

Chronology and Timeline Skills

Ordering events, centuries, calculating time spans, BC and AD and spotting anachronisms.

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

Learning objective: I can place events in chronological order and use dates and time words accurately.

✓ I can order events ✓ I can work out centuries ✓ I can spot anachronisms

1 Put them in order

Number these events from earliest (1) to latest (10).

- ☐ **A** The Act of Union joins England and Scotland
- ☐ **B** The Romans invade Britain under Emperor Claudius
- ☐ **C** The Battle of Bosworth – the Tudors take the throne
- ☐ **D** The Battle of Hastings
- ☐ **E** The Black Death reaches England
- ☐ **F** Some women gain the right to vote
- ☐ **G** The Spanish Armada is defeated
- ☐ **H** The Battle of Waterloo
- ☐ **I** The Great Fire of London
- ☐ **J** King John agrees to Magna Carta

2 Which century?

Write the century for each year.

Year	Century
1066	
1215	
1348	
1588	
1666	
1900	
2001	

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3 How long between? Show your working.

1 How many years passed between 1066 and 1215?

2 How many years passed between 1348 and 1666?

3 How many years passed between 43 and 1066?

4 Julius Caesar first came to Britain in 55 BC. How many years was this before the Roman invasion of AD 43?

4 Time words Match each word to its meaning.

1 decade

☐

A 1000 years

2 century

☐

B Anno Domini (in the year of our Lord) / Common Era

3 millennium

☐

C 100 years

4 BC / BCE

☐

D something placed in the wrong time period

5 AD / CE

☐

E 10 years

6 anachronism

☐

F before the birth of Christ / before the Common Era

5 Spot the anachronism Each sentence contains something from the wrong time. Underline it and explain why.

5 At the Battle of Hastings, Harold's soldiers took photographs of the Norman army.

6 During the Great Fire of London in 1666, people phoned the fire brigade.

7 Tudor sailors used a satellite navigation system to find their way to the Americas.

Answer Key

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Question	Answers
1 Put them in order	Correct order: B, D, J, E, C, G, I, A, H, F The Romans invade Britain under Emperor Claudius → The Battle of Hastings → King John agrees to Magna Carta → The Black Death reaches England → The Battle of Bosworth – the Tudors take the throne → The Spanish Armada is defeated → The Great Fire of London → The Act of Union joins England and Scotland → The Battle of Waterloo → Some women gain the right to vote
2 Which century?	1066 – Century: 11th century 1215 – Century: 13th century 1348 – Century: 14th century 1588 – Century: 16th century 1666 – Century: 17th century 1900 – Century: 19th century 2001 – Century: 21st century
3 How long between?	1. $1215 - 1066 = 149$ years 2. $1666 - 1348 = 318$ years 3. $1066 - 43 = 1023$ years 4. $55 + 43 - 1 = 97$ years (there is no year 0)
4 Time words	1 E; 2 C; 3 A; 4 F; 5 B; 6 D
5 Spot the anachronism	5. Photographs – cameras were not invented until the 19th century. 6. Telephones (invented 1876) – and there was no organised fire brigade in 1666. 7. Satellite navigation – 20th-century technology; Tudors used compasses and the stars.

Teaching note: the 1900 trap: 1900 is the last year of the 19th century and 2001 is the first year of the 21st. Because there is no year 0, the gap from 55 BC to AD 43 is 97 years.