

Contents

<i>List of plates</i>	ix
<i>List of figures</i>	xi
<i>List of tables</i>	xii
<i>Preface and acknowledgements</i>	xiii
<i>Chronology of significant dates in British history</i>	xv
1 The British context	1
Historical growth	2
Structural change	9
Contemporary conditions	11
British attitudes to Britain	15
<i>Exercises</i>	19
<i>Further reading</i>	18
<i>Websites</i>	19
2 The country	21
Geographical identities	22
Physical features and climate	24
Agriculture, fisheries and forestry	33
Energy resources	36
Transport and communications	38
Attitudes to the environment	42
<i>Exercises</i>	48
<i>Further reading</i>	48
<i>Websites</i>	49
3 The people	51
Early settlement to AD 1066	52
Growth and immigration up to the twentieth century	55

Immigration from 1900	60
Ethnic minorities	65
Population movements from 1900	66
Attitudes to national, regional and local identities	68
<i>Exercises</i>	73
<i>Further reading</i>	73
<i>Websites</i>	74
4 Politics and government	75
Political history	77
The British governmental and political framework	82
Constitution and monarchy	86
UK Parliament: role, legislation and elections	92
The party political system	99
The UK government	104
UK parliamentary control of government	106
Attitudes to politics	108
<i>Exercises</i>	109
<i>Further reading</i>	109
<i>Websites</i>	110
5 International relations	111
Foreign and defence policy	113
The empire and Commonwealth	117
The European Union (EU)	119
The Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland	125
<i>Exercises</i>	129
<i>Further reading</i>	130
<i>Websites</i>	130
6 The legal system	131
Legal history	132
Sources of British law	134
Court structures in England and Wales	135
Civil and criminal procedure in England and Wales	141
Law and order	146
The legal profession	150
Attitudes to the legal system and crime	153
<i>Exercises</i>	155
<i>Further reading</i>	156
<i>Websites</i>	156

7 The economy	157
Economic history	158
The modern economy: policies, structure and performance	160
Social class, the workforce and employment	168
Financial institutions	172
Industrial and commercial institutions	175
Consumer protection	179
Attitudes to the economy	180
Exercises	182
Further reading	182
Websites	182
8 Social services	185
Social services history	187
Changing family and demographic structures	189
Social security	192
The National Health Service (NHS)	194
The personal social services	198
Housing	200
Attitudes to the social services	206
Exercises	207
Further reading	207
Websites	208
9 Education	209
School history	211
The state school sector	214
The independent (fee-paying) school sector	217
School organization and examinations	219
Higher education	223
Further, adult and lifelong education	227
Attitudes to education	228
Exercises	230
Further reading	230
Websites	230
10 The media	231
The print media	232
The broadcasting media	240
Media ownership and freedom of expression	247
Attitudes to the media	250
Exercises	251

<i>Further reading</i>	251
<i>Websites</i>	251
11 Religion	253
Religious history	254
The Christian tradition	258
The non-Christian tradition	266
Cooperation among the faiths	269
Religion in schools	270
Religious identification	271
Attitudes to religion and morality	272
<i>Exercises</i>	274
<i>Further reading</i>	274
<i>Websites</i>	275
12 Leisure, sports and the arts	277
Leisure activities	279
Sports	285
The arts	290
<i>Exercises</i>	295
<i>Further reading</i>	295
<i>Websites</i>	296
<i>Index</i>	297