

# The British Empire, Then and Now

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## Summary

This book is about the rise and fall of the British Empire.

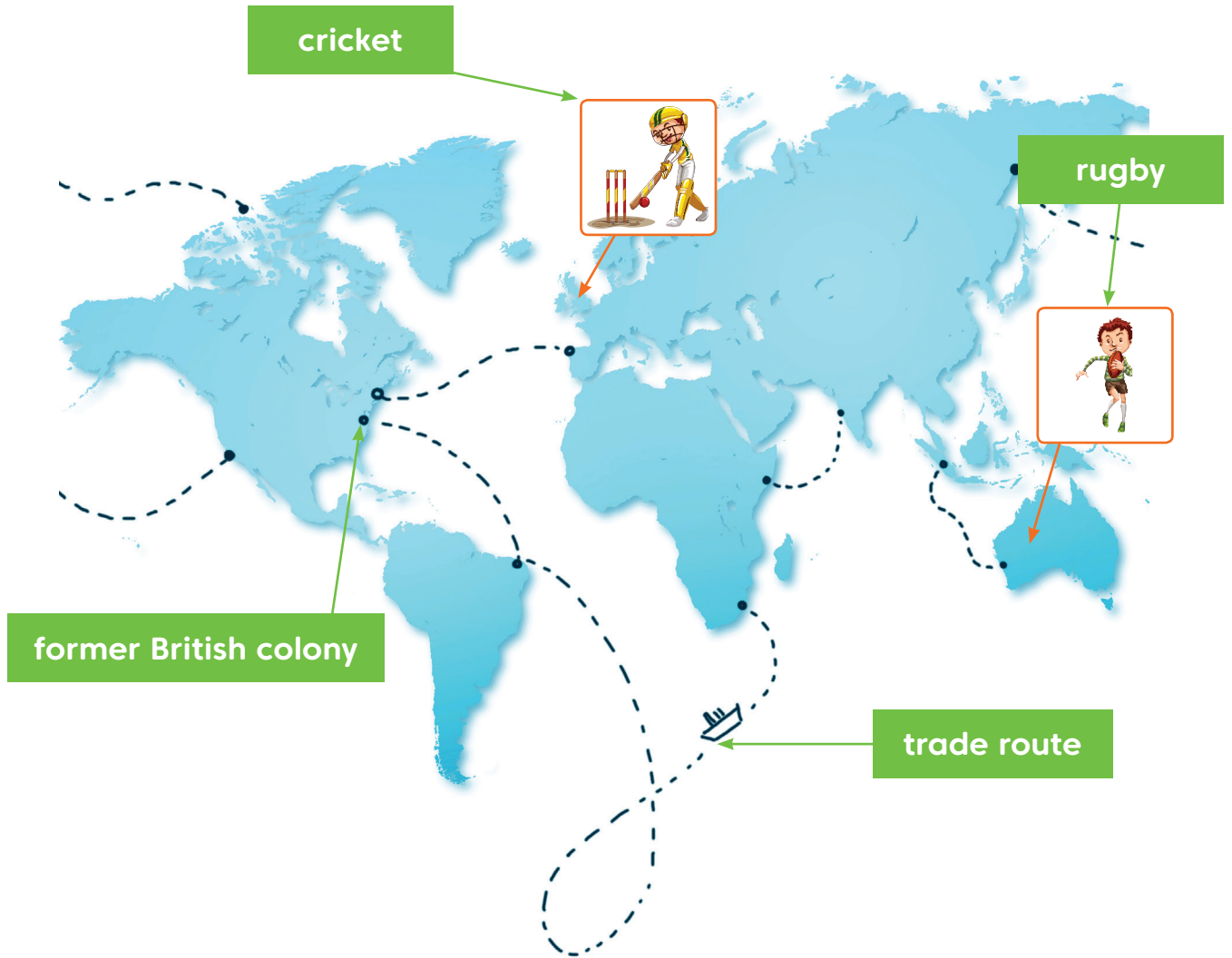
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# Before Reading

## Think Ahead

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



1. What sport uses a bat and a ball?
2. What sport has players passing a ball to each other?
3. What did the north-east part of America used to be?
4. How do goods move from place to place?

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# Vocabulary

## A Read and match.

1.



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• a. powerful

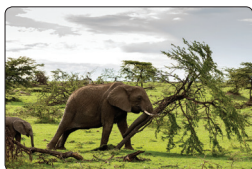
2.



•

• b. expand

3.



•

• c. permanent

4.



•

• d. remain

5.



•

• e. load

6.



•

• f. democratic

7.



•

• g. capture

8.



•

• h. shine

**B Write the word for each definition.**

colony

challenge

organization

independent

overseas

1. \_\_\_\_\_ a group that works together for the same purpose
2. \_\_\_\_\_ across the ocean; abroad
3. \_\_\_\_\_ not being controlled by someone or something else
4. \_\_\_\_\_ to disagree with someone or the ideas they have
5. \_\_\_\_\_ a place which another country controls or rules

**C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.**

1. The British culture affected many other countries.  
a. shined                      b. influenced                      c. colonized                      d. argued
2. When people travel across the ocean, they can experience many different cultures.  
a. birthplace                      b. on land                      c. commonwealth                      d. overseas
3. Singapore is a past British colony.  
a. former                      b. better                      c. organization                      d. final
4. In the past, long paths for selling and buying goods were very important for economies.  
a. influences                      b. trade routes                      c. commonwealths                      d. overseas

## Comprehension

### A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. Nigerians celebrating independence in Africa.
- b. A British fort in Malaysia that was once under the control of the British East India Company.
- c. Spanish buildings in the Philippines built when Spain expanded its powers all over the world.



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_

### B Choose the best answer.

1. What did Spain and Portugal bring to other countries?
  - a. The money that they used
  - b. The god they believed in
  - c. Many of the foods they produced
  - d. Their pets and animals
2. What made Britain more powerful at the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century?
  - a. Going to war with the Dutch
  - b. Beginning a special union with France
  - c. Joining with Scotland to become stronger
  - d. Creating a commonwealth with Spain
3. Where was the British East India Company first set up?
  - a. In India
  - b. In Britain
  - c. In North America
  - d. In Africa

**C** Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. A famous African building and sport
- b. A sport enjoyed by Britain and its colonies
- c. Some famous buildings in London
- d. A crowd enjoying the commonwealth games
- e. A famous building in India



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_

**D** Read each sentence. Write “T” if it is true or “F” if it is false.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ America was known as the “workshop of the world” in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Britain has more influence on politics now than in the past.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Myanmar and Sri Lanka gained their independence before India.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The British government took control of the East India Company in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The Commonwealth of Nations has more than 50 member countries.

**E Complete the sentences with the correct words.**

1. Because of its ships, Britain was able to \_\_\_\_\_ many countries.  
expand    colonize
2. As it began in many cities throughout the country, Britain was the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Industrial Revolution.  
birthplace    overseas
3. After Britain lost much of its power, many of its colonies became \_\_\_\_\_.  
independent    load
4. Nigeria and Malawi are \_\_\_\_\_ colonies of Britain.  
remain    former
5. The British Empire developed many \_\_\_\_\_ during its days of power.  
trade routes    overseas

**F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Germany and North America had gained more economic power and were competing with Britain.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ The war with Napoleon finally ended.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ The War of Independence was fought between Great Britain and 13 of its colonies.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ The East India Company was created to develop trade and trade routes in India.
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ The British government took control of land owned by the Easy India Company.

## Think About It

**A** Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
_____ gained independence from Great Britain during the 1860s.	The _____ was formed by a number of different nations who had become independent.	In _____, Scotland and Britain joined together to form a union.	Countries like France and the Netherlands sent people _____ to form new colonies.	Many British sports are played in places where Britain had _____.

**B** Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Before I read this book, I knew \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Now I also know \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.