Week 1: Tudor and Stuart Exploration

Colonise— to settle among and establish control over an area.

At the start of the 15th century it was believed that the world was flat, and the Mediterranean was at its centre.

Demand for goods from the east—spices, silks, cottons and perfumes—were highly prized in Europe and were very expensive because it took so long to transport them (2-3 years).

Europeans wanted to find a route that did not go through the Islamic territory of the Ottoman Empire to make transporting these goods cheaper. They wanted to find a sea route.

Factors that helped exploration:
- Printing press
- Astrolabe
- Magnetic compass
- Lateen sail

Cabot discovered Newfoundland (Canada) in 1496. He was sponsored by Henry VII.

Week 2: Plantations and Piracy

Plantation—large farms specialising in growing one type of crop

Indentured servitude—person who paid for their passage to a new country by signing a contract stating that they would work for a set period of time; indentured servitude was usually voluntary but sometimes used as a form of punishment.

Privateer—private sea captain given permission to raid and capture enemy ships

By the late 1500s it became clear the New World offered other ways to make money and Britain began to set up colonies.

Reasons for migration to the Americas:
- Religious conflicts and persecution (Catholics and Puritans)
- Lots of land to grow ‘cash crops’ (sugar, tobacco, cotton)
- Empire building

Enslaved Africans later began to replace indentured servants. They had no legal rights and had to work their whole lives without payment. Any children born became slave owners’ property too. This allowed plantations to become more profitable.

Week 3: Huguenots

Refugee— a person forced to flee to a place of safety because of danger or persecution

Heretic— a person who follows a religion not approved of by the monarch or government

Reformation— the change of religion from Roman Catholic to Protestant which took place in parts of Europe in the 16th century

Huguenots— French Protestants

50,000 Huguenots migrated to Britain

Huguenots were skilled craftsmen and women who revitalized British industries like watch-making and book-binding.

They started new businesses, such as paper-making. Previously Britain’s paper industry had relied on French imports. Britain now produced 70% of its own paper.

Huguenots translated their surnames to sound more English. ‘Blanc’ became ‘White’.

Week 4: Irish Migration

Voluntary migration— people who move because they want to.

Forced migration— people who move because they have to.

1849-1852 1.3 million people sailed into Ireland from Liverpool.

Reasons for Irish Migration:
- Potato famine in Ireland in the mid 1900s
- Widespread poverty and a need for income from England
- Irish landlords facilitate migration to reduce the number of poor people living in the parish to lower taxes.

Many lived in run-down back to backs within yards of the docks. There would have been problems with damp, lack of ventilation, running water in the houses or rooms they lived in. 12 families would share 1 toilet.

Outbreaks of cholera, typhus and epidemics of these diseases led to public health problems. This was nicknamed ‘Irish fever’.

Many feared and resented Irish immigration because of the pressure this put on the city. There were religious differences between the Irish Catholics and Protestant British.

Week 5: Migration from the Empire

Indentured servitude became popular in the Empire in the 1800s.

Between 1841–1910 around 150,000 people per decade moved around the Empire under this system.

In the British African colonies of Kenya and Uganda, over 30,000 Indians moved there.

They helped build railways, bridges and roads.

Thousands stayed when the work was completed.

By the late 1960s there were about 180,000 ‘Kenyan Asians’ and around 60,000 ‘Ugandan Asians’.

In April 1770 James Cook claimed the east coast of Australia for Britain and named it New South Wales.

Australia was used as a place to relieve Britain’s overcrowded jails. Between 1787 and 1807, 20,000 convicts were sent to

Week 6: Post World War Two Migration

After WW2 Britain invited people from the Caribbean to come to Britain and help rebuild the country.

On June 22nd 1948, the first ship Empire Windrush arrived.

The attitude of the British towards the new arrivals was often hostile.

Many migrants, despite their qualifications, found that they were only able to access the low skilled, low paid jobs and they experienced difficulties finding places to live.

The racist attitudes preventing people from getting jobs and housing was known as the colour bar.

In the 1940s, 500—700 people arrive in Britain from the Caribbean each year.

By 1960, 40,000 West Indians were arriving per year.