# Unit Y316: BRITAIN AND IRELAND 1791-1921

Note: Based on 3 x 50 minute lessons per week

Terms based on 6 term year.

This theme focuses on the relationship between mainland Britain and Ireland during the period 1791-1921 Learners should consider how far, and for what reasons, this relationship changed. **Learners are not expected to demonstrate a detailed understanding of the specification content, except for the named in-depth studies, but are expected to know the main developments and turning points relevant to the theme**.

| **Key Topic** | **Number of Lessons** | **Indicative Content** | **Extended Content** | **Suggested Resources** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Opposition to the Union** | 4 | Revolutionary nationalism including Wolfe Tone and the United Irishmen, Young Ireland, the Fenians, the Land League, Sinn Fein, the Easter Rising 1916, the Anglo-Irish War 1919-21  | * Why did revolutionary nationalism emerge?
* Aims and ideals of each group
* Similarities and differences in approach, views and outcomes
* How influential was each group?
* Were the Easter Rising and Anglo-Irish War revolutionary and/or nationalist?
 | For students:* Adelman, P and Byrne M., *Great Britain and the Irish Question (Access to History fourth edition)*, (London 2016)
* Morton, G., *Home Rule and the Irish Question (Seminar Studies in History)*, (Oxford, 1980)
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 |
| 3 | Constitutional nationalism including O’Connell, Parnell and Redmond, Catholic Emancipation and the Home Rule movement | * Why did constitutional nationalism emerge?
* Aims and ideals of each person / movement
* How similar / different were O’Connell, Parnell and Redmond?
* How Catholic Emancipation and Home Rule movements developed
* Relationship between constitutional and revolutionary nationalism
 |
| 2 | Cultural nationalism 1798-1921 including the Enlightenment, Young Ireland and the  | * Impact of the Enlightenment on politics and culture in Ireland
* Literature and other culture across the period – was it important?
 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Gaelic Revival | * Role of the Young Ireland movement
* Why was there a Gaelic revival and what impact did it have politically?
 | For teachers:* Foster, R. F., *Modern Ireland 1600-1972*, (London, 1990)
* Lyons, F. S. L., *Ireland since the Famine*, (London, 1985)
* Kee, R., *The Green Flag*, (London, 1972)
* Jackson, A., *Ireland 1798-1998: War, Peace and Beyond*, (London, 2010)
* O’Tuathaigh, G., *Ireland Before the Famine 1798-1848*, (Dublin, 2007)
 |
| 1 | The role of the Roman Catholic church in opposition  | * Power, extent of influence and actions of the church across the period
* Why did it oppose revolutionary and/or constitutional nationalism
* Did the role / aims / influence of the church remain consistent throughout the period?
 |
| **Support for the Union** | 2 | Protestant Ascendancy and its decline from the 1870s  | * Who were the Protestant Ascendancy?
* Their role in Irish economic and political life
* Why did it decline in the 1870s?
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 |
| 4 | Unionism and the rise of Ulster Unionism 1886-1921 and its strategies | * Origins of unionist movement
* Rise of Ulster Unionism in the 1870s and 1880s: proactive or reactive?
* Strategies used inside and outside parliament
* Did Ulster Unionism change 1886-1921?
 |
| 3 | The policies and approaches of the Conservative, Whig and Liberal parties and their leaders  | * Attitudes of Conservatives, Whigs and Liberals towards Ireland
* Key governments and acts e.g. Peel, Gladstone, Salisbury, Asquith
* Did government approaches to Ireland change significantly?
* Was there a ‘Liberal’ or ‘Conservative’ approach?
 |
| 1 | The role of the Anglican and Presbyterian churches in support for the Union | * Power and influence of these churches
* Why did they support the union and how did they do it?
* Role of the Protestant churches in shaping unionist opinion across the period
 |
| **The Union and reform**  | 2 | The creation of the Act of Union | * Why was the act created and how was it implemented and received?
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 |
|  | 3 | Reform within the Union from 1829 including Catholic Emancipation 1829, reforms in administration, education, land and local government | * Reasons for Catholic Emancipation and its effect on the people
* Key terms and effects of reforms in administration, education, land and local government
* Impact of reforms on nationalist and unionist movements and sentiment
 |
|  | 2 | Home Rule and Partition | * Why did Home Rule emerge as an idea?
* Successes and failures of Home Rule movement
* Reasons for failure to bring about Home Rule
* Relationship between Home Rule and Partition
* Reasons for Partition
 |
| **The Irish economy and the link to Irish nationalism** | 2 | Agrarian under-development and population pressures, land and economic issues in their own right and in relation to nationalism, the impact of the Famine 1845-1849 | * Key features or rural Ireland: economy, geography, politics
* What were the population pressures?
* How important were land and economic issues?
* To what extend were they solved across the period?
* Relationship between land/economic issues and nationalism
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 |
| 2 | Industrialisation and Ulster | * Key features of industrialisation
* How did it impact Ulster?
 |
| 2 | North/South and regional differences | * What were the key social/political/economic differences in the regions across the period?
* Were there any regional differences in attitudes to nationalism / Home Rule / Partition?
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*yOU COULD CHOOSE TO INTEGRATE THIS WITHIN THE SECTION ABOVE, SHOULD YOU WISH TO TEACH THIS CHRONOLOGICALLY, HOWEVER PLEASE NOTE QUESTIONS ON THE THEMATIC ESSAY ARE THEMATIC IN NATURE, WHEREAS THE DEPTH STUDIES ARE ROOTED IN INTERPRETATIONS.*

| **Key Topic** | **Number of Lessons** | **Indicative Content** | **Extended Content** | **Resources** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Irish Rebellions and British Responses 1791-1803** | 2 | Irish politics at the end of the 18th century  | * Key features of politics: groupings, aims, role of Parliament and executive, relationship with government in London
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 |
| 2 | Impact of the French Revolution and the wars on Ireland (Catholic Committee, United Irishmen, Orange Order, Bantry Bay) and the British response (Fitzwilliam, Lake and Castlereagh) | * How important was the French Revolution in shaping Irish opinion
* Role of the French in Ireland
* Aims, features and methods of the different groups
* How the British responded in Ireland and in London to these groups
 |
| 2 | The causes, leadership, extent, support and consequences of the 1798 Wolfe Tone Rising | * Reasons for the rising in 1798 – economic, political social
* Background, nature and aims of the leadership
* Key features of the rising including extent
* Reasons for failure
* Consequences to 1803
 |
|  |  | Grattan’s Parliament, Pitt and the creation of the Act of Union in 1800, the causes, nature and consequences of Emmet’s Rising 1803; the impact of the rebellions on Revolutionary Nationalism | * Why the parliament was set up, and how it operated
* Reasons for failure of Grattan’s Parliament
* Reasons for the Act of Union (including arguments for and against) and Irish responses
* Causes of Emmet’s Rising
* Course of the rising and why it failed
* Immediate consequences
* Longer-term consequences e.g. on revolutionary nationalism
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| **O’Connell and British Governments 1823-1841** | 2 | The strategies of the Roman Catholic Association and government response | * Aims, values and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Association e.g. Catholic Rent
* Actions and events in the 1820s e.g. use of funds
* Significance of the association and its impact on both Irish opinion and government response
* Relationship to O’Connell and other views and personalities in Ireland
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 |
| 2 | O’Connell’s leadership to 1829, the Waterford and Clare elections and the Brunswick Clubs | * O’Connell’s background, aims, style and tactics to 1829
* Significance of the Waterford and Clare elections
* Response of the British governments to O’Connell and the elections
* Significance of the Brunswick Clubs
 |
| 2 | The reasons for and the impact of Roman Catholic Emancipation to 1841 including O’Connell and the Whigs, the Tithe War and the Irish Church to 1838, the Lichfield House compact and reform to 1841 | * Reasons for emancipation in 1829 – was Ireland on the brink of revolt – attitudes of Tories and Whigs
* Effects of emancipation in Ireland, the church and the UK in general
* O’Connell’s actions in the 1830s – change or continuity?
* Did a change of government bring about fundamental changes in policy? Whig reforms
* Key events such as the Tithe War and the Lichfield House compact and their impact
* Situation in 1841: party attitudes, O’Connell’s significance, position of Catholics in society, the church, end of the Whig-Irish alliance
 |
| **The Crisis over Home Rule 1908-1914** | 2 | Redmond, Home Rule and the Liberal Government of Asquith 1908-1914 | * Growth of unionism before 1912
* Actions of Redmond in parliament before and after 1910 elections
* Attitude of the Liberal government to Home Rule 1908-12, did it change after 1910?
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| 2 | The Home Rule Bill of 1912 and subsequent negotiations over exclusion; the reasons for and tactics of the Ulster Unionists (Carson, Craig and the Conservatives of Bonar Law, Solemn League and Covenant, the militarisation of Ulster – the Ulster Volunteers), the response of the various nationalists (the Irish Volunteers) and the government (Curragh Mutiny) | * Reasons for bringing in a bill in 1912
* Negotiations and tactics of the various parties
* Role of the Conservatives in Parliament
* Actions in Ulster e.g. Carson, Craig
* Key features of the Solemn League
* Key features and impact of the Covenant
* Role of the Ulster Volunteers
* How nationalists responded
* How events changed opinion inside parliament
* Curragh Mutiny
* Relative importance of different groups and events in leading to the situation in 1914
 |
| 2 | The situation in 1914, enactment and suspension of Home Rule, the response of Redmond to this and the declaration of the First World War | * Situation inside parliament and in Ulster in 1914
* Situation in the rest of Ireland
* Suspension of Home Rule and outbreak of war
* Response of Redmond
* Relative strengths of different groups on the eve of war, and the strength of feeling of both sides
 |

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