

Chapter 1 : Early Modern England – From the Tudors to the Victorians

England became inhabited more than 41,000 years ago, as the discovery of stone tools and footprints at Happisburgh in Norfolk has revealed. The earliest evidence for early modern humans in North West Europe, a jawbone discovered in Devon at Kents Cavern in 1991, was re-dated in 2013 to between 41,000 and 44,000 years old.

The first modern humans homo sapiens arrived during the Ice Age about 45,000 to 10,000 years ago, when the sea levels were lower and Britain was connected to the European mainland. It is these people who built the ancient megalithic monuments of Stonehenge and Avebury. Between 4000 and 1000 BCE, Celtic tribes migrated from Central Europe and France to Britain and mixed with the indigenous inhabitants, creating a new culture slightly distinct from the Continental Celtic one. This was the Bronze Age. The Romans controlled most of present-day England and Wales, and founded a large number of cities that still exist today. London, York, St Albans, Bath, Exeter, Lincoln, Leicester, Worcester, Gloucester, Chichester, Winchester, Colchester, Manchester, Chester, Lancaster, were all Roman towns, as in fact were all the cities with names now ending in -chester, -cester or -caster, which derive from Latin castrum "fortification".

The Anglo-Saxons The Romans progressively abandoned Britannia in the 5th century as their Empire was falling apart and legions were needed to protect Rome. With the Romans gone, the Celtic tribes started fighting with each others again, and one of the local chieftain had the not so brilliant idea to request help from the some Germanic tribes from the North of present-day Germany and South of Denmark. These were the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, who arrived in the 5th and 6th centuries. However, things did not happen as the Celts had expected. The Germanic tribes did not go back home after the fight, and on the contrary felt strong enough to seize the whole of the country for themselves, which they did, pushing back all the Celtic tribes to Wales and Cornwall, and founding their respective kingdoms of Kent the Jutes, Essex, Sussex and Wessex the Saxons, and further north East Anglia, Mercia and Northumbria the Angles. These 7 kingdoms, which rules over all England from about 450 to AD 1000, were later known as the Anglo-Saxon heptarchy.

The Vikings From the second half of the 9th century, the Norse from Scandinavia started invading Europe, the Swedes taking up Eastern Europe, Russia which they founded as a country and the Byzantine Empire, the Norwegians raiding Scotland and Ireland, discovering and settling in the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland and were in fact the first Europeans to set foot in America in AD 1000, while the Danes wrought havoc throughout Western Europe, as far as North Africa. Another group of Danes managed to take Paris, and obtain a grant of land from the King of France in 911. The Normans After having settled in their newly acquired land, the Normans, adopted the French feudal system and French as official language. During that time, the Kings of Wessex had resisted and eventually vanquished the Danes in England in the 10th century. But the powerful Canute the Great, king of the newly unified Denmark and Norway and overlord of Schleswig and Pomerania, led two other invasions on England in 1016 and 1040, and became king of England in 1016, after crushing the Anglo-Saxon king, Edmund II. He nominated William, Duke of Normandy, as his successor, but upon his death, Harold Godwinson, the powerful Earl of Wessex, crowned himself king. William refused to acknowledge Harold as King and invaded England with 12,000 soldiers in 1066. King Harold was killed at the battle of Hastings by an arrow in the eye, as the legend as it is, and William the Conqueror become William I of England. His descendants have sat on the throne of England to this day. William I ordered a nationwide survey of land property known as the Domesday Book, and redistributed land among his vassals. The Norman rulers kept their possessions in France, and even extended them to most of Western France Brittany, Aquitaine English nevertheless remained the language of the populace, and the fusion of English a mixture of Anglo-Saxon and Norse languages with French and Latin used by the clergy slowly evolved into modern English. Richard I "Lionheart" was hardly ever in England, too busy defending his French possessions or fighting the infidels in the Holy Land. During that time, his brother John "Lackland" usurped the throne and startled another civil war. He also happened to be gay, which led to his imprisonment and tragic murder by his wife and her lover see Gloucester. Escaping several assassination attempts, Henry also had to deal with the revolt of Owen Glendower, who declared himself Prince of Wales in 1400, then with the rebellion of the Earl of Northumberland. Henry V, famously defeated the French at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, but his pious and

peace-loving son Henry VI , who inherited the throne at just one year old, was to have a much more troubled reign. The regent lost most of the English possessions in France to a year old girl Joan of Arc and in , the Wars of the Roses broke out. Except for getting married six times, desperate for a male heir, Henry changed the face of England, passing the Acts of Union with Wales , thus becoming the first English King of Wales, then changing his title of Lord of Ireland into that of also first King of Ireland To assure the control over the clergy, Henry dissolved all the monasteries in the country and nationalised them, becoming immensely rich in the process. Henry VIII was the last English king to claim the title of King of France, as he lost his last possession there, the port of Calais although he tried to recover it, taking Tournai for a few years, the only town in present-day Belgium to have been under English rule. It was also under Henry VIII that England started exploring the globe and trading outside Europe, although this would only develop to colonial proportions under his daughters, Mary I and especially Elizabeth I after whom Virginia was named. Mary I , a staunch Catholic, intended to restore Roman Catholicism to England, executing over religious dissenters in her 5-year reign which earned her the nickname of Bloody Mary. Mary died childless of ovarian cancer in , and her half-sister Elizabeth ascended the throne. It was an age of great navigators like Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh see Plymouth , an age of enlightenment with the philosopher Francis Bacon , and playwrights such as Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare Her reign was also marked by conflicts with France and Scotland bound by a common queen, Mary Stuart , then Spain and Ireland. Elizabeth was an undecisive and prudent ruler. She never married, and when Mary Stuart tried and failed to take over the throne of England, Elizabeth kept her imprisoned for 19 years most of the time in Chatsworth House under the guard of the Earl of Shrewsbury , before finally signing her act of execution. The divide between Catholics and Protestant worsened after this incident. Despite being an Anglican Protestant, his marriage with a French Roman Catholic combined with policies at odd with Calvinist ideals and his totalitarian handling of the Parliament eventually culminated in the English Civil War The country was torn between Royalist and Parliamentary troops, and most of the medieval castles still standing were destroyed during that period eg. Kenilworth , Corfe , Bodiam Charles was beheaded, and the puritan leader of the Parliamentarians, Oliver Cromwell , ruled the country as a dictator from to his death. The Restoration The "Merry Monarch", as Charles II was known, was better at handling Parliament than his father, although as ruthless with other matters. Charles II was the patron of the arts and sciences. Charles acquired Bombay and Tangiers through his Portuguese wife, thus laying the foundation for the British Empire. The couple was "invited" by the Protestant aristocracy to conduct an invasion from the Netherlands. James was allowed to escape to France, where he remained the rest of his life under the protection of Louis XIV. His son and grandson later attempted to come back to the throne, but without success. The new ruling couple became known as the "Grand Alliance". The parliament ratified that all kings or queens would have to be Protestant from then on. Anne died heirless in , and a distant German cousin, George of Hanover, was called to rule over the UK. This marked a turning point in British politics, as future monarchs were also to remain more passive figures, letting the reins of the government to the Prime Minister. He was a powerful ruler, and the last British monarch to personally lead his troops into battle. Handel was commissioned to compose his coronation anthem "Zadok the Priest" , which has been sung at every coronation since. The British Empire expanded considerably during his reign and the song "God Save the King" also developed during that period. Some other notable changes include the replacement of the Julian Calendar by the Gregorian Calendar in , and the New Year was officially moved from 25 March to 1 January. However, 13 years later, the American War of Independence started after the British government imposed a series of taxes on the colonies. The 13 American colonies were finally granted their independence in and formed the United States of America. George III suffered from an hereditary disease known as porphyria, and his mental health seriously deteriorated from By he was permanently insane see Regency below. During that time, Britain had to face the ambitions of Napoleon to conquer the whole of Europe. Great industrial cities such as Birmingham , Manchester , Liverpool , Leeds and Sheffield emerged as the new economic centres of the country, their population booming several fold. The gap between the rich and the poor increased considerably, as was poignantly described by Charles Dickens in such novels as David Copperfield or Oliver Twist. The Regent was known for his extravagance and liking for women. He was more often

diverting himself in his magnificent Oriental-style pavilion in Brighton than worrying about the affairs of state in London, leaving the power to the Prime Minister, Lord Liverpool, during most of his reign. George IV notoriously had poor relationships with his father, and especially his wife, Caroline of Brunswick, refusing to recognise her as Queen and seeking to divorce her. In 1801, the Whig party came back to power and Earl Grey, the new Prime Minister after whom the tea is named, reformed the electoral system. On the cultural scene, the early 19th century was highly prolific. In 1841, Albert died prematurely at the age of 42. Victoria was devastated and retired in a semi-permanent state of mourning. She nevertheless started a romantic relationship with her Scottish servant John Brown, and there were even talks of a secret marriage. The latter years of her reign were dominated by two influential Prime Ministers, Benjamin Disraeli and his rival William Ewart Gladstone. The former was the favourite of the Queen, and crowned her "Empress of India" in 1876, in return of which Victoria creating him Earl of Beaconsfield. Gladstone was a liberal, and often at odd with both Victoria and Disraeli, but the strong support he enjoyed from within his party kept him in power for a total of 14 years between 1868 and 1874. He legalised trade unions, advocated both universal education and universal suffrage well, at least for men. The First World War left over 9 million dead including nearly 1 million Britons throughout Europe, and financially ruined most of the countries involved. The monarchies in Germany, Austria, Russia and the Ottoman Empire all fell, and the map of central and eastern Europe was redesigned. The consequences in Britain were disillusionment with the government and monarchy, and the creation of the Labour Party. The General Strike of 1926 and the worsening economy led to radical political changes, and women were granted the same universal suffrage as men from age 21 instead of previously 30 in 1928. His brother then unexpectedly became George VI after the scandal. Nazi Germany was becoming more menacing as Hitler grew more powerful and aggressive. The charismatic Winston Churchill became the war-time Prime Minister in 1940 and his speeches encouraged the British to fight off the attempted German invasion. In one of his most patriotic speeches before the Battle of Britain, Churchill address the British people with "We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender. Most of these ex-colonies formed the British Commonwealth, now known as the Commonwealth of Nations. In 1952, Elizabeth II b. Although she somewhat rehabilitated the image of the monarchy, her children did not, and their sentimental lives have made the headlines of the tabloid newspapers at least since the marriage of Charles, Prince of Wales, with Lady Diana Spencer see Althorp in 1981. The Hippie subculture also developed at that time. Conservative PM Margaret Thatcher b. She privatised the railways and shut down inefficient factories, but also increased the gap between the rich and the poor by cutting on the social security. Thatcher was succeeded in her party by the unpopular John Major, but in 1997, the "New Labour" more to the right than the "Old Labour" came back to power with Tony Blair b. Bush especially regarding the invasion of Iraq in 2003 disappointed many Leftists, who really saw in Blair but a Rightist in disguise. But Blair has also positively surprised many by his intelligence and remarkable skills as an orator and negotiator. Nowadays, the English economy relies heavily on services. The main industries are travel discount airlines and travel agencies, education apart from Oxford and Cambridge universities and textbooks, hundreds of language schools for learners of English, music EMI, HMV, Virgin

Chapter 2 : BBC - History: The Making of Modern Britain

Modern & General History England has in the past ruled more countries and more land (at one time more than 1/4 of the world) than any other of the famous conquering nations such as the Romans, the Greeks, the Persians, the Vikings, the French, Spanish, Dutch and Portuguese.

It specifically named witchcraft or sorcery as a species of heresy, and provided that, unless the accused witches abjured these beliefs, they were to be burnt at the stake. Further and broader Witchcraft Acts were passed by Queen Elizabeth I in 1564 and by King James I in 1604, making witchcraft a felony, and removing the accused witches from the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts to the courts of common law. The Inquisition, per se, did not operate in England, but the procedure was comparable. By the mid-16th Century in central Europe, torture inflicted on heretics suspected of magical pacts or demon-driven sexual misconduct led to some alarming confessions, where defendants admitted to flying on poles and animals to attend assemblies presided over by Satan who appeared in the form of a goat or other animal. Witch burning in Schiltach, Germany from 1589 to 1627. In 1564, the authorities in Geneva, Switzerland burned accused witches at the stake; in 1579, in Como, Italy, a spreading spiral of witchcraft charges led to as many as 100 executions; witch hysteria swept France in 1573 after claims were made of over 100 witches roaming the country. Although the Reformation divided Europe between Protestant regions and those loyal to the Pope, the Protestants took the crime of witchcraft no less seriously arguably even more so than the Catholics. Dozens of condemned witches in the North Berwick area were burned at the stake in what would be one of the first and largest witch-hunts in British history. England executed significantly less than 100, during the main period of the witch craze, and Ireland just 4, due in part to better procedural safeguards for defendants in those countries. However, many more were tried and condemned in Scotland one estimate giving as many as 400, executions overall, which followed the continental, inquisitorial model. At one point in Scotland, it was not even considered necessary to obtain a confession before conviction and execution, a general reputation as a witch being sufficient proof for an indictment and conviction. There were, however, some brave voices of dissent. Scot believed that the prosecution of those accused of witchcraft was irrational and un-Christian, and he held the Roman Church responsible. All obtainable copies of the book were burned on the accession of James I in 1603 and the few remaining copies are now very rare. The witch hunt reached its peak in Europe during the late 16th and early 17th Century. In 1573, the largest witch-hunt in French history occurred, and there were at least 100 arrests in the Languedoc region alone. The number of trials began to drop sharply, however, after the late 16th century. By the late 17th century, the Enlightenment, with its empirical reason, skepticism and humanitarianism, contributed to the end of witch-hunts throughout Europe, arguing that there was no empirical evidence that alleged witches caused real harm, and that the use of torture to force confessions was inhumane. The Connecticut Witch Trials started in 1647 and continued on and off for half a century, but by far the most famous witchcraft incident was the Salem Witch Trials, a series of hearings before local magistrates in a variety of towns across the province followed by county court trials to prosecute people accused of witchcraft in Essex, Suffolk and Middlesex counties of colonial Massachusetts, between February and May 1692. Over 200 people were arrested and imprisoned, and courts convicted twenty-nine people of the capital felony of witchcraft of which nineteen were hanged, one old man was crushed to death with rocks, and at least five more of the accused died in prison. Several of the accusers later admitted that they had made up their stories, and the courts later cleared all those accused of witchcraft in Salem and reversed their convictions. The very last execution for witchcraft in Europe took place in Poland in 1795, but practitioners of witchcraft stayed hidden in the shadows and kept their faith secret, handing their knowledge down to successive generations, until the resurgence of witchcraft and Neopaganism in the Modern Period allowed them to come out of the "broom closet".

Chapter 3 : BBC - History - British History in depth: The Glorious Revolution

England continues to be a major epicentre of industrial, economic, social and cultural import. It is a multilingual, multinational country that represents its complex history in the form of its heritage, its architecture, its art and its vast literary works.

English Renaissance The term, " English Renaissance " is used by many historians to refer to a cultural movement in England in the 16th and 17th centuries that was heavily influenced by the Italian Renaissance. Other cultural historians have countered that, regardless of whether the name "renaissance" is apt, there was undeniably an artistic flowering in England under the Tudor monarchs , culminating in Shakespeare and his contemporaries. The rise of the Tudors[edit] Some scholars date the beginning of Early Modern Britain to the end of the Wars of the Roses and the crowning of Henry Tudor in after his victory at the battle of Bosworth Field. A major war on English soil would not occur again until the English Civil War of the 17th century. A similar pattern was unfolding on the continent as new technologies, such as gunpowder , and social and ideological changes undermined the power of the feudal nobility and enhanced that of the sovereign. Henry VIII also made use of the Protestant Reformation to seize the power of the Roman Catholic Church , confiscating the property of the monasteries and declaring himself the head of the new Anglican Church. Under the Tudors the English state was centralized and rationalized as a bureaucracy built up and the government became run and managed by educated functionaries. The most notable new institution was the Star Chamber. Allegory of the Tudor dynasty detail , attributed to Lucas de Heere, c. James I was a major proponent of this idea and wrote extensively on it. The same forces that had reduced the power of the traditional aristocracy also served to increase the power of the commercial classes. The rise of trade and the central importance of money to the operation of the government gave this new class great power, but power that was not reflected in the government structure. This would lead to a long contest during the 17th century between the forces of the monarch and parliament. Elizabethan era â€” [edit] Main article: It was the height of the English Renaissance and saw the flowering of English literature and poetry. It was an age of expansion and exploration abroad, while at home the Protestant Reformation became entrenched in the national mindset. It was a brief period of largely internal peace between the English Reformation and the battles between Protestants and Catholics and the battles between parliament and the monarchy that engulfed the 17th century. England was also well-off compared to the other nations of Europe. The Italian Renaissance had come to an end under the weight of foreign domination of the peninsula. France was embroiled in its own religious battles that would only be settled in with the Edict of Nantes. The one great rival was Spain, with which England conflicted both in Europe and the Americas in skirmishes that exploded into the Anglo-Spanish War of â€” An attempt by Philip II of Spain to invade England with the Spanish Armada in was famously defeated, but the tide of war turned against England with a disastrously unsuccessful attack upon Spain, the Drake-Norris Expedition of Thereafter Spain provided some support for Irish Catholics in a draining guerrilla war against England, and Spanish naval and land forces inflicted a series of defeats upon English forces. Economically, the country began to benefit greatly from the new era of trans-Atlantic trade. Scotland from 15th century to [edit] Scotland advanced markedly in educational terms during the 15th century with the founding of the University of St Andrews in , the University of Glasgow in and the University of Aberdeen in , and with the passing of the Education Act After the death of James III in , during or after the Battle of Sauchieburn, his successor James IV successfully ended the quasi-independent rule of the Lord of the Isles , bringing the Western Isles under effective Royal control for the first time. James IV was the last known Scottish king known to speak Gaelic , although some suggest his son could also. The invasion was stopped decisively at the battle of Flodden Field during which the King, many of his nobles, and over 10, troopsâ€”The Flowers of the Forestâ€”were killed. When James V finally managed to escape from the custody of the regents with the aid of his redoubtable mother in , he once again set about subduing the rebellious Highlands, Western and Northern isles, as his father had had to do. He married the French noblewoman Marie de Guise. His reign was fairly successful, until another disastrous campaign against England led to defeat at the battle of Solway Moss

James died a short time later. The day before his death, he was brought news of the birth of an heir: This took the form of border skirmishing. To avoid the "rough wooing", Mary was sent to France at the age of five, as the intended bride of the heir to the French throne. Her mother stayed in Scotland to look after the interests of Mary and of France although the Earl of Arran acted officially as regent. However it was to no avail since much of Scotland was still an unstable environment. She did not do well and after only seven turbulent years, at the end of which Protestants had gained complete control of Scotland, she had perforce to abdicate. Imprisoned for a time in Loch Leven Castle, she eventually escaped and attempted to regain the throne by force. After her defeat at the Battle of Langside in she took refuge in England, leaving her young son, James VI, in the hands of regents. In England she became a focal point for Catholic conspirators and was eventually executed on the orders of her kinswoman Elizabeth I. In the earlier part of the century, the teachings of first Martin Luther and then John Calvin began to influence Scotland. The execution of a number of Protestant preachers, most notably the Lutheran influenced Patrick Hamilton in and later the proto-Calvinist George Wishart in who was burnt at the stake in St. Andrews by Cardinal Beaton for heresy, did nothing to stem the growth of these ideas. Beaton was assassinated shortly after the execution of George Wishart. The eventual Reformation of the Scottish Church followed a brief civil war in 1560, in which English intervention on the Protestant side was decisive. A Reformed confession of faith was adopted by Parliament in 1560, while the young Mary, Queen of Scots, was still in France. Roman Catholicism was not totally eliminated, and remained strong particularly in parts of the highlands. The Reformation remained somewhat precarious through the reign of Queen Mary, who remained Roman Catholic but tolerated Protestantism. Following her deposition in 1567, her infant son James VI was raised as a Protestant. In 1558, following the death of the childless Queen Elizabeth I, the crown of England passed to James. For a time, this remained the only political connection between two independent nations, but it foreshadowed the eventual union of Scotland and England under the banner of the Great Britain.

Chapter 4 : History of England - Wikipedia

Early modern Britain is the history of the island of Great Britain roughly corresponding to the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. Major historical events in Early Modern British history include numerous wars, especially with France, along with the English Renaissance, the English Reformation and Scottish Reformation, the English Civil War, the Restoration of Charles II, the Glorious Revolution.

History of Soccer Soccer is one of the most popular sports in Europe and the Americas. It has a vivid and interesting history in the world of sports. Early evidence of soccer being played as a sport finds occurrence in China during the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC. In China, it was during the Han dynasty that people dribbled leather balls by kicking it into a small net. Recorded facts also support the fact that Romans and Greeks used to play ball for fun and frolic. Some facts point to Kyoto in Japan where kicking of ball was a popular sport. It is said that early growth of the modern soccer started in England. Some amusing facts even mention that the first ball used was the head of some Danish brigand. It is said that during medieval times, the old form of soccer used to allow many ill practices like kicking, punching, biting and gouging. The main aim was to carry the ball to a target spot. People grew so fond of the game that they would throng the field all day long. Sometimes the competition grew fierce and masses got so wild that there were frequent incidents of violence during the game. It is also said that soldiers admired the game so much that they missed archery practice to watch it. King Edward III banned soccer in owing to the growing incidents of violence and military indulgence in the sport. When and where exactly did soccer start is a question that has no precise answer to it. You can easily say that this popular game has been played for more than three thousand years. The nativity of modern-day soccer must be credited to Britain. It was also known as the association football, with Scotland and England being the co-founders of the systematic game of soccer. Modern History of Soccer: Football was segregated into two groups; some colleges and schools opted for Rugby rules that allowed tripping, shin kicking and also carrying the ball. These rules were exclusively prohibited as per the Cambridge rules. King Edward III banned soccer in , owing to the growing incidents of violence and military indulgence in the sport. The history of modern-day soccer was established in The outcome of this meeting was the formation of the Football Association. In December , the Rugby Football and Association football finally split as the supporters of the Rugby School rules walked out. Firmly establishing the foundation of soccer in , the Football Association strictly banned any kind of handling of the ball. FIFA was established in the year and by early s, different leagues were operating from various countries. FIFA is credited with organizing the first world cup in Uruguay. The history of soccer is rich with events, development and its growing craze all over the world. You will find yourself amazed as you learn about different times of this wonderful sport that has held our awe and admiration for over years.

Chapter 5 : The History of English - Timeline

Download the industrial history of modern england economic history in pdf or read the industrial history of modern england economic history in pdf online books in PDF, EPUB and Mobi Format.

They landed in Kent and defeated two armies led by the kings of the Catuvellauni tribe, Caratacus and Togodumnus , in battles at the Medway and the Thames. Togodumnus was killed, and Caratacus fled to Wales. The Roman force, led by Aulus Plautius, waited for Claudius to come and lead the final march on the Catuvellauni capital at Camulodunum modern Colchester , before he returned to Rome for his triumph. The Catuvellauni held sway over most of the southeastern corner of England; eleven local rulers surrendered, a number of client kingdoms were established, and the rest became a Roman province with Camulodunum as its capital. By 54 AD the border had been pushed back to the Severn and the Trent, and campaigns were underway to subjugate Northern England and Wales. But in 60 AD, under the leadership of the warrior-queen Boudicca , the tribes rebelled against the Romans. At first, the rebels had great success. They burned Camulodunum, Londinium and Verulamium to the ground. There is some archaeological evidence that the same happened at Winchester. The Second Legion Augusta, stationed at Exeter , refused to move for fear of revolt among the locals. Paulinus gathered what was left of the Roman army. In the decisive battle , 10,000 Romans faced nearly 200,000 warriors somewhere along the line of Watling Street , at the end of which Boudicca was utterly defeated. It was said that 80,000 rebels were killed, but only 10,000 Romans. Over the next 20 years, the borders expanded just a little, but the governor Agricola incorporated into the province the last pockets of independence in Wales and Northern England. He also led a campaign into Scotland which was recalled by Emperor Domitian. The Romans and their culture stayed in charge for years. Traces of their presence are ubiquitous throughout England. The Anglo-Saxon migration[edit] Further information: Anglo-Saxon settlement of Britain Kingdoms and tribes in Britain , c. The entire region was referred to as " Hwicce ", and settlements throughout the south were called Gewisse. The Battle of Deorham was a critical in establishing Anglo-Saxon rule in The precise nature of these invasions is not fully known; there are doubts about the legitimacy of historical accounts due to a lack of archaeological finds. Britons invited the Saxons to the island to repel them but after they vanquished the Scots and Picts, the Saxons turned against the Britons. Seven Kingdoms are traditionally identified as being established by these Saxon migrants. Three were clustered in the South east: Sussex , Kent and Essex. The Midlands were dominated by the kingdoms of Mercia and East Anglia. To the north was Northumbria which unified two earlier kingdoms, Bernicia and Deira. Eventually, the kingdoms were dominated by Northumbria and Mercia in the 7th century, Mercia in the 8th century and then Wessex in the 9th century. Northumbria extended its control north into Scotland and west into Wales. It also subdued Mercia whose first powerful King, Penda , was killed by Oswy in Mercian power reached its peak under the rule of Offa , who from had influence over most of Anglo-Saxon England. Four years later, he received submission and tribute from the Northumbrian king, Eanred. However, the belief that the Saxons wiped or drove out all the native Britons from England has been widely discredited by a number of archaeologists since the s. Anyway Anglo-Saxons and Saxonified Britons spread into England, by a combination of military conquest and cultural assimilation. By the eighth century, a kind of England had emerged. Augustine , the first Archbishop of Canterbury , took office in The last pagan Anglo-Saxon king, Penda of Mercia , died in The last pagan Jutish king, Arwald of the Isle of Wight was killed in The Anglo-Saxon mission on the continent took off in the 8th century, leading to the Christianisation of practically all of the Frankish Empire by Throughout the 7th and 8th century power fluctuated between the larger kingdoms. Bede records Aethelbert of Kent as being dominant at the close of the 6th century, but power seems to have shifted northwards to the kingdom of Northumbria, which was formed from the amalgamation of Bernicia and Deira. Due to succession crises, Northumbrian hegemony was not constant, and Mercia remained a very powerful kingdom, especially under Penda. Two defeats ended Northumbrian dominance: Aethelbald and Offa , the two most powerful kings, achieved high status; indeed, Offa was considered the overlord of south Britain by Charlemagne. However, a rising Wessex, and challenges from smaller kingdoms, kept

Mercian power in check, and by the early 9th century the "Mercian Supremacy" was over. This period has been described as the Heptarchy, though this term has now fallen out of academic use. Other small kingdoms were also politically important across this period: Hwicce, Magonsæte, Lindsey and Middle Anglia. Danelaw, Viking Age, and Alfred the Great England in The first recorded landing of Vikings took place in Dorsetshire, on the south-west coast. However, by then the Vikings were almost certainly well-established in Orkney and Shetland, and many other non-recorded raids probably occurred before this. Records do show the first Viking attack on Iona taking place in The arrival of the Vikings in particular the Danish Great Heathen Army upset the political and social geography of Britain and Ireland. In Northumbria fell to the Danes; East Anglia fell in Though Wessex managed to contain the Vikings by defeating them at Ashdown in, a second invading army landed, leaving the Saxons on a defensive footing. Alfred was immediately confronted with the task of defending Wessex against the Danes. He spent the first five years of his reign paying the invaders off. In May he led a force that defeated the Danes at Edington. The victory was so complete that the Danish leader, Guthrum, was forced to accept Christian baptism and withdraw from Mercia. Alfred then set about strengthening the defences of Wessex, building a new navy—60 vessels strong. These military gains allowed Edward to fully incorporate Mercia into his kingdom and add East Anglia to his conquests. Edward then set about reinforcing his northern borders against the Danish kingdom of Northumbria. The dominance and independence of England was maintained by the kings that followed. Two powerful Danish kings Harold Bluetooth and later his son Sweyn both launched devastating invasions of England. Anglo-Saxon forces were resoundingly defeated at Maldon in More Danish attacks followed, and their victories were frequent. His solution was to pay off the Danes: These payments, known as Danegelds, crippled the English economy. Then he then made a great error: In response, Sweyn began a decade of devastating attacks on England. Northern England, with its sizable Danish population, sided with Sweyn. By, London, Oxford, and Winchester had fallen to the Danes. Cnut seized the throne, crowning himself King of England. Alfred of Wessex died in and was succeeded by his son Edward the Elder. The titles attributed to him in charters and on coins suggest a still more widespread dominance. His expansion aroused ill-feeling among the other kingdoms of Britain, and he defeated a combined Scottish-Viking army at the Battle of Brunanburh. However, the unification of England was not a certainty. Nevertheless, Edgar, who ruled the same expanse as Athelstan, consolidated the kingdom, which remained united thereafter. England under the Danes and the Norman conquest[edit].

Chapter 6 : The History of English - Early Modern English (c. - c.)

*A History Of Modern England [HERBERT PAUL] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it.*

It was the keystone of the Whig those opposed to a Catholic succession history of Britain. According to the Whig account, the events of the revolution were bloodless and the revolution settlement established the supremacy of parliament over the crown, setting Britain on the path towards constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy. But it ignores the extent to which the events of constituted a foreign invasion of England by another European power, the Dutch Republic. Although bloodshed in England was limited, the revolution was only secured in Ireland and Scotland by force and with much loss of life. England would become merely a satellite state, under the control of an all-powerful Catholic monarch. Moreover, the British causes of the revolution were as much religious as political. Indeed, the immediate constitutional impact of the revolution settlement was minimal. Nonetheless, over the course of the reign of William III society underwent significant and long-lasting changes. It reflected a widely-held belief in an elaborate conspiracy theory, that Catholics were actively plotting the overthrow of church and state. In their place would be established a Catholic tyranny, with England becoming merely a satellite state, under the control of an all-powerful Catholic monarch, in the era of the Glorious Revolution, identified with Louis XIV of France. This conspiracy theory was given credibility by the existence of some genuine catholic subterfuge, most notably the Gunpowder Plot of Public anxieties were raised by the issue of the royal succession. Charles II fathered no legitimate offspring. This meant that the crown would pass to his brother, James, Duke of York, whose conversion to Catholicism had become public knowledge in Public concern about the succession reached fever pitch in the years Whig politicians within parliament, led by the earl of Shaftesbury, promoted exclusion bills which would have prevented James from succeeding to the throne. With this financial support, and with public opinion turning against his critics, Charles was able to dissolve parliament on 28 March Initial support for the king ebbed away as it became clear that he wished to secure not only freedom of worship for Catholics, but also the removal of the Test and Corporation Acts so that they could occupy public office. In April , James issued a declaration of indulgence, suspending penal laws against Catholics. James then attempted to secure his religious objectives through the use of his prerogative powers. In April , James issued a declaration of indulgence, suspending penal laws against Catholics and granting toleration to some Protestant dissenters. In the summer of , James formally dissolved his parliament and began canvassing officials across the country regarding their support for the formal repeal of the Test Acts. These measures met with increasing opposition from the Anglican-Tory establishment. James responded by having them arrested for seditious libel and taken to the Tower of London. Their acquittal at trial was met with widespread public rejoicing. The grave danger posed to the Protestant succession and the Anglican establishment led seven peers to write to William on 30 June , pledging their support to the prince if he brought a force into England against James. William had already begun making military preparations for an invasion of England before this letter was sent. Indeed, the letter itself mainly served a propaganda purpose, to allow the prince of Orange to present his intervention as a mercy mission. The forces that the prince of Orange amassed for his invasion were vast, the flotilla consisting of 43 men-of-war, four light frigates and 10 fireships protecting over flyboats capable of carrying 21, soldiers. All in all, it was an armada four times the size of that launched by the Spanish in James had made military preparations for the defence of England over the summer and autumn of and his army encamped on Hounslow Heath was, at about 25, men, numerically larger than the force brought over by William. For the first time since the s, England was faced with the prospect of civil war. The civil unrest convinced James to leave London and bring out his forces to meet the invading army in a pitched battle. James made his first attempt to escape, but was captured by Kent fishermen near Sheerness. He was frequently debilitated by heavy nosebleeds. However, the king was now convinced that his own life was in danger and was making preparations to flee the country. On 11 December, in the wake of renewed anti-Catholic rioting in London,

James made his first attempt to escape, but was captured by Kent fishermen near Sheerness. After considerable pressure from William himself, parliament agreed that he would rule as joint monarch with Mary, rather than act merely as her consort, and on 13 February William and Mary formally accepted the throne. Before they were offered the crown, William and Mary were presented with a document called the Declaration of Rights, later enshrined in law as the Bill of Rights, which affirmed a number of constitutional principles, such as the illegality of prerogative suspending and dispensing powers, the prohibition of taxation without parliamentary consent and the need for regular parliaments. In reality, the Bill of Rights placed few real restrictions on the crown. It was not until that the call for regular parliaments was backed up by the Triennial Act. Pressure from William also ensured the passage in May of the Toleration Act, granting many Protestant groups, but not Catholics, freedom of worship. This toleration was, however, considerably more limited than that envisaged by James II. Their massive cost led not only to growth of modern financial institutions – most notably the Bank of England founded in 1694 – but also to greater scrutiny of crown expenditure through parliamentary committees of accounts. The bureaucracy required to harvest all this money grew exponentially too. In Ireland and Scotland, the settlements were extremely politically and religiously divisive. In Ireland and Scotland, the revolution was militarily contested and its settlements extremely politically and religiously divisive. For example, Irish Protestants disregarded the generous peace terms of the Treaty of Limerick 3 October and established a monopoly over land-ownership and political power. The revolution also failed to limit the power of parliaments and created no body of protected constitutional law. Therefore the Septennial Act of 1701 was able to effectively undermine the terms of the Triennial Act, ushering in the lengthy rule of a Whig oligarchy. For the non-white inhabitants of the British Atlantic empire, the Glorious Revolution represented not the broadening of freedom but the expansion of servitude.

Chapter 7 : Brief History of England - Eupedia

*A History of Modern England [Herbert Paul] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This is a pre historical reproduction that was curated for quality. Quality assurance was conducted on each of these books in an attempt to remove books with imperfections introduced by the digitization process.*

Modern Times in London By Langdon Jones At the start of the new century, London was a larger, busier place than it had ever been before. One could buy fresh fish from Billingsgate, meat from Smithfield Market, flowers and vegetables from Covent Garden, clocks from Clerkenwell Road, diamonds from Hatton Garden; all kinds of goods were readily available. Giant liners traversed the oceans; electric lighting was beginning to appear, and horseless carriages could occasionally be seen on the streets. Many of the things destined to play a major part in twentieth-century life were here already. But at the same time for most people there was little difference between this London and the city of fifty years previously. Victoria was still on the throne; there was still dire poverty, and those who were without work had to survive on charity and scavenging. The bad winter of 1891-2 caused great misery and degradation, and things became so desperate that an observer of the time might have felt that such a situation could not possibly go on for long. But at the time the only alleviation remained the institution of workhouses, although philanthropists were constructing almshouses, cheap housing for the poor. Ironically those same almshouses that survive today are sold for hundreds of thousands of pounds. London at the time was a curious mixture of ostentatious wealth hiding harrowing poverty. Although this was a period of extraordinary prosperity, the normal working man had a hard enough time of it. The music-hall reached its pinnacle at this time, with many new halls being built; the performers achieved great fame, but the life they sang about was the life of the audience - there was a great sense of shared experience, the feeling that they had all been through the bad times. In the burst of jingoism that came at the time of the first world war, the music halls were responsible for recruiting a large number of the young men who were to sacrifice their lives on the battlefields of France and Belgium. It was only as the war dragged on, and death came in wave after wave that the war songs of the music halls began to have a slightly plaintive quality. While the singers had been exhorting their young men to go over and do their glorious bit for England, now they were more likely to tell them to pack up your troubles in your old kit bag and smile, smile, smile. People only need to be told to smile, especially in such an insistent way, when there is precious little to smile about. Perhaps the decline of the halls which began in the twenties was due to the fact that they were seen to have become the tool of the establishment, the fact that people felt a sense of betrayal, and that the performers could no longer count on the bond of shared experience. The war was the first in which civilians had to face directly the blows of the enemy. Early bombing raids were carried out by Zeppelins, which had a hard enough time actually finding the city, and many of their bombs dropped in the open countryside - casualties were light. Towards the end of the war London had to put up with more sustained and accurate bombing, and this was an early foretaste of what was to come in a couple of decades. Public transport expanded a great deal in the first quarter of the century, with tramlines being laid and omnibus routes being established. Following the agonies of the war, London now became infected with a new gaiety, as many of the Victorian social strictures were finally discarded. Perhaps the shortage of young men had something to do with it. In the thirties the depression and the growing unease about what was happening in Germany had a sobering effect. Since the skyline of London had changed only gradually; there was a sense of permanence about these dignified buildings. The first world war had not had a major impact on London, but the second one changed the city completely. In the blitz took place, and bombs rained down nightly on London. The East End felt the brunt of it, but the whole of London suffered. Those people who had to stay in London during the hours of darkness were used to the descent into the public shelters, or into the underground stations, emerging to streets which were different from the ones they saw on their way down. After the destruction of war came a feeling of optimism and renewal as the rebuilding began. The London County Council, formed in the previous century, now worked to restore services and to exceed what had been before; to implement new standards of health and hygiene in an almost Utopian vision of what London could be. People began to look forward into an exciting future, rather

than back into the grim past. Although in there were still bomb sites to be seen in London and the ration book was an essential part of shopping, the Festival of Britain was held, ostensibly to commemorate the Great Exhibition of a hundred years previously, but also to express the new feeling of optimism and resolve, exemplified by the modernistic design of the Festival Hall. The most popular exhibits were the Guinness clock - a mechanical fantasy - and the Skylon, an elegant tower of metal girders. Londoners had suffered from the machines of destruction, like the flying bombs, those pilotless missiles, or their successors, the V2 rockets which dived at three times the speed of sound to eradicate complete streets in an instant. But the Guinness clock was an endearing and friendly machine, like those which were building the new London. But there were still elements of London that would have seemed very familiar to any visitors to the original Great Exhibition. Because of the increase in industry, and also the larger number of houses able to afford coal, this problem seemed to be getting worse all the time. Things reached a crisis point, and London was subjected to a series of dense fogs nicknamed smogs as they were supposed to be a mixture of smoke and fog which began to kill a sizeable proportion of its inhabitants. So thick were these fogs, that it became virtually impossible to drive, and taxis found themselves on pavements, buses needed men with lanterns walking in front of them to guide them and the only way that pedestrians knew there were other people around them was because they could hear them coughing. Towards the end of the fifties the smogs were so bad that thousands of people would die in a single day, usually the very old and the very young. The Clean Air Act of , forbidding the burning of fuel that was not smokeless, was felt at the time to be authoritative and unfair by many people. But it worked, although it took time. The smogs eventually became a thing of the past, and the London air no longer smelled of soot. Ironically, at the time all this was going on, the trolley bus represented a very futuristic environmentally-friendly method of transport, although perhaps it was not seen as such at the time. They were red, double-decker buses which ran on electricity, which they picked up from double poles which engaged overhead wires. The buses themselves were totally non-polluting, large and comfortable, very quiet, and set off with a powerful acceleration. Their only disadvantage was a distressingly frequent tendency for the poles to come off the wires, and it was a common sight to see the conductor with a long wooden pole trying to hook them on again. And the busy conductor also had the task of changing the points, wherever the routes diverged. Perhaps the trolley bus was ahead of its time, but it was certainly a non-polluting form of transport that worked. A Londoner living at the end of the fifties and the beginning of the sixties would have been very conscious of the forest of television aerials which were springing up, seemingly overnight. The Portobello Road street market became a centre of music and fashion, and it was in this area that the first Notting Hill Carnivals began. London in the sixties had its own unique atmosphere, a heady hallucinogenic gas that induced a feeling of well-being and sensitivity to colour. People flooded in and the tourist industry prospered. The sixties saw people crowding with equal enthusiasm to both open-air rock concerts and political demonstrations. At the beginning of this decade, the architecture of the city began to change; and there was a brutalism which was out of keeping with the general social atmosphere of the time. Since then many of the tower blocks have mercifully been pulled down, and a more imaginative approach has been taken with new buildings. London today has many examples of interesting and pleasing modern buildings, and the puritan aesthetic of the 60s architects is now not so plainly in evidence. Various groups of immigrants have come to London in the latter part of the century, and have made this a very cosmopolitan city. It is now possible to sample cuisine from all over the world within a very small area, and London has benefited from the cultural influences of India, China, Thailand, Japan and Africa and many others. With the decline of the docks, much building has been going on in the East End of London, and whole complexes of housing and commercial buildings have appeared on those sites which had been virtually unchanged since the days of Victoria. The most significant of these is the Canary Wharf development, with its own light elevated railway. It is perhaps significant that the Millennium Dome is being built at Greenwich; sitting it in an area of London which is changing rapidly perhaps symbolises the forward-looking view which prevails as the century draws to a close. London is changing rapidly, is becoming a more vital, a cleaner, a more prosperous place. But there are still aspects of London which would not seem all that unfamiliar to someone who lived here at the beginning of the century. It is now gone, but its inhabitants are still here, still to be seen huddled on the pavements covered by

their blankets. As always, London is a mixture of the good and the bad. For the tourist it remains a safe and a fascinating environment - providing a unique historical perspective, mixed with entertainment of the most up-to-date kind. London will go into the next millennium with the attributes it has always had - a cosmopolitan viewpoint, a feeling of optimism and excitement, the hum of history as its background, the clatter of commerce and business in the forefront, changing as it has always changed through the ages. As a person retains their identity as they move through a turbulent adolescence towards adulthood, so London will always remain at heart the same, despite the outward changes that will occur as this ancient city prepares to meet yet another century, another millennium. Langdon Jones is an experienced writer and editor. In the early seventies, he published a collection of short stories which appeared in both the UK and the USA. A newly-edited edition was published in

Chapter 8 : London History: Modern Times in London

Cultural History of Early Modern England Raymond Hickey English Linguistics Campus Essen. English monarchs from the late Middle English period onwards House of York.

The additions to English vocabulary during this period were deliberate borrowings, and not the result of any invasion or influx of new nationalities or any top-down decrees. Latin and to a lesser extent Greek and French was still very much considered the language of education and scholarship at this time, and the great enthusiasm for the classical languages during the English Renaissance brought thousands of new words into the language, peaking around 1550. A huge number of classical works were being translated into English during the 16th Century, and many new terms were introduced where a satisfactory English equivalent did not exist. Words from Latin or Greek often via Latin were imported wholesale during this period, either intact e.g. *alibi*. Sometimes, Latin-based adjectives were introduced to plug "lexical gaps" where no adjective was available for an existing Germanic noun e.g. *alibi*. Several rather ostentatious French phrases also became naturalized in English at this juncture, including *soi-disant*, *vis--vis*, *sang-froid*, etc, as well as more mundane French borrowings such as *crpe*, *tiquette*, etc. Examples of inkhorn terms include *revoluting*, *ingent*, *devulgate*, *attemptate*, *obtestate*, *fatigate*, *deruncinate*, *subsecive*, *nidulate*, *abstergify*, *arreption*, *suppeditate*, *eximious*, *illecebrous*, *cohibit*, *dispraise* and other such inventions. Sydney Smith was one writer of the period with a particular penchant for such inkhorn terms, including gems like *frugiverous*, *mastigophorus*, *plumigerous*, *suspirous*, *anserous* and *fugacious*. The so-called Inkhorn Controversy was the first of several such ongoing arguments over language use which began to erupt in the salons of England and, later, America. Among those strongly in favour of the use of such "foreign" terms in English were Thomas Elyot and George Pettie; just as strongly opposed were Thomas Wilson and John Cheke. However, it is interesting to note that some words initially branded as inkhorn terms have stayed in the language and now remain in common use e.g. *alibi*. An indication of the arbitrariness of this process is that *impede* survived while its opposite, *expede*, did not; *commit* and *transmit* were allowed to continue, while *demit* was not; and *disabuse* and *disagree* survived, while *disaccustom* and *disacquaint*, which were coined around the same time, did not. It is also sobering to realize that some of the greatest writers in the language have suffered from the same vagaries of fashion and fate. There was even a self-conscious reaction to this perceived foreign incursion into the English language, and some writers tried to deliberately resurrect older English words e.g. *alibi*. Most of these were also short-lived. John Cheke even made a valiant attempt to translate the entire "New Testament" using only native English words. However, this perhaps laudable attempt to bring logic and reason into the apparent chaos of the language has actually had the effect of just adding to the chaos. Whichever side of the debate one favours, however, it is fair to say that, by the end of the 16th Century, English had finally become widely accepted as a language of learning, equal if not superior to the classical languages. Vernacular language, once scorned as suitable for popular literature and little else - and still criticized throughout much of Europe as crude, limited and immature - had become recognized for its inherent qualities. As mass-produced books became cheaper and more commonly available, literacy mushroomed, and soon works in English became even more popular than books in Latin. At the time of the introduction of printing, there were five major dialect divisions within England - Northern, West Midlands, East Midlands a region which extended down to include London, Southern and Kentish - and even within these demarcations, there was a huge variety of different spellings. For example, the word church could be spelled in 30 different ways, people in 22, receive in 45, she in 60 and though in an almost unbelievable variations. The "-eth" and "-th" verb endings used in the south of the country e.g. *alibi*. The Chancery of Westminster made some efforts from the 1530s onwards to set standard spellings for official documents, specifying *I* instead of *ich* and various other common variants of the first person pronoun, *land* instead of *lond*, and modern spellings of *such*, *right*, *not*, *but*, *these*, *any*, *many*, *can*, *cannot*, *but*, *shall*, *should*, *could*, *ought*, *thorough*, etc, all of which previously appeared in many variants. Chancery Standard contributed significantly to the development of a Standard English, and the political, commercial and cultural dominance of the "East Midlands triangle" London-Oxford-Cambridge was well established long before the 15th Century, but it was the printing press

that was really responsible for carrying through the standardization process. With the advent of mass printing, the dialect and spelling of the East Midlands and, more specifically, that of the national capital, London, where most publishing houses were located became the de facto standard and, over time, spelling and grammar gradually became more and more fixed. One such example is the use of the northern English *they*, *their* and *them* in preference to the London equivalents *hi*, *hir* and *hem* which were more easily confused with singular pronouns like *he*, *her* and *him*. Caxton himself complained about the difficulties of finding forms which would be understood throughout the country, a difficult task even for simple little words like *eggs*. But his own work was far from consistent. Many of his successors were just as inconsistent, particularly as many of them were Europeans and not native English speakers. Sometimes different spellings were used for purely practical reasons, such as adding or omitting letters merely to help the layout or justification of printed lines. A good part of the reason for many of the vagaries and inconsistencies of English spelling has been attributed to the fact that words were fixed on the printed page before any orthographic consensus had emerged among teachers and writers. Printing also directly gave rise to another strange quirk: It is only since the archaic spelling was revived for store signs e. *Ye Olde Pubbe* that the "modern" pronunciation of *ye* has been used. As the Early Modern period progressed, there was an increased use of double vowels. The letters "u" and "v", which had been more or less interchangeable in Middle English, gradually became established as a vowel and a consonant respectively, as did "i" and "j". The grammarian John Hart was particularly influential in these punctuation reforms. Standardization was well under way by around 1550, but it was a slow and halting process and names in particular were often rendered in a variety of ways.

Chapter 9 : History of Football - The Origins - blog.quintoapp.com

The history of England before the Norman Conquest is poorly documented, but what stands out is the tenacity of the Anglo-Saxons in surviving a succession of invasions. They united most of what is now England from the 9th to the mid-11th century, only to be overthrown by the Normans in

England, predominant constituent unit of the United Kingdom, occupying more than half of the island of Great Britain. Despite the political, economic, and cultural legacy that has secured the perpetuation of its name, England no longer officially exists as a governmental or political unit—unlike Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, which all have varying degrees of self-government in domestic affairs. It is rare for institutions to operate for England alone. Notable exceptions are the Church of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, including Northern Ireland, have separate branches of the Anglican Communion and sports associations for cricket, rugby, and football soccer. In many ways England has seemingly been absorbed within the larger mass of Great Britain since the Act of Union of 1707. Laced by great rivers and small streams, England is a fertile land, and the generosity of its soil has supported a thriving agricultural economy for millennia. Today the metropolitan area of London encompasses much of southeastern England and continues to serve as the financial centre of Europe and to be a centre of innovation—particularly in popular culture. LondonTime-lapse video of London. Alex Silver One of the fundamental English characteristics is diversity within a small compass. Formed of the union of small Celtic and Anglo-Saxon kingdoms during the early medieval period, England has long comprised several distinct regions, each different in dialect, economy, religion, and disposition; indeed, even today many English people identify themselves by the regions or shires from which they come. Yet commonalities are more important than these differences, many of which began to disappear in the era after World War II, especially with the transformation of England from a rural into a highly urbanized society. While English culture draws on the cultures of the world, it is quite unlike any other, if difficult to identify and define. There is something distinctive and recognizable in English civilization. It has a flavour of its own. Moreover it is continuous, it stretches into the future and the past, there is something in it that persists, as in a living creature. Much of it consists of rolling hillsides, with the highest elevations found in the north, northwest, and southwest. The oldest sedimentary rocks and some igneous rocks in isolated hills of granite are in Cornwall and Devon on the southwestern peninsula, ancient volcanic rocks underlie parts of the Cumbrian Mountains, and the most recent alluvial soils cover the Fens of Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, and Norfolk. Between these regions lie bands of sandstones and limestones of different geologic periods, many of them relicts of primeval times when large parts of central and southern England were submerged below warm seas. Geologic forces lifted and folded some of these rocks to form the spine of northern England—the Pennines, which rise to 2,952 metres at Cross Fell. The Cumbrian Mountains, which include the famous Lake District, reach 3,192 metres at Scafell Pike, the highest point in England. Slate covers most of the northern portion of the mountains, and thick beds of lava are found in the southern part. Other sedimentary layers have yielded chains of hills ranging from 1,000 metres in the North Downs to 1,524 metres in the Cotswolds. The hills known as the Chilterns, the North York Moors, and the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Wolds were rounded into characteristic plateaus with west-facing escarpments during three successive glacial periods of the Pleistocene Epoch about 115,000, 70,000, and 11,700 years ago. When the last ice sheet melted, the sea level rose, submerging the land bridge that had connected Great Britain with the European mainland. Deep deposits of sand, gravel, and glacial mud left by the retreating glaciers further altered the landscape. Erosion by rain, river, and tides and subsidence in parts of eastern England subsequently shaped the hills and the coastline. Plateaus of limestone, gritstone, and carboniferous strata are associated with major coalfields, some existing as outcrops on the surface. The geologic complexity of England is strikingly illustrated in the cliff structure of its shoreline. A varied panorama of cliffs, bays, and river estuaries distinguishes the English coastline, which, with its many indentations, is some 2,800 km long. The Welland river valley forms part of the rich agricultural land of Lincolnshire. The Thames, the longest river in England, also rises in the Cotswolds and drains a large part of southeastern England. All flow into the English Channel and in some

instances help to form a pleasing landscape along the coast. Soils In journeys of only a few miles it is possible to pass through a succession of different soil structures—such as from chalk down to alluvial river valley, from limestone to sandstone and acid heath, and from clay to sand—each type of soil bearing its own class of vegetation. The Cumbrian Mountains and most of the southwestern peninsula have acid brown soils. The eastern section of the Pennines has soils ranging from brown earths to podzols. Leached brown soils predominate in much of southern England. Acid soils and podzols occur in the southeast. Regional characteristics, however, are important. Black soil covers the Fens in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk; clay soil predominates in the hills of the Weald in East Sussex and West Sussex ; and the chalk downs, especially the North Downs of Kent, are covered by a variety of stiff, brown clay, with sharp angular flints. Fine-grained deposits of alluvium occur in the floodplains, and fine marine silt occurs around the Wash estuary. Climate Weather in England is as variable as the topography. England is known as a wet country, and this is certainly true in the northwest and southwest. However, the northeastern and central regions receive less than 30 inches mm of rainfall annually and frequently suffer from drought. In parts of the southeast the annual rainfall averages only 20 inches mm. Not for nothing has the bumbershoot been the stereotypical walking stick of the English gentleman. Plant and animal life England shares with the rest of Britain a diminished spectrum of vegetation and living creatures, partly because the island was separated from the mainland of Europe soon after much of it had been swept bare by the last glacial period and partly because the land has been so industriously worked by humans. For example, a drastic depletion of mature broad-leaved forests, especially oak , was a result of the overuse of timber in the iron and shipbuilding industries. Today only a small part of the English countryside is woodland. Broad-leaved oak, beech, ash, birch, and elm and conifer pine, fir, spruce, and larch trees dominate the landscapes of Kent, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex , Suffolk , and Hampshire. Vegetation patterns have been further modified through overgrazing, forest clearance, reclamation and drainage of marshlands, and the introduction of exotic plant species. Though there are fewer species of plants than in the European mainland, they nevertheless span a wide range and include some rarities. Certain Mediterranean species exist in the sheltered and almost subtropical valleys of the southwest, while tundra-like vegetation is found in parts of the moorland of the northeast. England has a profusion of summer wildflowers in its fields, lanes, and hedgerows, though in some areas these have been severely reduced by the use of herbicides on farms and roadside verges. Cultivated gardens, which contain many species of trees, shrubs, and flowering plants from around the world, account for much of the varied vegetation of the country. Mammal species such as the bear, wolf, and beaver were exterminated in historic times, but others such as the fallow deer , rabbit, and rat have been introduced. More recently birds of prey have suffered at the hands of farmers protecting their stock and their game birds. The bird life is unusually varied, mainly because England lies along the route of bird migrations. Some birds have found town gardens, where they are often fed, to be a favourable environment , and in London about different species are recorded annually. London also is a habitat conducive to foxes, which in small numbers have colonized woods and heaths within a short distance of the city centre. There are few kinds of reptiles and amphibians—about half a dozen species of each—but they are nearly all plentiful where conditions suit them. Freshwater fish are numerous; the char and allied species of the lakes of Cumbria probably represent an ancient group, related to the trout, that migrated to the sea before the tectonic changes that formed these lakes cut off their outlet. The marine fishes are abundant in species and in absolute numbers. The great diversity of shorelines produces habitats for numerous types of invertebrate animals. People Ethnic groups and languages The English language is polyglot, drawn from a variety of sources, and its vocabulary has been augmented by importations from throughout the world. The English language does not identify the English, for it is the main language of Wales, Scotland, Ireland, many Commonwealth countries, and the United States. The primary source of the language, however, is the main ethnic stem of the English: Their language provides the most commonly used words in the modern English vocabulary. During the Roman occupation England was inhabited by Celtic-speaking Brythons or Britons , but the Brythons yielded to the invading Teutonic Angles, Saxons, and Jutes from present northwestern Germany except in the mountainous areas of western and northern Great Britain. The Anglo-Saxons preserved and absorbed little of the Roman-British culture they found in the 5th century. The history of England before the

Norman Conquest is poorly documented, but what stands out is the tenacity of the Anglo-Saxons in surviving a succession of invasions. They united most of what is now England from the 9th to the mid-11th century, only to be overthrown by the Normans in 1066. For two centuries Norman French became the language of the court and the ruling nobility; yet English prevailed and by 1200 had reestablished itself as an official language. Church Latin, as well as a residue of Norman French, was incorporated into the language during this period. It was subsequently enriched by the Latin and Greek of the educated scholars of the Renaissance. The seafarers, explorers, and empire builders of modern history have imported foreign words, most copiously from Europe but also from Asia. These words have been so completely absorbed into the language that they pass unselfconsciously as English. The English, it might be said, are great Anglicizers. The English have also absorbed and Anglicized non-English peoples, from Scandinavian pillagers and Norman conquerors to Latin church leaders. Among royalty, a Welsh dynasty of monarchs, the Tudors, was succeeded by the Scottish Stuarts, to be followed by the Dutch William of Orange and the German Hanoverians. English became the main language for the Scots, Welsh, and Irish. England provided a haven for refugees from the time of the Huguenots in the 17th century to the totalitarian persecutions of the 20th century. Many Jews have settled in England. Since World War II there has been large-scale immigration from Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean, posing seemingly more difficult problems of assimilation, and restrictive immigration regulations have been imposed that are out of step with the open-door policy that had been an English tradition for many generations.

Religion Although the Church of England is formally established as the official church, with the monarch at its head, England is a highly secularized country. The Church of England has some 13,000 parishes and a similar number of clergy, but it solemnizes fewer than one-third of marriages and baptizes only one in four babies. The Nonconformist non-Anglican Protestant churches have nominally fewer members, but there is probably greater dedication among them, as with the Roman Catholic church. There is virtually complete religious tolerance in England and no longer any overt prejudice against Catholics. The decline in churchgoing has been thought to be an indicator of decline in religious belief, but opinion polls substantiate the view that belief in God and the central tenets of Christianity survives the flagging fortunes of the churches. Some churches—most notably those associated with the Evangelical movement—have small but growing memberships. There are also large communities of Muslims, Jews, Sikhs, and Hindus.

Cathedral of Saint Mary, Chelmsford, England. Allan Cash Photolibrary

Settlement patterns The modern landscape of England has been so significantly changed by humans that there is virtually no genuine wilderness left. Only the remotest moorland and mountaintops have been untouched. Even the bleak Pennine moors of the north are crisscrossed by dry stone walls, and their vegetation is modified by the cropping of mountain sheep. The marks of centuries of exploitation and use dominate the contemporary landscape. The oldest traces are the antiquarian survivals, such as the Bronze Age forts studding the chalk downs of the southwest, and the corrugations left by the strip farming of medieval open fields. More significant is the structure of towns and villages, which was established in Roman-British and Anglo-Saxon times and has persisted as the basic pattern. The English live in scattered high-density groupings, whether in villages or towns or, in modern times, cities. Although the latter sprawled into conurbations during the 19th and early 20th centuries without careful planning, the government has since limited the encroachment of urban development, and England retains extensive tracts of farming countryside between its towns, its smaller villages often engulfed in the vegetation of trees, copses, hedgerows, and fields: