



Poland and Britain Connections



Poland and Britain – Connections

This activity is currently developing as a response to racist behaviour towards Polish new arrivals in classrooms in areas where the presence of other ethnic groups is new and lack of knowledge is shared by adults and children. The activities are designed to acquaint pupils with the connections that have been taking place since the twelfth century or earlier when Norman knights went crusading in Poland up to the time when after the invasions of Poland in 1939 many Polish soldiers, sailors and airmen came to Britain and made a significant contribution to the war effort. Many more from the Eastern Front joined the Allies in the Middle East and Africa. With help of colleagues in Poland and in the UK I hope we can bring the history closer to the present. I sense that here we will be looking at historical events and ideas which are still very controversial. In the meantime the JU video: a linked set of short accounts, very well suited to chunking and ideal for classroom use, made in 2013 raises lots of issues and topics for discussion.

History of Poland in London produced by the Jagiellonian University Polish Research Centre

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fnjWB_A1YI

We have tried to contact them but no response so far.

Currently we have two (maybe three) activities in the pipeline:

1. A 'sort out the clues' activity to complete a timeline introducing events from Polish history (bottom of timeline) and events from joint Great Britain/Polish history (top of timeline). This is similar to popular activities such as Technology and the Wilsons produced by Steve Cooke. <http://www.collaborativelearning.org/thewilsons.pdf> We need some advice on events to include.
2. An informationgap/transformations activity introducing a class set and more of people, events, artefacts for sharing and researching. We have recently been developing similar activities for Vikings and the Middle Ages. You can find a guide to our transformations activity at <http://www.collaborativelearning.org/transformations.pdf> We hope Polish speaking students will help us to write these "autobiographies"
3. A timeline and mapping activity along the lines of our Anglo Saxon dates activity where small groups study different periods of Polish history to research and present to the rest of the class.

I must emphasise at this stage that the activities are tentative and without your comments and suggestions will go nowhere. If you have Polish students or teachers in your school please ask them to help us. I am now catching up on my knowledge of Polish history by reading Norman Davies' God's Playground – a history of Poland. This book is also available in Polish. Norman Davies, Welsh and Polish, has his own interesting website. Of course the more you read the more complex the issues become. I have reached the stage where I feel less confident but look forward to the conversations that will helpfully clarify many questions.

Poland and Britain; characters, events, places and objects for a transformation activity.

Provisional list in no particular order. We welcome additions and sample texts like the ones below:

John Paul II
Lech Walesa
Jozef Pilsudski
Zbigniew Brzezinski
Tadeusz Mazowiecki
Tadeusz Kosciuszko (1746-1817)
Boleslaus the Brave (c.967-1025)
Casimir the Great (1310-1370)
Stefan Batory - Stephen Bathory (1533-1586)
John III Sobieski (1629-1696)
Stanislaw August Poniatowski (1732-1798)
Marie Curie
Nicolaus Copernicus
Ernest Malinowski
Andrzej Wajda
Daniel Fahrenheit
Menachem Begin

Bishop Adalbert
Frederick Chopin
Gwordiec Synagogue
Charles Edward Stuart
Teutonic Knights
Maria Clementina Sobieska
Marie Walewska
Roman Polanski
Warsaw confederation
Gdansk
Warsaw
Krakow
Sejm
Statute of Kalisz
Joseph Conrad
Lipka Tatars
Crowned Eagle
Jan Kowalewski
Ryszard Kapuściński
Władysław Anders
Alexander Chalmers
and.....

Charles Edward
Stuart

Paweł Działyński

Lech Wałęsa

John Paul II

Marie Walewska I agreed to become Napoleon's mistress in 1810 because I believed he would help Poland become an independent country again. Sadly this did not happen.



Adalbert



My name means noble and shining. I lived in the 10th century and was martyred in 997. I am the patron saint of Poland. My story is carved on the doors of Gnesnow cathedral.

**Krzysztof
Warszewicki**



John III Sobieski



I became king of the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth in 1674. I defeated the Ottomans at the siege of Vienna in 1683 with the help of the Lipska Tatars.

Teutonic Knights



Nicolaus Copernicus



Gdansk



Marie Curie
Slodowska

Crowned Eagle



1295
Poland makes the crowned
eagle its coat of arms

Polish Memorial



Alexander Chalmers



Warsaw



National Dress



Lipka Tatars



Frederick Chopin

Gwordiec Synagogue

Roman Polanski

Lipka Tatars



Warsaw
confederation

Krakow

Sejm

Statute of Kalisz

Joseph Conrad

Jan Kowalewski

Ryszard
Kapuściński

Władysław
Anders.

Jozef Pilsudski

Zbigniew
Brzezinski

Tadeusz
Mazowiecki

Tadeusz
Kosciuszko
(1746-1817)

Boleslaus the
Brave (c.967-
1025)

Casimir the Great
(1310-1370)

Stefan Batory -
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Stanislaw August
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Ernest
Malinowski

Andrzej Wajda

Daniel Fahrenheit

Menachem Begin

Poland and Britain – Connections

Our timeline activity is ready to test out. The transformations activity which provides a lot more information about events, places and characters is still being developed.

This is of course not the only timeline that could be produced. Please feed back your comments, additions and suggestions.

Poland and Britain Timelines Activity Instructions

This activity works best with four participants working together to complete the timeline.

You have a timeline from 1295 to 1950.

You have a set of cards with events related to Poland and Britain.

You have two set of clues.

Work together to place the cards in the correct spaces on the timeline.

Your teacher has a completed timeline for you check how well you have done.

Poland and Britain Timelines Activity Instructions

This activity works best with four participants working together to complete the timeline.

You have a timeline from 1295 to 1950.

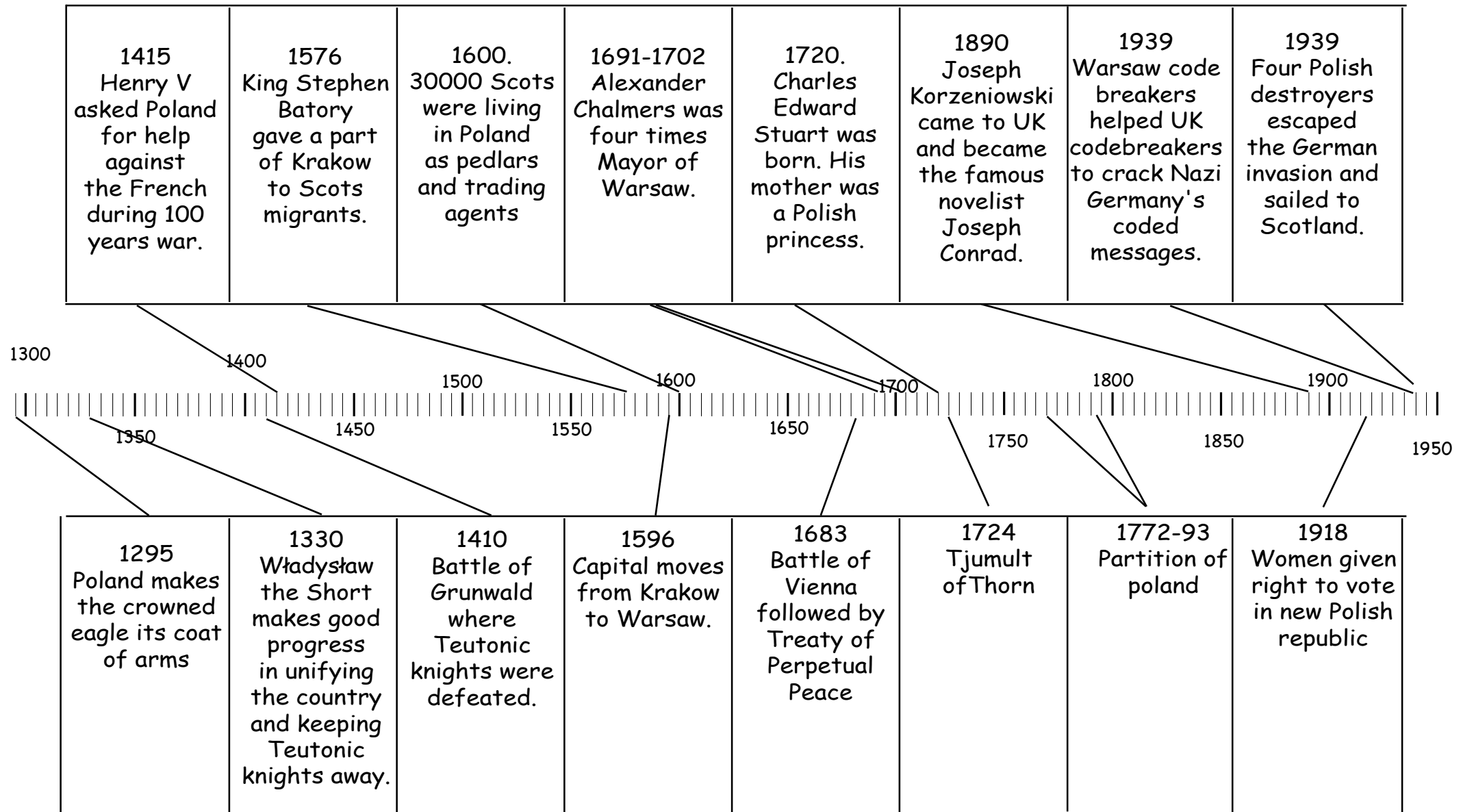
You have a set of cards with events related to Poland and Britain.

You have two set of clues.

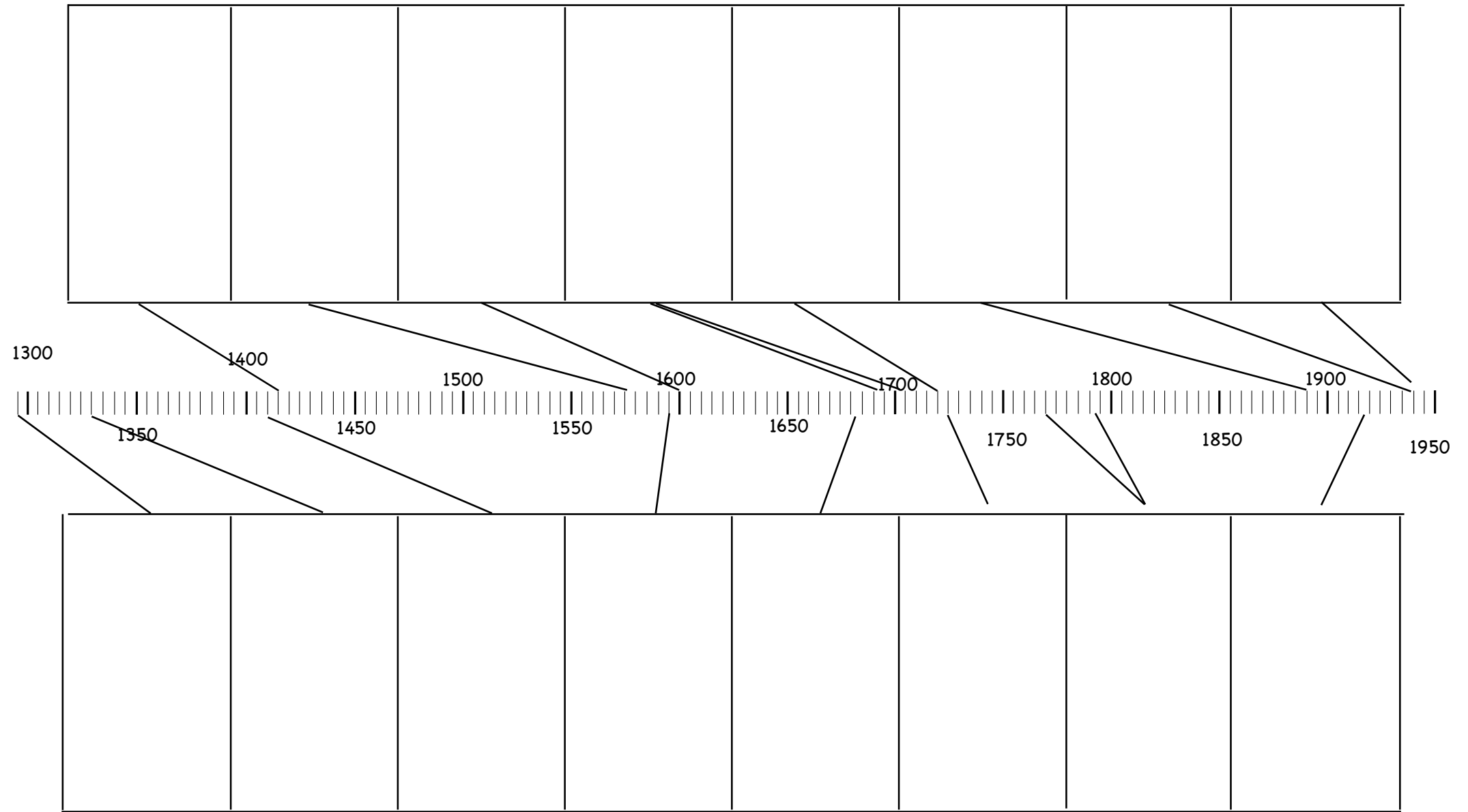
Work together to place the cards in the correct spaces on the timeline.

Your teacher has a completed timeline for you check how well you have done.

Poland and Britain Timeline - completed timeline



Poland and Britain Timeline - blank timeline



Britain and Poland Timeline - event cards for placing on timeline

Henry V asked Poland for help against the French during the Hundred Years War.	King Stephen Batory gave a part of Krakow to Scots migrants.	30000 Scots were living in Poland as pedlars and trading agents	Alexander Chalmers, a Scot, was four times Mayor of Warsaw.	Charles Edward Stuart was born. His mother was a Polish princess.	Joseph Korzeniowski came to UK and became the famous novelist Joseph Conrad.	Warsaw code breakers helped UK codebreakers to crack Nazi Germany's coded messages.	Four Polish destroyers escaped the German invasion and sailed to Scotland.
Poland makes the crowned eagle its coat of arms	Władysław the Short makes good progress in unifying the country and keeping Teutonic knights away.	Battle of Grunwald where Teutonic knights were defeated.	Capital moves from Krakow to Warsaw.	Battle of Vienna followed by Treaty of Perpetual Peace	Tumult of Thorn	Partition of poland	Women given right to vote in new Polish republic

Poland and Britain - Clues Sheet One

Thirty five years after Poland took the crowned eagle as its coat of arms Władysław the Short unified the country

Henry V asked Poland for help against the French five years after the Battle of Grunwald.

King Stephen Batory gave a part of Krakow to Scots migrants in 1576.

The Tumult of Thorn took place forty one years after the Battle of Vienna.

Joseph Conrad came to Britain ninety seven years after the final partition of Poland.

King Jan Sobieski III won the battle of Vienna and saved the Hapsburg empire from the Ottomans eighty nine years before the first partition of Poland.

Poland and Britain - Clues Sheet Two

The Polish capital moved from Krakow to Warsaw twenty years after the Scots were given places to live in Krakow.

Warsaw code breakers helped UK codebreakers to crack Nazi Germany's coded messages forty one years after Joseph Conrad moved from Poland to Britain.

The Polish republic was reborn a hundred and twenty five years after it was partitioned and divided up between Prussia, Austria and Russia.

Charles Edward Stuart 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' whose mother was a Polish princess was born twenty nine years after Alexander Chalmers first became mayor of Warsaw.

Twenty four years after Scots migrants were given an area to live in Krakow, there were thirty thousand Scots working as agents and traders in Poland .

Four Polish destroyers escaped the German invasion and sailed to Scotland twenty one years after women were given the vote in the reborn Polish republic.