



Yr 6 History: Migration

“Movement from one country, place or locality to another”.



The Windrush

In 1948, Britain was starting to recover from World War 2. Thousands of buildings had been bombed and lots of houses were destroyed – it all needed to be rebuilt. Many Caribbean men and women had served in the British armed forces because at the time, many West Indian islands were still under British rule (empire) and not yet independent. After the war, some of these people answered an advert to come to Britain where there were lots of different jobs to do. Other people just wanted to see Britain which they had heard too much about.

Timeline of key events

1066	Norman Conquest. William the conqueror
1833	Abolishment of slavery in Britain, enslaved Africans were now free.
1931	Creation of the Commonwealth of Nations – known commonly as the Commonwealth.
1939 to 1945	World War 2
21 June 1948	The Empire Windrush docks at Tilbury, Essex carrying 1,027 passengers (and 2 stowaways), mainly from the Caribbean, hoping for a new life in Britain.
2018	A British political scandal concerning the “Windrush generation” that challenged the right for these migrants and their families to reside in the UK despite being promised the right to remain.

Key Vocabulary

- **Immigration** – the process of moving to another country with plans to live there forever.
- **Migrant** – a person who has chosen to live in a country where they were not born.
- **Citizenship** – being a legal member of a country and having rights there because of it.
- **Nationality** – a person’s nationality indicates which country they were born in.
- **Racism** – the belief that some races are better than others and the (racist) actions that can happen from those beliefs.
- **Commonwealth** – a legacy of Empire which has Queen Elizabeth II as its Head. (See ‘Extra information’).
- **Deportation** – to force someone to return to the country they came from usually because they have no legal right to be there or because they have broken the law.
- **Windrush Generation** – those that came to the UK from (mainly) the West Indies at the invitation of the British government to live and work. This includes their children who did not have their own passport but travelled on their parent’s passports

1066
William the conqueror (Duke of Normandy: France) invaded England and became King of England.

1845–47.
The Irish potato famine. More than a million Irish people migrated due to the famine.

1939–1945
WWII. Millions of Jews migrated to other European countries to escape the Nazi’s

2010 onwards
Syria. Millions of Syrians have fled to other countries to escape civil war.

A timeline of Migration across history

1550–1800 (approx)
Slave migration existed. People were sold and transported from Africa & the West Indies to the Americas and Europe.

Reasons for Migration

- Economic & Financial (Money) reasons
- The chance of a better life
- To escape war and poverty
- No choice...

1970
Vietnam War. Millions of people fled from Vietnam when it was taken over by the communists in their war with the USA in 1975.