History: How have our lives changed over the last 100 years?

Year 9 Term 4

Timeline

1901	Rowntree published Poverty: A Study of Town Life which showed the widespread poverty within Britain.
1906	The election of the British Liberal Party. They would use their time in office to introduce a series of reforms.
1914	The discovery of blood transfusions.
1914-1918	The First World War
1928	The discovery of Penicillin as an antibiotic
1939-1945	The Second World War
1948	The Creation of the NHS
1989	The creation of the World Wide Web (WWW.)
1996	The first successful cloning of an animal - Dolly the Sheep
2019	The Covid-19 virus is spread from China throughout the world.

Key Individuals

Fleming, Florey and Chain	Fleming studied the impact of Staphylococcus during the First World War. In 1928 he was working on cures for the disease where he left mould in one of his dishes. Upon return he noticed that the germs had been killed. Florey and Chain carried on the work of Fleming. They tested the antibiotic on mice and then Albert Alexander which showed it could work on humans.
Seebohm Rowntree	Published Poverty: A Study of Town Life in 1901 which found that 28% of the population did not have the minimum amount of money to live on at some point in their life.
William Beveridge	William Beveridge produced a report on the state of Britain in 1942. He declared Britain needed to take care of people from 'cradle to grave' and pushed for life to become better after the war.
Aneurin Bevan	When the NHS was proposed, 41,000 out of 45,000 doctors did not want a National Health Service. Bevan was the Minister of Health and won them over by promising them a salary and the opportunity to work with private patients.

Pharmaceutical	Relating to drugs used for medicine.
Social Reforms	Changes made to society to try and help.
Liberal Party	A British political party that were elected in 1906. They realised that they needed to do something to help people who could not look after themselves.
1906 School Meals Act	Allowed councils to provide free school meals to poor children. By 1914, 158,000 children received a free meal a day.
Antibiotic	Medicine that can be digested or injected into the body and kills certain germs as it travels around the body.
Staphylococcus	A germ in the mid 1920s that remained undefeated by any magic bullet. It had over 30 different strains.
Penicillin	An antibiotic produced naturally by certain blue moulds. The first antibiotic developed by doctors.
WWI and WWII	The two World Wars began in Europe and quickly spread throughout Africa and into Asia. Between the two wars over 100 million soldiers/ civilians were killed or wounded.
Shell Shock	The mental strain of the war. Some solders could not speak or had panic attacks. This was the first instance of mental health problems caused by war.
Blood Transfusions	In 1914, Albert Hustin discovered that glucose and sodium stopped blood from clotting when it came into contact with the air. Blood was then bottled and given to injured soldiers.
X rays	Discovered in 1895 but used on a large scale during the First World War to see where soldiers had been shot without having to cut them open!
Welfare State	Propositions made by Beveridge for social security, a national health service, free education, council housing and full employment.
National Health Service	Made all medical treatment free to those who wanted it. It was introduced in 1948.
Aromatherapy	The use of essential oils from fruits, flowers and leaves that re inhaled or massaged into the skin.
Acupuncture	Needles are placed in particular places within the body. It has been a key part of Chinese medicine for years.
Keyhole Surgery	Small fibre-optic cables with cameras on mean surgeons could perform operations through small cuts.
Plastic Surgery	Harold Gillies used plastic surgery when reconstructing hands and faces during the First World War. Plastic surgery is still a key part of surgery today.
Covid-19	Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, including the common cold. Covid-19 is an infectious disease that began in the Hubei province of China in 2019 and created a worldwide pandemic.

Key Questions

What is the role of technology in modern life?

- X– rays were discovered in 1895. During the war, they were used on the battlefields when mobile X-rays were developed by Marie Curie.
- Keyhole surgery and microsurgery allowed surgeons to operate in new ways to ensure precision and accuracy.
- Radiotherapy and chemotherapy is used to treat cancer as it aims to shrink cancer cells and tumours.
- The internet and mobile technology have been pivotal in the way we live our lives. For the first time ever, people have unlimited information at their fingertips.

What was the impact of the World Wars on society?

- The First and Second World Wars changed attitudes towards public health. The people in Britain had suffered from bombing, rationing and the sacrifices made by all made the governments believe that the people of Britain deserved better.
- The people in the countryside who saw the state of evacuated children also realised that something had to be done to improve public health in Britain.
- These changes in attitude led to the creation of the National Health Service.
- The Second World War meant that the USA granted money to companies to produce penicillin. 15% of British and American troops would have died without it.

Why has Covid-19 had such a significant impact on our lives?

- Covid-19 began in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Reports state that the Covid-19 virus was transmitted through the sale of live bats for food in the wet markets of Wuhan. What started as an epidemic in China has since spread throughout the world as a pandemic facing hundreds of countries.
- On the 24th March 2020 the British Government imposed a public lockdown. This meant that all non-essential workplaces shut down; exercise was limited; schools shut their doors to everyone apart from key worker and vulnerable children; social distancing; and self isolation for all those suspected of having Covid'19.
- The Coronavirus outbreak highlighted the impact that the NHS has on our lives. With NHS budget cuts happening year on year, Britain faced an unprecedented amount of pressure on staff and intensive care unit capacity.