YEAR 5: THE CREATION OF GREAT BRITAIN (6 lessons)

Contents Include:

The Hanoverian Succession
The Act of Union
John Churchill
Parliamentary Government
Bonnie Prince Charlie

Suggested Teacher Resources:

- The Young Oxford History of Britain & Ireland, pages 270-272.
- Great Tales from English History by Robert Lacey, pages 303-321.
- The BBC ‘Scotland’s History’ page has a number of clips from the documentaries Scotland’s Empire and A History of Scotland.
Lesson 1. The Last Stuart

This lesson picks up from where things left off at the end of Year 4 with the Glorious Revolution. For this reason, it is important for pupils to understand the deep opposition the British had to being ruled by a Catholic monarch. Queen Anne was very unlucky; despite becoming pregnant approximately seventeen times, none of her children lived long enough to inherit the throne. All of her closest Stuart relatives were Catholics, so Parliament had to search Europe for a Protestant who could take over as the English monarch when Anne died. A German princess from Hanover descended from James I was the best they could find.

See pages 117-118 of *What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Core Knowledge</th>
<th>Activities for Learning</th>
<th>Related Vocabulary</th>
<th>Assessment Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To understand the problem caused by Queen Anne having no heir.</td>
<td>Queen Anne's children all died so there was no Protestant successor to take the throne. This threw Britain into a crisis because with no successor, when Queen Anne died the throne would pass to her half brother James Stuart, who was a Catholic. The solution was the Act of Settlement, which ruled that when Queen Anne died the throne would pass to a German princess and granddaughter of James I who was a Protestant.</td>
<td>Fill out a family tree worksheet in order to understand the dynastic problem caused by Queen Anne having no surviving children to take the throne (<em>resource 1</em>). Before looking at the family tree, it could be mapped out on the classroom floor. Write an explanation as to why Parliament had to look for a monarch in Europe when Anne died.</td>
<td>Glorious Revolution Catholic Protestant heir Act of Settlement Hanover</td>
<td>Who was Queen Anne? Why was it such a great problem that Anne had no surviving children? What solution did Parliament find to this problem?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. The Act of Settlement

1. James I (1603-1625)
   - Charles I (1625-1649)
   - Charles II I (1660-1685)
   - Queen Mary (1689-1694)
   - William III (1689-1702)
   - Queen Anne (1702-1714)
   - James Stuart The Pretender

2. Elizabeth Stuart, James I’s eldest daughter, left England for Germany and married Frederick V, the King of Bohemia.

3. George I 1714-1722
   - Sophia of Hanover

Question 1: Why did William and Mary become King and Queen?

Question 2: What was the great problem faced by Anne during her reign?

Question 3: Why did nobody want James Stuart as King?

Question 4: What did the ‘Act of Settlement’ decide?
1. The Act of Settlement (complete)

Question 1: Why did William and Mary become king and Queen?
William and Mary took the throne in the Glorious Revolution, because the people of England did not want the Catholic James II as King. Mary’s husband William was a Dutch prince.

Question 2: What was the great problem faced by Anne during her reign?
Anne was a good queen. However, she was unable to have an child that lived into adulthood, despite becoming pregnant 17 times. This left her without a Protestant heir.

Question 3: Why did nobody want James Stuart as King?
James Stuart was the son of James II and the half-brother of Anne and Mary. He was a Catholic, and the people of Britain were nearly all Protestant so they did not want to have James as King.

Question 4: What did the ‘Act of Settlement’ decide?
The Act of Settlement was passed in 1701, and declared that when Anne died, the English crown should pass to her nearest Protestant relative—at the time this was Sophia of Hanover.
Lesson 2. The Creation of Great Britain

England and Scotland had been ruled by the same monarch since 1603, but they remained separate countries. After the Act of Settlement in 1701, the Scottish parliament declared they would choose their own King following Anne’s death. There was a strong risk that they would choose the Catholic James Stuart, who could use Scotland as a base to invade England. As a result, the English Parliament convinced the Scottish leaders (with generous bribes) to unite with England and become one country with one Parliament and one Protestant King. This country was to be called ‘The United Kingdom of Great Britain’.

See pages 118-119 of What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Core Knowledge</th>
<th>Activities for Learning</th>
<th>Related Vocabulary</th>
<th>Assessment Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To understand how the United Kingdom of Great Britain was created by the 1707 Act of Union.</td>
<td>The Scottish Parliament declared that they wanted to choose their own monarch, so England bribed them into joining a union with them instead. The English were afraid that the Scottish Parliament would invite the Catholic James Stuart, or his son, to be King of Scotland. This would have been extremely dangerous for England, as a Catholic King of Scotland could have invaded England and caused another civil war. Therefore, a single nation – Great Britain – was created to avoid more conflict.</td>
<td>Colour in a template of the Saint George’s cross, the St Andrew Cross and the Union Flag of England and Scotland in order to understand how a new country was created through the fusion of England and Scotland (resource 2). N.b. the Union Flag of 1707 was slightly different to the Union Jack of today, as the St Patrick’s Cross had not been added. Compare the two different verdicts on the Act of Union from Queen Anne, and the Scottish poet Robbie Burns. Queen Anne wanted to see the English and the Scots unite to become one people—the British. Robbie Burns felt that Scotland had been betrayed and sold, and his country had lost its great history and traditions (resource 3).</td>
<td>Act of Union union flag United Kingdom of Great Britain</td>
<td>Why did the English not want the Scottish to choose their own King? What did the Act of Union do? Why was the Act of Union passed?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. The Creation of the Union Jack

 Colour in the flags with red and blue, in order to see how the St George’s Cross (England) and the St Andrew’s Cross (Scotland) combined to make the Union Jack (Britain).
After the 1707 Act of Union was passed, Queen Anne visited Parliament to give this speech:

‘My lords and gentlemen: —It is with the greatest satisfaction that I have given my assent to a bill for uniting England and Scotland into one kingdom. I consider this union as a matter of the greatest importance to the wealth, strength, and safety of the whole island... I desire and expect from all my subjects of both nations, that, from henceforth, they act with all possible respect and kindness to one another, that so it may appear to all the world that they have hearts disposed to become one people.’

In this (abridged) 1791 poem, the patriotic Scottish poet Robbie Burns attacked the Scottish leaders as ‘rogues’ for allowing Scotland to be ‘sold for English gold’:

Fareweel to a’ our Scottish fame,
Fareweel our ancient glory;
Fareweel ev’n to the Scottish name,
Sae fam’d in martial story.
Now Sark rins over Solway sands,
An' Tweed rins to the ocean,
To mark where England's province stands-
Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!

O would, or I had seen the day
That Treason thus could sell us,
My auld grey head had lien in clay,
Wi' Bruce and loyal Wallace!
But pith and power, till my last hour,
I'll mak this declaration;
We're bought and sold for English gold-
Such a parcel of rogues in a nation!
Lesson 3. What happened at the Battle of Blenheim?

John Churchill, the Duke of Marlborough, is remembered by many as the greatest military leader in British history. His speciality was launching dawn attacks on unsuspecting enemies, and his most famous was at the 1704 Battle of Blenheim in southern Germany. It took place during the War of Spanish Succession, which saw the Dutch, the Germans and the British ally against the French to prevent Louis XIV’s grandson from becoming King of Spain. There were around 20,000 French casualties, compared with only 12,000 allies. Churchill’s victory at Blenheim was a significant turning point in the war.

See pages 120-121 of What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Core Knowledge</th>
<th>Activities for Learning</th>
<th>Related Vocabulary</th>
<th>Assessment Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To understand why John Churchill won the Battle of Blenheim.</td>
<td>John Churchill, also known as the Duke of Marlborough, won the Battle of Blenheim in Germany in 1704 against the French army. It was one of the most important battles in British military history. The French were at the time the most powerful nation in Europe, and were trying to dictate who would be the next King of Spain. Churchill’s moment of genius at Blenheim was to sneak up on the French camp during the night, and attack at 8 A.M. when most of the French army was still asleep.</td>
<td>Read through the story of the Battle of Blenheim, and list all of the good decisions that John Churchill made. Each decision could then be assigned an adjective to describe his personality. For example, you could write ‘he ignored the orders from the Dutch and marched south towards the French’, adding this was ‘stubborn’ or ‘determined’ (resource 4). Write a newspaper account of the Battle for people back in England. Make sure that it explains what happened at the battle, and why the battle was such an important victory (resource 5).</td>
<td>alliance Blenheim Bavaria</td>
<td>Who was John Churchill? Who did the British fight at the Battle of Blenheim? What good decisions did Churchill make in order to ensure victory? Why was the outcome of the Battle of Blenheim so important?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
John Churchill was the leader of the English army during the War of the Spanish Succession. In 1704, he was stationed in Northern Germany. However, the French were building up power in Bavaria, Southern Germany. This was a problem, as the French looked likely to take control of Vienna, a key European city.

Churchill was determined to march south to attack the French army, but his Dutch allies did not want to risk losing their soldiers. Churchill was a stubborn man, so he ignored the orders from the Dutch and marched his army of 40,000 men south.

This was a risky thing to do, as a whole army could be wiped out on a long march due to thirst, starvation and exhaustion. However, John Churchill was skilled at organising his march, and ensured that at every town they passed through, there was food, places to sleep and extra supplies for his troops. His army marched 250 miles in five weeks.

Churchill had the clever idea of marching only at night, so that his troops could not be seen by the French spies, and avoided the summer heat. The army reached Bavaria in early August, joined forces with 12,000 Austrian troops. Churchill and the Austrian commander climbed a church tower, from which they could see the French army camp five miles away. They decided to attack in the morning.

Churchill started the attack at 2 A.M. His 52,000 men crept forward, mile by mile, through the night, and by 6 A.M. his army was lined up 3 miles away from a small town where the French were camped called Blenheim, meaning ‘home of the blind’. Churchill launched his attack at 8 A.M. on 13th August, and the French were taken completely by surprise. Unlike many generals, Churchill led from the front and fought alongside his troops.

Taken by surprise, the French army were trapped, with hills on one side and the Danube River on the other. Churchill’s army was able to take 13,000 troops prisoners, whilst 18,000 more French troops were killed, wounded or drowned. Churchill had defeated the strongest army in the world.
The Georgian Times
Lesson 4. The Coronation of George I

The Act of Settlement established Sophia of Hanover as the heir to the British throne. However, she died aged 83 just one month before the death of Queen Anne. So, the British crown passed to her son Georg Ludwig who became George I of Great Britain. He was the great-grandson of James I and the nearest Protestant in line to the throne (after 57 Catholics with a better claim). This was an extremely odd occurrence, as Georg had only visited Britain once and did not speak a word of English. Many people did not think he should be King, and supported the Catholic James Stuart’s claims. They were called ‘Jacobites’.

See page 122 of *What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Core Knowledge</th>
<th>Activities for Learning</th>
<th>Related Vocabulary</th>
<th>Assessment Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To know why the coronation of George I was so unusual.</td>
<td>Before being chosen by Parliament to be the new King of England, George was the Prince of a small Germany region called Hanover. George I was chosen because he was the closest Protestant relative to Queen Anne, even though there were 57 other descendants of James I (all Catholics) with a better claim to the throne. Many in England wanted to see James Stuart as King, and they unsuccessfully rose up on 1715 to put him on the throne. They were called ‘Jacobites’.</td>
<td>Imagine you are the Jacobite leader of a Highland Clan in Scotland. You are furious that the Act of Union has taken away Scotland’s independence, and you hate the idea of being governed by George I. Write a letter to all of your clansmen, telling them why you need to start plotting against George I (resource 6). Hanoverian succession Jacobite Highlands clan</td>
<td>What sort of King was George I? Why was it so odd to see George I become King? Who were the Jacobites and what did they want?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Imagine you are the Jacobite leader of a Highland Clan in Scotland. You are furious that the Act of Union has taken away Scotland’s independence, and you hate the idea of being governed by George I. Write a letter to all of your clansmen, telling them why you need to start plotting against George I. You need to include:

- Why you don’t want George I to be King.
- Who you do want to be King.
- What you are going to do about it.

Dear Loyal Clansmen

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Lesson 5. The First Prime Minister?

Like many aspects of British politics, the role of Prime Minister was never designed on purpose, but came about through accident. George I became King of Great Britain reluctantly, and spent much of his time returning to his home in Hanover, Germany. This meant that he left the day to day running of Britain to his Ministers—the most trusted leaders within the Houses of Parliament. As a result, the power of his ministers grew, and one minister in particular assumed control of the country. He was called Robert Walpole, and so strong was his control of national affairs, people called him the ‘prime’ minister. The label stuck. See pages 122-124 of What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Core Knowledge</th>
<th>Activities for Learning</th>
<th>Related Vocabulary</th>
<th>Assessment Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To understand why the arrival of George I allowed the role of Prime Minister to develop.</td>
<td>George I took little interest in being King of Great Britain, and spoke little English. As a result, Parliament and his ministers became much more powerful in governing the country. During this period, Robert Walpole rose to be an extremely important minister, and was therefore named ‘prime’ minister. This is the origin of the role of prime minister in British politics. Walpole was even given number 10 Downing Street to live in, and the Prime Minister still lives there to this day.</td>
<td>There is a Horrible Histories video here which sums up the story of how Robert Walpole took on the job of Prime Minister due to George I’s inability to speak English, and therefore govern the country. This is a tour of Downing Street with Simon Schama and Tony Blair, which covers the legacy of Robert Walpole. Take a tour of 10 Downing Street by linking various parts of the building with their descriptions. This is a fantastic resource for going on a virtual tour of 10 Downing Street. Study the source ‘Idol-Worship or the way to preferment’. Be warned, you may think this is too rude for children in Year 5!</td>
<td>10 Downing Street Prime Minister First Lord of the Treasury</td>
<td>Why did George I have to rely on his ministers to govern Britain? Why did people begin to refer to Robert Walpole as the Prime Minister? What sort of man was Robert Walpole?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson 6. Bonnie Prince Charlie

Bonnie Prince Charlie, the Catholic grandson of James II, was the last member of the Stuart family to attempt to reclaim the British throne. He believed that the Stuarts, not the Hanoverians, should be on the throne, as did many 'Jacobites' in Britain. In 1745, Charles returned from his exile and raised an army in Scotland to invade England and topple George II. Unfortunately for him, not many Jacobites rose to join his cause, and his army was brutally defeated by George II’s forces. Charles went into hiding, and eventually escaped to live in Italy. He is remembered as a brave and romantic, but ultimately doomed, figure.

See pages 124-125 of What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Core Knowledge</th>
<th>Activities for Learning</th>
<th>Related Vocabulary</th>
<th>Assessment Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To understand the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie.</td>
<td>In 1745, Bonnie Prince Charlie landed in Scotland and raised an army of Scottish supporters to invade England so that he could become King. His invasion was not successful. Charlie made it as far south as Derby, where his Scottish army lost faith in the campaign and returned north. The Jacobite army were followed by George II’s army, who met them at the Battle of Culloden and easily defeated them. However, Bonnie Prince Charlie escaped capture, and fled for Italy.</td>
<td>Complete and annotate a map showing the progress, and telling the story, of Bonnie Prince Charlie’s invasion of England (worksheet 7). There are some good clips about the Jacobite uprising from the BBC History of Scotland series here. The story of the Jacobite uprising has ample opportunities to write letters/diary entries as a Highlander soldier, or even Bonnie Prince Charlie. Or a newspaper article about the Battle of Culloden (worksheet 8). Study the lyrics to the famous Scottish folk song They Skye Boat Song (p. 197 of What Your Year 5 Child Needs to Know) and see how they relate to the uprising.</td>
<td>claymore Battle of Culloden Bonnie Prince Charlie</td>
<td>Who was Bonnie Prince Charlie? Why did he believe he should be King? Who supported Bonnie Prince Charlie? What was the Jacobite uprising? Why did the Jacobite uprising fail?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Prince Charlie and the ‘45

23rd July, 1745

20 September, 1745

19th August, 1745

16 April, 1746

Early September, 1745

4 December, 1746

17 September, 1745
7. Prince Charlie and the ‘45

(Complete)

23rd July, 1745
Bonnie Prince Charlie lands in Scotland on the Outer Hebridean island of Eriskay. He is accompanied by a small band of followers called the ‘Seven Men of Moidart’.

19th August, 1745
Charlie raises the Stuart Standard (meaning he intends to build an army) at Gelnfinnan in the Scottish highlands. Three Scottish clans pledge their support: the MacDonalds, the Camerons and the MacGregors.

Early September, 1745
Charlie rides into the Scottish town of Perth, in full highland dress. He is joined by Lord George Murray, an experienced soldier who is appointed general of the Jacobite army. Charlie also visits Scone, the location where his ancestors were crowned King of Scotland.

17 September, 1745
Charlie enters Edinburgh, cheered on by 20,000 people. He sets up court, and starts behaving as if he is King. The Jacobites win a small battle against the King’s troops at Prestonpans. Once his army reaches 5,500 men, he marches south into England, hoping more people will join him en route.

20 September, 1746
Prince Charlie escapes to France on a frigate ship. He had been in hiding from the British for five months, and despite having a £30,000 prince on his head, was not betrayed by the Scots. He went into hiding on the Isle of Skye disguised as a girl, and was taken to safety by Flora Macdonald.

16 April, 1746
The British follow the Jacobites as they return to Scotland. At a place called Culloden, the two sides finally meet. The Jacobites are torn apart by the King’s army, in particular their cannon and rifle fire. An estimated 2,000 Jacobites die, compared with 300 of the King’s troops.

4 December, 1746
The Jacobites reach Derby, in the midlands. However, bad winter weather and distance from home means that many of Charlie’s troops want to go home. In addition, the King’s army of 12,000 led by the Duke of Cumberland is marching north. Charlie agrees to retreat.