

Year 8 History – British Empire Knowledge Organiser

Key terms			Key events		
1	Empire	A group of countries, people or land ruled by one single country.	15	1586	Sir Walter Raleigh organises a small settlement in America
2	Independence	Freedom from the control of another country.	16	1620	The Mayflower ship sets sail for America taking the first English colonisers.
3	Colony	A country that is part of an empire.	17	1620s	The first successful British colonies in the West Indies
4	Navy	A group of ships.	18	1756-63	The Seven Years War results in England winning Canada from the French
5	Imperialism	Extending a country's power through colonisation and military force	19	1769	Captain Cook claims New Zealand for Britain
6	Sinn Fein	Founded in 1905, this group has campaigned for republicanism and Irish independence from Britain.	20	1775-83	Britain is defeated in the American War of Independence and loses its American colonies.
7	Trade	Buying and selling goods to make a profit.	21	1787	Britain begins to transport prisoners to Australia
8	Merchant	A person who buys and sells good to make money	22	1876	Queen Victoria is declared 'Empress of India'
9	Boers	Dutch settlers who fought the British in South Africa.	23	1881-1919	The 'Scramble for Africa' – Britain wins colonies in Africa, stretching from Egypt to South Africa
Key People			24	1899-1902	The Second Boer War. Britain conquers South Africa
10	Sir Francis Drake (1540-1596)	An Elizabethan sailor and navigator. Drake was the first to sail the around the world.	25	1919-21	Rebellion in Ireland leads to Irish independence
11	Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881)	Prime Minister of Britain in 1868 and 1874. Favourite of Queen Victoria. She to take the title Empress of India in 1877 at his suggestion.	26	1919	The Amritsar massacre. The British massacre peaceful protestors for Indian independence.
12	Mahatma Gandhi	A leader of the Indian independence movement.	27	1926	The Balfour declaration gives independence to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.
13	Edward Elgar (1857-1934)	A British composer who is most famous for Land of Hope and Glory. This music is almost like a second national anthem in England	28	1947	India and Pakistan become independent from Britain.
14	Queen Victoria	Became Queen in 1837. In 1877 Victoria also took the title Empress of India. The Empire grew during her reign and also included Canada, Australia, New Zealand and large parts of Africa.	29	1960s	Most of Britain's African and Caribbean colonies become independent.

