

Topic 1 BRITAIN – PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

1 Complete the text using vocabulary from topic 1.

Britain – Past, present and future

These are interesting times in Britain. On the one hand, *The United Kingdom*, as it is also known, is as culturally diverse as it has ever been, with people from all parts of the world calling it home. However, on the other hand, in the _____ of the 2016 Brexit referendum there has been a divide amongst the population and a level of _____ and bitterness that cause some to suggest that British society has been damaged _____. The decision to leave the EU may not lead to economic devastation as some worry, but the once great colonial power is in danger of becoming a _____.

But how did we get to this point? Why are many *remain* voters _____ up to leave the country and start new lives elsewhere, _____ their families? And what were the main reasons behind all the *leave* votes? And perhaps most importantly, how will Britain recover from this _____?

Many people who voted *leave* say they are worried about the future of the country and felt that their jobs and the British identity was _____ due to the large number of migrants coming from all over the world. They felt that important issues such as housing and schools were being put _____ as local governments were spending too much time dealing with the influx of migrants.

Although many people have _____ with the _____ of refugees, they sometimes felt like strangers in their own country.

The *remain* voters, however, cannot understand the decision to leave the EU and the referendum has caused a _____ in society and some families. For example, many young people, who would like to study abroad or work in foreign _____ of British companies, feel _____ by the older population. Consequently, many have become _____ with Britain and are very pessimistic about the future, _____ of what the politicians say.

Whatever happens post-Brexit, as Britain _____ a life outside of the European Union, its leaders cannot afford to _____ the domestic issues in the _____ of the country.

2 Match the words on the left (1-8) with their synonyms on the right (A-H).

1	to subjugate	A	negatively
2	tedious	B	to be suitable
3	adversely	C	to conquer
4	to set a precedent	D	cereals
5	to fit the bill	E	boring
6	grain	F	separation
7	partition	G	to ignore
8	to disregard	H	to set an example

3 Match the words on the left (1-8) with their definitions on the right (A-H).

1	to pillage	A	to profit from something
2	famine	B	a lack of activity
3	austerity measures	C	constantly changing
4	to reap the benefits	D	to rob with open violence
5	inertia	E	the central area of somewhere
6	in flux	F	extreme scarcity of food
7	to be wanting	G	reductions in government spending
8	heartland	H	lacking something

4 Fill in the gaps.

1. If there are a lot of people in a shop, then you have to _____ to pay for your purchases.
2. The right to vote is known as _____.
3. BBC is an _____ for British Broadcasting Corporation.
4. A _____ is something you bring on yourself.
5. Our company headquarters are in London, but we have a _____ in Madrid.
6. In breaking her promises she _____ our trust.
7. If you _____ something you re-direct it.
8. The PM has taken a controversial _____ on immigration.

5 What is it in German?

1. uprooting _____
2. to impose _____
3. to contemplate _____
4. adversely _____
5. to become a laughing stock _____
6. xenophobia _____
7. prosperity _____
8. dedication _____