

Knowledge Organiser – 3 - Was the British Empire a force for good? (Early modern period and modern period)

1800s  
Extensive expansion of British Empire



1917  
The Balfour Declaration: a “national home for the Jewish people” in Palestine

1918-1950s  
British Empire at its largest.

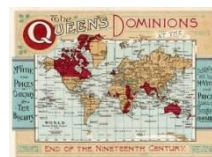
1997  
Hong Kong handed back to Chinese.

1500s  
Age of Exploration

1853  
Construction of railways in India.



1876  
Queen Victoria took the title of Empress of India.



1947  
Declaration of Indian independence & Partition of Indian and Pakistan

1960s  
Most of Britain's Colonies had become independent countries

Key people, ideas and developments

1	British Raj	The name given to British rule over a region that, in the present-day, is made up of several countries: <b>India, Pakistan, Burma, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka</b> from 1858 to 1947.
2	East India Company	The East India company was set up in 1600 and was initially an important English trading company. It operated in the Indian Ocean region, with India and the East Indies, and with China.
3	The Gold Coast	The name for the British colony in western Africa that became modern-day Ghana. This colony has lots of <b>natural resources</b> .
4	Australia	Englishman James Cook travelled to the east coast of Australia in 1770, claiming it for Britain under the instruction of the King. He called this area New South Wales. By 1870, all of modern-day Australia was part of the British colony. Between 1788 and 1823, New South Wales was home to many prisoners (penal colony).
5	Jamaica	Jamaica was first made a Spanish <b>colony</b> by Christopher Columbus in 1494. English colonists took over, by fighting the Spanish in 1655. Jamaica was very important to the British <b>economy</b> (money and trade) - slaves from the west coast of Africa were taken there to work on sugar and coffee plantations (farms). This was part of the <b>triangular trade</b> .
7	'Whig' historians	Historians that view the Empire as the deserved result of Britain's technological and moral superiority.

8	Cultural Imperialism	Imperialism is the creation and maintenance of unequal relationships between civilisations. Cultural imperialism means that one culture is seen as more powerful.
9	Kwame Nkrumah	Prime Minister of Ghana who led the Gold Coast to independence from Britain in 1957. He was significant in his qualities as a leader and achievements of democracy in Ghana.

Key terms

9	colony	A country that is ruled over by another as part of an empire
10	independence	Free from the control of others
11	natural resources	Resources that exist without the actions of humans
12	triangular trade	The inhumane trade of goods from Britain, to West Africa in exchange for slaves, and then the slaves being shipped the West Indies in exchange for sugar, rum etc.
13	empire	When one country rules other countries around the world
14	nationalism	Supporting and being proud of your country and preferring to exclude other nations
15	Indigenous	Originating in a particular place – native.

