



Leisure and Entertainment in the 20th Century

Key Words

Century – understanding the chronological meaning of Century – e.g., the 20th Century is from 1900.

Chronology – in time order.

Impact – how changes have made a difference to society and culture.

Significant – it means importance. If the question asks how significant something is, it is asking you how important it is.

Technological advances – that technology has come a long way and is constantly evolving.

Evolving – how our past has influenced and supported changes that are happening now.

Change and continuity – how are things changing? Can you see patterns in these changes? What causes the changes?

Cause and consequence – what are the causes of the event? Are they long-term causes or short-term causes?

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- 1911:** London had 94 registered cinemas, making up 55,000 seats.
- 1913:** The first crossword was devised by Arthur Wynne.
- 1922:** Radio broadcasting in Britain began.
- 1925:** The first television broadcast was suspended until 1946.
- 1927:** The first 'talkie' film, *The Jazz Singer*, was made.
- 1933:** Half the households in Britain had a radio.
- 1936:** The first motorway was the Preston Bypass where the speed limit was 70mph.
- 1937:** The largest football crowd ever recorded saw Scotland play England in Glasgow. 149,415 people attended.
- 1946:** The first television set was sold in Britain.
- 1953:** Queen Elizabeth II was crowned.

Interesting Facts

The first crossword was devised in 1913 by Arthur Wynne.	By 1933 half the households in Britain had a radio.	In 1911, London had 94 registered cinemas, making up 55,000 seats. By 1930 this had increased to 258 cinemas with 344,000 seats.	In 1900, Frank Hornby invented Meccano.
In 1922, radio broadcasting in Britain began.	The first 'talkie' film, called <i>The Jazz Singer</i> , was made in 1927.	By the middle of the 1930s, 18 million people per week went to the cinema in Britain.	King Edward VII was a keen spectator of horse racing. This made horse racing very popular across Britain, although mainly with the wealthy.
During WWII, television broadcasting was suspended until 1946.	Many British families bought their first television sets in order to watch the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.	By 1964, 90% of households owned a television.	Between 1955 and 1957, there was only one television channel.
In the late 1950s, the first British motorways were built.	The England football team beat West Germany 4 – 2 on 30 th July 1966.	In the 1920s, both the Spanish and Italian football leagues were founded.	In 1937, the largest football crowd ever recorded saw Scotland play England in Glasgow. 149,415 people attended.

Unlock even more knowledge by:

- Talking to adults about changes in their lifetimes – ask about music, television, computers and cinema experiences.
- Can you bring in any examples of something that is no longer used anymore? Sony Walkman? Tape Recorder? Video Tape?
- Complete research at home and look for images of development from different decades. If you google: music from the (pick a decade like the 1960s) a selection of songs comes up that you can listen to from that decade. Consider the difference to music that you like to listen to now. How is it different?
- Research how fashion has changed over the years and think about what has influenced those changes. Why do you think things are always changing?

