

YEAR 9 AUTUMN TERM 1: EVENTS OF THE 20TH CENTURY / VOTES FOR WOMEN

SECTION 1 – KEYWORDS

Significant	Something that is important or worthy of attention
Suffrage	The right to vote in political elections
Suffragists (NUWSS)	Group formed by Millicent Fawcett that campaigned for women to get the vote using peaceful methods
Suffragettes (WSPU)	A member of the women's organisation who campaigned for 'Votes for Women' using militant methods
Emily Davison	Famous Suffragette who killed herself by running out in front of the King's horse at the Derby in June 1913
Mud March	A 3000 strong Suffragist procession in London in February 1907
Militant	Use of confrontational or violent methods in support of a political or social cause
Cat and Mouse Act	Introduced by the government in 1913 in response to hunger strikes. Women were released when ill then rearrested
Munitions	Military weapons, ammunition and equipment. Women were involved in producing this during WW1
Representation of the People Act	Law passed in 1918 giving women over the age of 30 the vote

SECTION 2 – SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Make sure that you know when these events happened and something about each one

- **1912** - Captain Scott became the first Briton to reach the South Pole
- **1914** - World War 1 begins
- **1918** - Women get the vote in Britain
- **1928** - Alexander Fleming helped discover the first antibiotic (penicillin)
- **1936** - Black athlete Jesse Owens won a record four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics
- **1939** - World War 2 begins
- **1945** - Adolf Hitler, leader of Nazi Germany, killed himself in a bunker in Berlin
- **1947** - India became independent from Britain
- **1969** - Human beings landed on the moon for the first time

SECTION 3 - Explaining why an event is significant

A significant event is an event that is considered to be important. It is likely to be an event that affected a lot of people deeply at the time and also had a longer term impact. It may well have resulted in change or caused other important events.

EXAMPLE

Fleming's discovery of penicillin is an extremely significant event in the history of medicine. Before his discovery many people died of simple, untreatable infections. Penicillin known at the time as 'the wonder drug' saved the lives of thousands of men in WW2 who were treated with the drug. It is the first antibiotic to be created and used effectively. In the longer term it paved the way for the development of many other antibiotic drugs which have saved millions of lives and continue to be used today.

Tips for answering a 'significance' question

- Write a PEEL paragraph to explain why the event, factor or person was significant **at the time**
- Write a second paragraph to explain why the event, factor or person was significant **in the long term**
- Always aim to use cause and effect connectives to explain impact e.g. 'as a result . . .', 'consequently . . .', 'this led to . . .'

SECTION 4 – THE CAMPAIGN FOR VOTES

Use the information and revision exercises on **BBC Bitesize** and your **key events timeline** to find out about and summarise the following

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zy2ycdm/revision/1>

- Campaign methods used
- Reactions to the campaigns.
- Women and WW1
- Consequences of women getting the vote

SECTION 5 – Answering a 'UTILITY' question

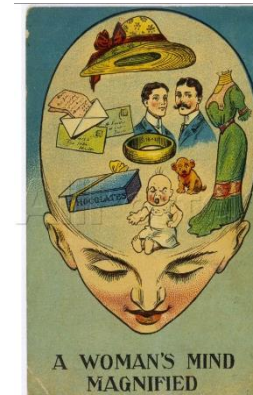
Paragraph 1 Describe one key thing in the source

Use your knowledge to say how this is useful.

Paragraph 2 Describe another key thing in the source.

Use your knowledge to say how this is also useful.

Paragraph 3 – Explain how reliable the source is – who made it and why? Did they have any reasons to exaggerate or not tell the whole story? Is it trustworthy and does that make it more or less useful overall?



Source A. A poster from 1910

TRY THIS How useful is this source as evidence about opposition to votes for women? (8marks)

The source is useful because it shows suggesting that from my knowledge I know

SECTION 6 - TIMELINE: the main events 1016-1914

Date	Main Events
1906	The Liberal Party come to power. Ministers are divided on votes for women
Oct 1906	NUWSS campaign using petitions and meetings. WSPU protest by entering the House of Commons leading to their arrest and imprisonment.
Feb 1907	The NUWSS organise procession in London. Over 3000 women march in what is famously known as the 'Mud March' because of the bad weather.
June 1908	Both the suffragists and suffragettes organise massive processions in London. The PM does nothing in response to these and so the suffragettes start smashing windows in Downing Street and chaining themselves to railings. Both groups are growing in membership.
Late 1908	Split / fallout between suffragists and suffragettes. The NUWSS are worried that the militant tactics used by the WSPU are making the government hostile to votes for women and less likely to grant women the vote.
1909	More WSPU members sent to prison. They demand to be treated as political prisoners and go on hunger strike. The government does not want dead women on its hands and starts force-feeding them
1910	WSPU calls off their violent protests when the PM agrees to work with them to produce a Conciliation Bill giving women the vote. Despite a positive start the government stalls leading to further protests by the WSPU. This turns into 'Black Friday', a fight with the police resulting in many women being physically assaulted by officers.
1911	The WSPU call a truce in the hope that the Conciliation Bill will be passed. The government then announces that it is dropping the Bill and instead produces a Bill giving more votes to men. The WSPU is furious and restarts its campaign of violence.
1912	WSPU begin massive campaign of window smashing leading to many arrests. There are mass hunger strikes in prison resulting in force-feeding
1913	Violence increases, e.g., buildings are bombed, letter boxes destroyed, turf at race courses burned. The Government introduces the 'Cat and Mouse Act' – releasing women on hunger strike when they became ill and then re-arresting them once recovered
June 1913	Emily Davison kills herself by running in front of the King's horse at the Derby. Meanwhile the suffragists carry out the Women's Pilgrimage to win over public support for votes for women.
1914	WSPU violence reaches a height. Public opinion is now firmly against them. Women are banned from art galleries and museums.
July 1914	The First World War begins and both the suffragettes and the suffragists stop their activities in order to help the war effort
1918	The First World War ended. The Government pass The Representation of the People Act granting the vote to women over the age of 30 who met a property qualification.
1928	The Equal Franchise Act was passed allowing men and women to vote on equal terms. All men and women were given the vote at 21 years of age.

SECTION 7 – THINKING ABOUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CAMPAIGN

Identify and explain the following

- Evidence that people **at the time** thought votes for women was important
- Evidence that the issue affected **a lot of people**
- Evidence that the issue **affected people deeply**
- Evidence that it affected people **for a long time**
- Evidence that the campaigns **brought about change**
- Evidence that it **affects beliefs and attitudes today**



Suffragettes chaining themselves to railings near the Houses of Parliament



Emily Davison throwing herself in front of the King's horse at the Derby 1913



Doctors force feeding a suffragette who is on hunger strike in prison



A photograph of women working in a munitions factory