OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

GCSE

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HISTORY B (MODERN WORLD)

How far did British society change, 1939–1975?

SOURCE BOOKLET

WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2015: Morning

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How far did British society change, 1939–1975?

Immigration and race relations in Britain

SOURCE A

Still images and commentary from a British government information film called 'West Indies calling'. The film was broadcast in 1944. The images show black men and women in military uniform talking happily to white colleagues in the army and air force.



During the war years, we in this country have seen many new faces, people from all parts of the British Commonwealth and Empire. Take the West Indians for example. Every one has come across 4000 miles of ocean. Today, West Indians have common citizenship and common cause with us, and they have come over to help us. Here are some of the jobs they are doing. West Indians are fighting for the new world that we all want to see. Friendships are being made between people that before the war knew little or nothing about each other and we find it impossible to believe that these friendships will fade out when the war is won.

SOURCE B

‘STOP THE JAMAICANS’ DEMANDS CYRIL OSBORNE MP

Last year, 10 000 Jamaicans immigrated to this country. This year there will be even more unless it is stopped. I want it stopping. This is a white man’s country and I want it to remain so. Jamaicans are attracted here because to them this is a land full of promise. They can live better here without work than they could in their own land doing a full day’s work. When they come whether they work or not we will have to keep them. If too many come it will inevitably mean a lowering of the standard of living for the British people.

But it is not only the Jamaicans we have to fear. Everyone born in the Commonwealth is entitled to come and live in England. India has a population of about 450 million. How they would like to get their hands on our social services payments. India could lose 50 million people and scarcely miss them. They would swamp us.

From a local British newspaper in January 1955. Cyril Osborne was a Conservative Party Member of Parliament (MP). Jamaica is in the West Indies.

SOURCE C

THE FIRST COLOURED CONDUCTOR THINKS IT'S 'SO NICE'

From the Bristol Evening Post newspaper, September 1963. In April 1963, there had been a protest against the bus company's refusal to recruit non-white workers.

The picture shows the male bus conductor in uniform and wearing a turban. He is smiling as he gives a ticket to a white female passenger.

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Bristol's first coloured bus conductor is Raghbir Singh from the Punjab. He was on the No. 8 between Kingswood and Southmead last night. His verdict on the job: 'Very nice. The passengers are so nice, the bus crews are so nice. Everyone is so helpful,' he said.

The colour bar on Bristol buses, which caused a storm four months ago, ended last month, after talks between the bus company and the local branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

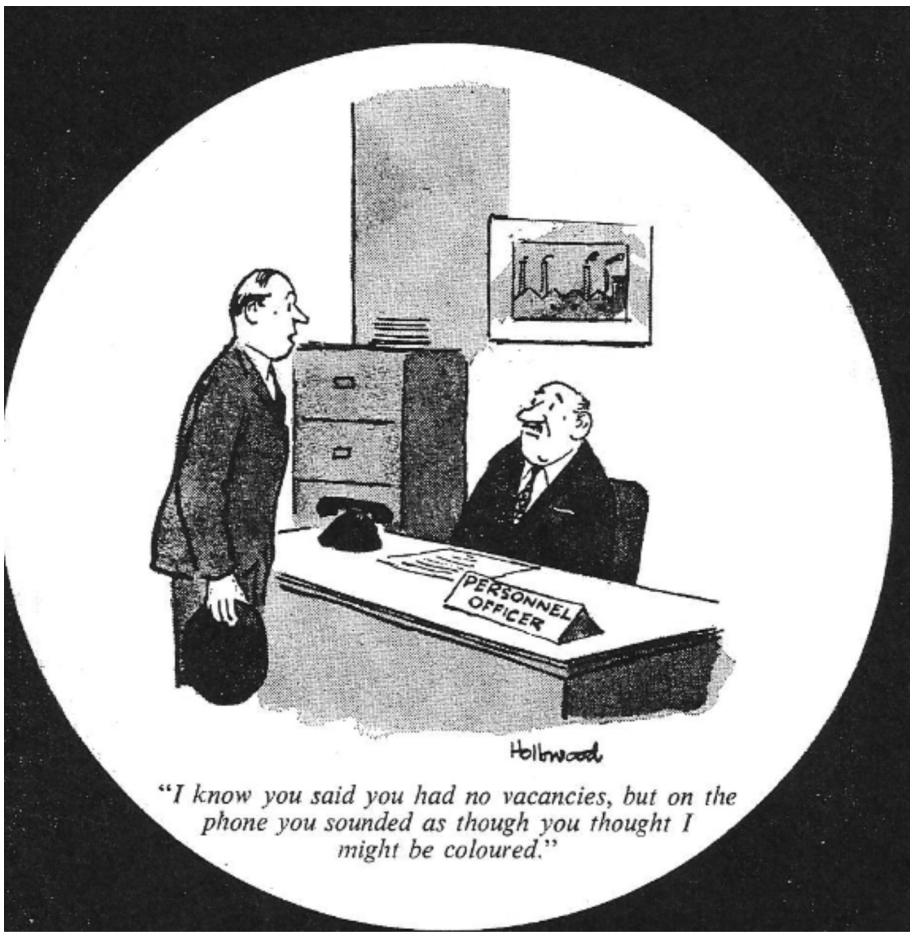
SOURCE D

A photograph published in a local newspaper from the dockland area of London in 1968. Graffiti on a wall at the side of a street says 'Powell hates the workers black and white'.



SOURCE E

A cartoon published by a race relations organisation in 1972. A white man is talking to the 'Personnel officer' of a factory who is sitting behind a desk. The man is saying 'I know you said you had no vacancies, but on the phone you sounded as though you thought I might be coloured.'



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