society in Britain 1793–1918

- 1793: War against revolutionary France; office of commander-in-chief created
- 1794: Habeas Corpus suspended; office of Secretary for War created
- 1795: Treasonable Practices and Seditious Meetings Acts
- 1797: Naval mutinies; cash payments suspended
- 1798: Income tax introduced and newspapers taxed (Stamp Duty increased 1815)
- 1805: Battle of Trafalgar
- 1815: Battle of Waterloo and Congress of Vienna
- 1816: Income tax abolished (reintroduced 1842)
- 1833: Electric telegraph developed
- 1851: First news agency, Reuters, formed; minié rifle adopted (replaced by Enfield 1853)
- 1854: Crimean War (to 1856) revealed military inadequacies
- 1855: Repeal of Stamp Duty on newspapers – cheap press possible; resignation of Aberdeen over war conduct; staff college planned (opened 1856)
- 1856–95: Duke of Cambridge was commander-in-chief
- 1857: Indian Mutiny (to 1859); Cobden's censure motion on China policy
- 1859: First 'Ironclad' frigate built and volunteer force created to protect against invasion
- 1868–72: Cardwell's army reforms (continued 1880–5)
- 1871: Gatling gun introduced to army service
- 1878–79: Zulu War (disaster at Isandhlwana 1879)
- 1880: First Boer War (to 1881), defeat at Majuba Hill
- 1884: Maxim invented the automatic machine gun (adopted by British army 1888)
- 1885: First naval submarine; death of Gordon in Khartoum
- 1888: First magazine rifle issued (Lee-Metford); reform of supply and transport service
- 1889: Naval Defence Act – two power standard
- 1890: Mahan's *Influence of Sea Power on History* published
- 1895–99: Wolseley was commander-in-chief
- 1896: *Daily Mail* founded as first mass circulation paper
- 1899: Second Boer War (to 1902); Black Week; censorship of war correspondents
- 1904: Army Council and General Staff created; Committee of Imperial Defence set up; Fisher appointed First Sea Lord
- 1906: HMS Dreadnought; Haldane's army reforms started; Liberal social reforms (to 1911)
- 1912: Royal Flying Corps founded
- 1914: First World War (to 1918); Kitchener's New Volunteer Army created; press censorship introduced under Defence of the Realm Act
- 1915: Gallipoli; Ministry of Munitions created
- 1916: The Somme: first use of tank, film of the battle shocked British public; conscription introduced
- 1917: First strategic bombing; Germany resumed unrestricted U-Boat warfare
- 1918: Rationing introduced; the vote denied to conscientious objectors

## Britain 1834–1996

### Key Theme: Poor Law to Welfare State 1834–1948

- 1833: The first government grant (£20,000) for the building of schools; one-third of children aged 4–12 attended school; Factory Act brought first breakthrough for the 'Ten Hours' Movement
- 1834: Poor Law Amendment Act
- 1839–50: 25 teacher training colleges founded
- 1842: Chadwick's Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population
- 1847: Poor Law Board established; major cholera epidemic (also 1853, 1861 and 1865–6)
- 1848: Public Health Act created Board of Health
- 1850: Factory Act
- 1852: Outdoor Relief Regulation Order introduced
- 1858–61: Newcastle Commission examined elementary education
- 1864–67: Taunton Commission examined education for the middle classes
- 1870: Education Act (Forster)
- 1873–76: Chamberlain started slum clearance in Birmingham
- 1875: Public Health Act; Artisans Dwellings Act
- 1879: Bournville model industrial estate instituted (model village started 1893)
- 1885: Housing of the Working Classes Act
- 1886–1903: Booth's *Life & Labour of the People of London*
- 1902: Education Act (Balfour) encouraged local authorities to provide public secondary education
- 1903: First garden city begun, at Letchworth
- 1906–11: Liberal welfare reforms
- 1908: Children Act; Old Age Pensions Act (5/- per week for over 70s, 7/6d for a couple)
- 1909: Report of Royal Commission on Poor Law and Relief of Distress published; Labour Exchanges set up
- 1911: National Insurance Act ('Ninepence for Fourpence')
- 1918: Education Act (Fisher) provided for universal free primary schooling
- 1919: Housing and Town Planning Act (Addison) – abandoned 1923; Ministry of Health
- 1921: Unemployment Insurance Act (unemployment never less than 1 million 1921–40)
- 1924: Housing Act (Wheatley) – 500,000 local authority houses to rent by 1932
- 1926: Hadow Report advocated full secondary education and free grammar schools
- 1929: Local Government Act transferred responsibility for poor relief to local councils
- 1929–36: The Depression at its worst
- 1931: Unemployment benefit cut 10% (restored 1934) and means testing introduced
- 1934–35: Unemployment Assistance Act
- 1939: Family Planning Association founded
- 1942: Report of committee on Social Insurance and Allied Services published (Beveridge)
- 1944: Education Act (Butler); white papers on National Health and on Social Insurance
- 1946: National Health Service Act; National Insurance Act; New Towns Act; Housing Act (900,000 local authority houses built by 1951)
- 1947: Rent tribunals set up; Town & Country Planning Act
- 1948: National Assistance Act; start of the National Health Service

## Britain 1834–1996

### Key Theme: The Development of Democracy in Britain 1868–1992

- 1867: Second Parliamentary Reform Act – 1 in 3 males had the vote; National Union of Conservative Associations founded
- 1868: First non-conformist made a Cabinet minister (John Bright); TUC founded
- 1872: The Ballot Act – established a secret ballot
- 1877: National Liberal Federation founded
- 1882: First use of a closure motion in the Commons; second Married Women's Property Act
- 1884: Third Parliamentary Reform Act – 6 in 10 males had the vote
- 1885: Virtually all multi-member parliamentary seats abolished
- 1897: National Union of Women's Suffrage formed (Fawcett)
- 1900: Labour Representation Committee founded
- 1903: Women's Social and Political Union formed (Pankhurst)
- 1906: Trades Disputes Act reversed the Taff Vale Judgement
- 1909: The 'People's Budget'; Osborne Judgement (reversed 1913)
- 1911: A salary for MPs introduced; Parliament Act limited Lord's power of veto; Official Secrets Act; dockers, seamen & railway unions strike
- 1913: 'Triple Alliance' formed to co-ordinate industrial action
- 1916: Cabinet Secretariat established
- 1916–23: Liberal party split
- 1918: Representation of the People Act – universal male suffrage (but proportional representation narrowly defeated); First female MP elected (1929 = 2.3% of MPs were women, 1959 = 4.0%, 1987 = 6.5%); police strike; 'Red Clydeside' (ended 1919)
- 1920: Founding of British Communist Party
- 1923: General election produced a hung parliament
- 1924: First Labour Government (first ILP MP elected 1892)
- 1926: General Strike; the BBC incorporated (founded 1922)
- 1928: Representation of the People Act – universal suffrage
- 1932: British Union of Fascists founded (banned 1940)
- 1936: Battle of Cable Street; Public Order Act; Abdication Crisis; Jarrow March
- 1945–51: Labour governments under Attlee introduced Welfare State and nationalisations
- 1948: Postal voting introduced; plural voting abolished (severely reduced 1918)
- 1957: Macmillan made 'never had it so good' speech
- 1959: First general election in which television played an important part
- 1962: Immigration Act; 'night of the long knives'
- 1969: Representation of the People Act gave vote to 18-year-olds
- 1970: Equal Pay Act
- 1971: Parliament voted in favour of joining the EEC (joined 1973); Industrial Relations Act
- 1975: Sex Discrimination Act; European Referendum
- 1977: Lib-Lab pact created (ended 1978)
- 1978–79: Abortive devolution schemes (Scotland and Wales); 'Winter of Discontent'
- 1979: First Thatcher government formed (forced to resign as PM in 1990)
- 1981: Formation of the SDP (merged with the Liberals 1988)
- 1983: Disastrous Labour performance in the general election
- 1984: Trade Union Act
- 1984–85: Miners' Strike
- 1985–86: Greater London Council and the Metropolitan Councils abolished
- 1986: Ponting trial; Westland Affair
- 1987: Labour party Policy Review began
- 1988: Local Government Finance Act passed – the Poll Tax
- 1989: Official Secrets Act

## Britain 1834–1996

### Key Theme: The Development of the Mass Media 1896–1996

- 1880s–90s: Development of web rotary machine presses and linotype machines completed the industrialisation of newspaper production
- 1896: *Daily Mail* founded by Harmsworth (later Lord Northcliffe); start of radio
- 1899–1902: Second Boer War – newspapers censored
- 1900: The ‘Khaki’ General Election; foundation of the Labour Representation Committee; *Daily Express* founded
- 1903: *Daily Mirror* founded
- 1910: Daily sales of newspapers = 4 million (over 10 million in 1939)
- 1912: *Daily Herald* founded
- 1914–18: First World War; casualty lists in newspapers; newspapers censored
- 1916: Beaverbrook and Northcliffe implicated in the overthrow of Asquith
- 1918: *Daily Chronicle* purchased by supporters of Lloyd George; *Sunday Express* founded
- 1920–30s: Era of the great ‘press barons’ (Beaverbrook, Rothermere, Berry brothers)
- 1922: British Broadcasting Company founded; radio (wireless) licences introduced – 9 million issued 1938
- 1923: *Radio Times* founded
- 1924: ‘Zinoviev letter’ published in the *Daily Mail*
- 1926: British Broadcasting Corporation incorporated (Reith Director – General to 1938). General Strike – the *British Gazette* produced by the government; Stanley Baldwin first Prime Minister to broadcast
- 1930: *Daily Worker* founded; Beaverbrook’s sponsorship of ‘United Empire’ parliamentary candidates prompted Baldwin’s speech accusing the press of exercising ‘*power without responsibility*’
- 1932: George V made the first royal Christmas Day broadcast
- 1935–37: *Daily Mirror* re-launched as working-class newspaper
- 1936: BBC broadcast first talking television pictures at Olympia Radio Exhibition; Abdication Crisis
- 1939: Light comedy added to BBC output; Chamberlain broadcasts the declaration of war
- 1939–45: Second World War; BBC played a key role in broadcasting to occupied Europe and sustaining domestic morale; censorship of all media
- 1940: Regulation 2D introduced
- 1941: Banning of the Communist press
- 1948: Televising the London Olympic Games = first stimulus to TV growth
- 1953: Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II televised (20 million watched)
- 1954: Commercial television launched
- 1956: Suez Crisis
- 1960: Closure of the *News Chronicle*; 53% of households owned a TV
- 1964: Radio Caroline (pirate station) began broadcasting
- 1962–86: Failure by a series of inquiries to settle the future of broadcasting
- 1967: Colour TV began (96% of households owned a TV set by 1981); Radio 1 began
- 1969: ‘The Troubles’ in Northern Ireland began
- 1972: Commercial radio stations allowed; ‘Bloody Sunday’ in Northern Ireland; direct rule introduced in Northern Ireland
- 1978–79: Shutdown of *The Times*
- 1980s: Rupert Murdoch acquired his media empire (News International strike at Wapping 1986–87)
- 1982: Falklands War
- 1984–85: Miners’ Strike
- 1986: *The Independent* and *Today* founded
- 1988: Ban on broadcasting the voice of any member of Sinn Féin, the IRA or 9 other terrorist organisations
- 1989: *BskyB* launched; era of satellite & cable television began (promoted primarily by football)
- 1990: Broadcasting Act deregulated the broadcast media
- 1992: Franchises for the ITV system auctioned (announced 1989)

## Europe 1792–1919

**Key Theme: The Changing Nature of Warfare 1792–1918**

1792:	Outbreak of French Revolutionary Wars
1793:	<i>Levée en masse</i> decree issued in France
1800:	Napoleon's forces defeated the Second Coalition
1805–07:	Napoleon's forces defeated the Third Coalition
1808:	Prussian military reforms began
1812:	Napoleon's attempt to defeat Russia failed
1813–14:	Fourth Coalition defeated Napoleon
1815:	Final defeat of Napoleon
1821–32:	Greek War of Independence
1830:	Opening of the Liverpool-Manchester railway (in 1870 France had 17,500 km and Germany 19,500 km of track; in 1890 France had 36,500 km and Germany 43,000 km)
1832:	Clausewitz's <i>On War</i> published
1838:	Jomini published his <i>Summary of the art of war</i>
1840s:	Prussian army adopted Dreyse needle gun
1851:	British army adopted Minié rifle; percussion cap replaced flintlock
1854–56:	Crimean War
1856:	Bessemer developed method to produce cheaper, stronger steel (improved by Siemens 1867 and by Gilchrist-Thomas in 1876)
1858:	Prussian military reforms developed
1859–60:	Wars of Italian Unification
1861–65:	American Civil War (war photography & newspaper reporting had powerful impact on the public)
1866:	Seven Weeks' War; introduction of Krupp's steel breech-loading artillery
1868:	French military reform, including adoption of the Chassepot rifle; Cardwell's reforms of British army began (to 1872 and 1880–5)
1870–71:	Franco-Prussian War
1877–78:	Russo-Turkish War
1880s:	Development of high explosives
1884:	Introduction of the Mauser bolt-action magazine-fed rifle; Maxim automatic machine gun invented (adopted by British army 1888)
1897:	French 75 mm quick-firing field artillery
1899–1902:	Second Boer War
1904–05:	Russo-Japanese War
1905:	Staff talks between French and British armies began
1912–13:	Balkan Wars
1914:	Outbreak of First World War; 'Miracle of the Marne'; Western Front stalemate developed
1915:	First use of gas; Gallipoli
1916:	Verdun; Brusilov Offensive; the Somme; first use of tanks
1917:	Third Ypres; Caporetto; Russian Revolutions
1918:	Failure of German Spring Offensive; Allied advances on Western Front; the Armistice

## Europe 1792–1919

### Key Theme: The Challenge of German Nationalism 1815–1919

- 1815: Establishment of the German Confederation
- 1818: *Allgemeine Deutscher Burschenschaften* founded
- 1819: The Carlsbad Decrees
- 1821: Metternich became Austrian Court & State Chancellor (Foreign Minister from 1809)
- 1830: Uprisings in Brunswick, Hanover, Hesse and Saxony
- 1832: Meeting at Hambach – passage of the Six Articles
- 1834: Establishment of the Zollverein (25 states with combined population of 26 million by 1836)
- 1840: Accession of Frederick William IV; *Deutschland über Alles* composed
- 1848–49: Revolutions; the Frankfurt Parliament; fall of Metternich
- 1850: The Erfurt Union and the Olmütz Agreement
- 1859: National Association founded in Prussia
- 1861: Accession of Wilhelm I; foundation of Progressive Party in Prussia
- 1862: Bismarck became Prime Minister of Prussia; constitutional crisis
- 1863: Universal German Working Men's Association founded
- 1864: Schleswig-Holstein crisis: war with Denmark
- 1866: Seven Weeks' War with Austria
- 1867: Establishment of North German Confederation and Federal Customs Council
- 1870–71: Franco-Prussian War
- 1871: Proclamation of German Empire
- 1871–90: Bismarck: German Chancellor
- 1872–73: The launch of the *Kulturkampf* (until 1887)
- 1875: Socialist Workers Party founded
- 1879: Dual Alliance with Austria; Bismarck broke with the National Liberals
- 1883–89: Social reforms (sickness and accident insurance, old age pensions)
- 1886: The Settlement Law (32,000 Poles and Russian Jews were forced out of East Prussia)
- 1888: Accession of Frederick III and then Wilhelm II
- 1890: Dismissal of Bismarck
- 1893: Foundation of Pan-German League
- 1898: Navy League and the First Navy Law (Second in 1900, Third in 1906)
- 1905 & 11: Moroccan crises
- 1912: c.3000 strikes in Germany (c.1500 in 1900)
- 1913: Germany's share of world manufacturing production: 14.8% (Britain 13.6%, France 6.1%)
- 1914–18: First World War
- 1918: November: Abdication of Wilhelm II; the Armistice
- 1919: Constituent Assembly at Weimar: President Ebert; Treaty of Versailles



## Europe 1855–1956

## Key Theme: Russian Dictatorship 1855–1956

1855:	Accession of Alexander II – the ‘Tsar Liberator’
1856:	Defeat in the Crimean War
1861:	Emancipation of the serfs
1864:	<i>Zemstvo</i> Law and legal reforms
1865:	Censorship regulations eased
1866:	First assassination attempt against Alexander II
1874–81:	Growth of opposition groups: Narodniks, Land & Liberty, Peoples’ Will
1881:	Constitutional proposals; assassination of Alexander II; the ‘Reaction’
1883:	Peasants’ Land Bank created (one-third of all landlord estates had been bought by 1904)
1887:	Failed attempt to assassinate Alexander III
1889:	Introduction of Land Captains
1891:	Famine in 17 of Russia’s 39 provinces
1892–1903:	Witte’s ‘Great Spurt’
1894:	Accession of Nicholas II
1898:	Formation of Social Democrats (SDs)
1901:	Formation of Social Revolutionaries (SRs)
1903:	SDs split into Bolsheviks and Mensheviks
1904–05:	Russo-Japanese War
1905:	Bloody Sunday; 1905 Revolution; October Manifesto
1906–11:	Stolypin’s reforms
1906–14:	Four Dumas met
1914–18:	First World War
1917:	February Revolution: the Dual Power; the October Revolution
1918:	The Constituent Assembly; the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
1918–21:	The Civil War
1918–21:	War Communism
1921:	The Kronstadt Rising; famine and economic collapse (c.5 million died of starvation and disease)
1921–27:	New Economic Policy
1924:	Lenin’s death (struggle for power 1922–9)
1928–53:	Stalin in power
1928–29:	Introduction of the first Five Year Plan and of Collectivisation
1932–34:	Famine (c.5 million died of starvation and disease)
1934–40:	The Great Terror (reprised after the Second World War)
1941–45:	The Great Patriotic War
1946:	Censorship tightened
1954–56:	Khrushchev’s rise to power (Stalin d.1953)
1956:	Denunciation of Stalin by Khrushchev

**America 1763–1980****Key Theme: The Struggle for the Constitution 1763–1877**

1765:	Stamp Act
1766:	Declaratory Act
1770:	Boston Massacre
1774:	Continental Congress
1775:	War of Independence started (Declaration of Independence 1776)
1781:	Articles of Confederation agreed by all colonies
1783:	Treaty of Paris recognised American sovereignty; c.600,000 slaves in USA
1787:	Philadelphia Convention (constitution ratified 1788)
1789:	George Washington chosen as 1st President (to 1797); Judiciary Act
1791:	Bill of Rights ratified; c.700,000 slaves in USA
1793:	Invention of the cotton 'gin'
1798:	Alien and Sedition Acts passed; the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions
1799–1800:	Jefferson championed state rights (issue of personal liberty)
1801:	Jefferson became 3rd President (to 1809)
1803:	Marbury v Madison; Louisiana Purchase
1804:	12th Amendment passed
1807:	Embargo Acts (to 1809)
1819:	McCulloch v Maryland
1820:	Missouri Compromise; c.1.5 million slaves in USA
1823:	Monroe Doctrine announced
1823:	'Tariff of abominations' passed
1829:	Andrew Jackson became President (to 1837)
1830:	Indian Removal Act
1831:	Nat Turner's rebellion
1832:	S. Carolina threatened secession over state rights (issue of tariffs)
1845:	Texas finally admitted to the Union as a slave state
1846:	Wilmot Proviso
1846–48:	Mexican War
1849:	California Gold Rush (California admitted to the Union as a free state 1850)
1850:	Henry Clay's 'Compromise' passed & Fugitive Slave Law tightened up
1854:	Kansas-Nebraska Act; emergence of the Republican party
1855/56–61:	'Bleeding Kansas'
1857:	Buchanan became President; Dred Scott decision
1858:	Lincoln-Douglas debates
1859:	John Brown's raid
1860:	Abraham Lincoln elected President; secession of S. Carolina; c.4 million slaves in USA
1861:	Formation of Confederate States of America; start of Civil War
1863:	Emancipation Proclamation
1865:	End of Civil War; 13th Amendment passed; assassination of Lincoln
1868:	14th Amendment passed; abortive attempt to impeach President Johnson
1870:	15th Amendment passed; last 3 Confederate states readmitted to the Union
1872:	Amnesty Act
1877:	Hayes became President – end of Reconstruction

**America 1763–1980****Key Theme: Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1980**

- 1865: End of Civil War; 13th Amendment passed; assassination of Lincoln;
- 1860s: Asian American immigration to West coast began
- 1862: Homestead Act
- 1866: Formation of Ku Klux Klan; Black Codes against African Americans (1865–6)
- 1868: 14th Amendment to the Constitution; 2 African American senators elected
- 1869–76: More than 200 battles between US Army and the Plains Indians
- 1870: 15th Amendment passed
- 1877: End of Reconstruction; segregation started in South; repression of unions
- 1881: Gompers set up American Federation of Labour; Booker T. Washington became Principal at Tuskegee
- 1882: Asian Exclusion Act
- 1884: Prohibition of the Sun Dance
- 1890: End of Indian Wars with Battle of Wounded Knee
- 1893: Homestead Steel Strike
- 1894: President Cleveland used troops to break the Pullman strike
- 1896: Plessy v Ferguson Supreme Court case; only 3% of factory workers belonged to unions
- 1905: Du Bois founded the Niagara Movement
- 1909: Foundation of NAACP
- 1915: Refounding of Ku Klux Klan (c.4.5 million members by 1924)
- 1919: Race riots; coal and steel strikes crushed by troops
- 1919–20: The 'Great Red Scare'
- 1924: Native Americans became citizens; quota of 150,000 immigrants per annum set
- 1933–41: New Deal
- 1934: Indian Reorganisation Act (replaced 1887 Dawes Act)
- 1935: Wagner Act
- 1936–37: Chrysler and General Motors finally recognised unions
- 1943: Smith-Connally Act
- 1947: Taft-Hartley Act
- 1948: US Armed Forces desegregated
- 1954: Brown v Board of Education Supreme Court case
- 1955: Montgomery Bus Boycott; rise of Martin Luther King to national prominence
- 1956: Foundation of Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- 1957: Civil Rights Act; Central High, Little Rock, Arkansas case
- 1961: Kennedy passed laws to assist Hispanic American immigration
- 1963: 'I have a dream' speech by Martin Luther King
- 1964: Civil Rights Act and Poll Tax Amendment
- 1965: Voting Rights Act
- 1968: Assassination of Martin Luther King
- 1969: Introduction of Affirmative Action; busing in education began
- 1973: Roe v Wade Supreme Court decision on abortion
- 1978: Bakke Case in Supreme Court on Affirmative Action

