

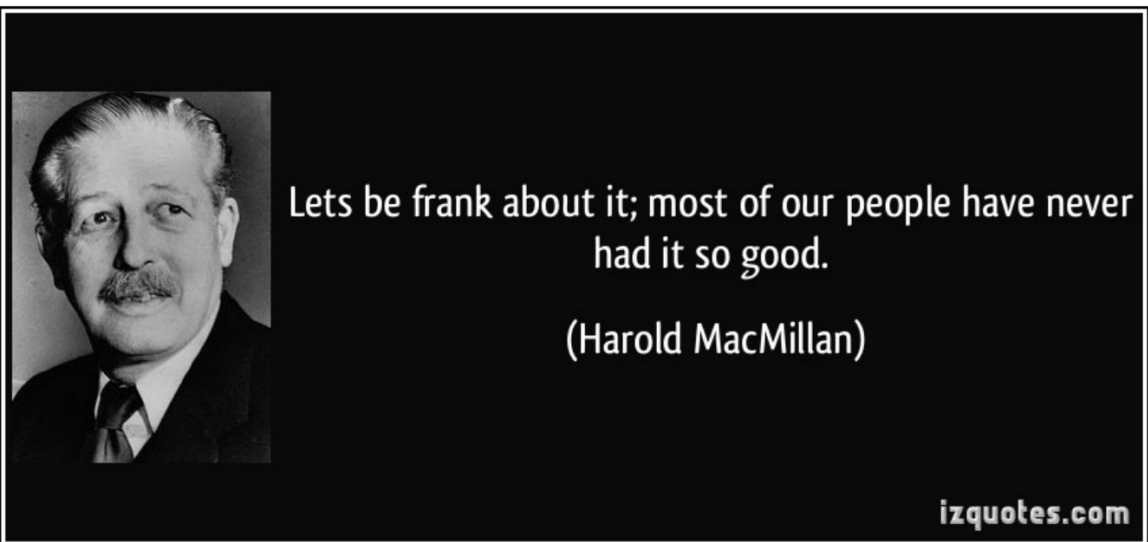
Britain in the 1950s - Lesson 3:
"You have never had it so good!"



Learning gain: in this lesson you will explore the rates of pay for men and women and consider whether living conditions improved or declined after World War 2.

You will develop your skills in source inference.





Lets be frank about it; most of our people have never had it so good.

(Harold MacMillan)

izquotes.com



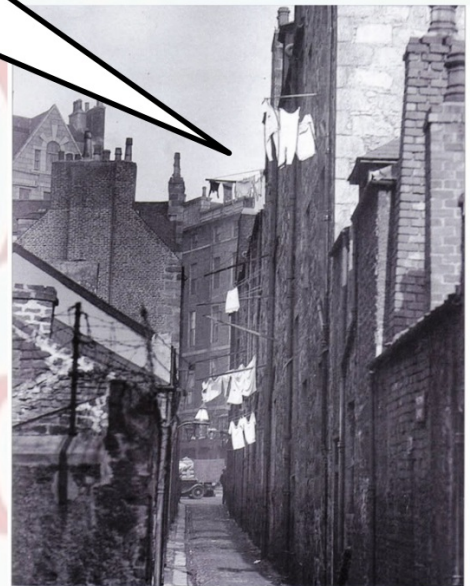
What % of British homes in 1951 had no electricity? No inside toilet? An iron tub instead of a bath?

5 minutes to think, discuss and write your answers.

No Electricity _____

No inside toilet _____

No bath _____



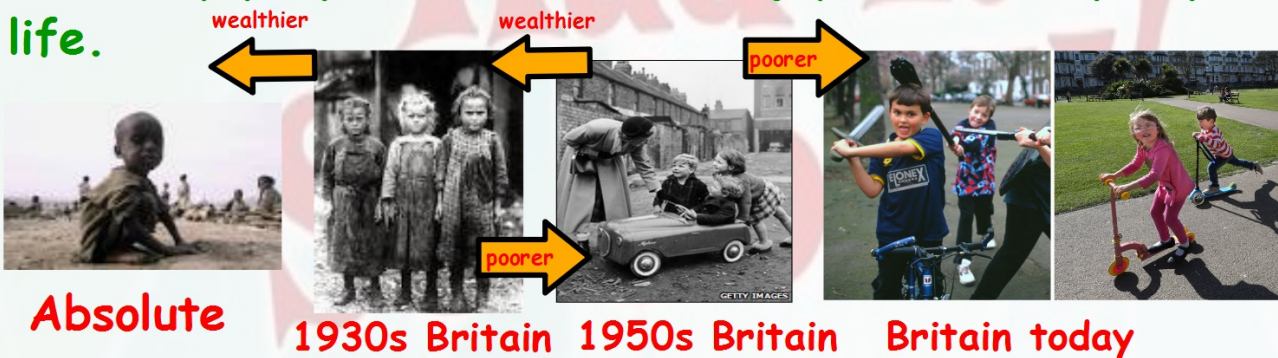
Washing day in Martins Lane, one of Aberdeen's many crowded tenements huddled together in the city centre in the 1930s. This picture is from 1937 and shows just why these damp buildings with few facilities and outside toilets had to go. The ingenuity of the tenants can be seen in the poles pushed from windows to act as washing lines.



Poverty: Relative and absolute poverty.

Since the Second World War very few people in Britain have suffered absolute poverty. Instead we use the term relative poverty to judge how poor people are.

From our perspective today people in the 1950s seem poor but compared to the tough times of before and during the war many people in the 1950s enjoyed a more prosperous life.



Welfare State



Post War
Economic Boom



Reasons

Full Employment



Low inflation

Rising wages



Living Conditions:

Many people used to live in inadequate slum houses before the war but a huge programme of slum clearance and house building after 1945 meant that many more people had an indoor toilet and hot and cold running water.

A major change for people was the move from the slum terrace housing to blocks of flats.





Main



Harold Macmillan became the Earl of Stockton.

He would get teary eyed when he used to remember the terrible conditions that existed in this town before the war.

You are going to look at the evidence and using "Inference" write a speech that either supports or opposes the view of Macmillan that British People in the 1950s have never had it so good.



Main



Time - allowed:

Remainder of this lesson to use the sources
to draft a speech.

30minutes of next lesson to prepare
and practice the speeches.

30 minutes to deliver the speeches.

Check in - how far have you got, what have you inferred from the sources?



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30 minutes to complete the speech -

choose a person to deliver the speech...

have a copy of the speech for the whole group...

Had It
So Good!

Plenary



'You've Never

Write a short paragraph stating whether you personally agree with MacMillan's view.

Give evidence to support your view.

So Good!