

# The British Empire, Then and Now

Rob Waring



## Summary

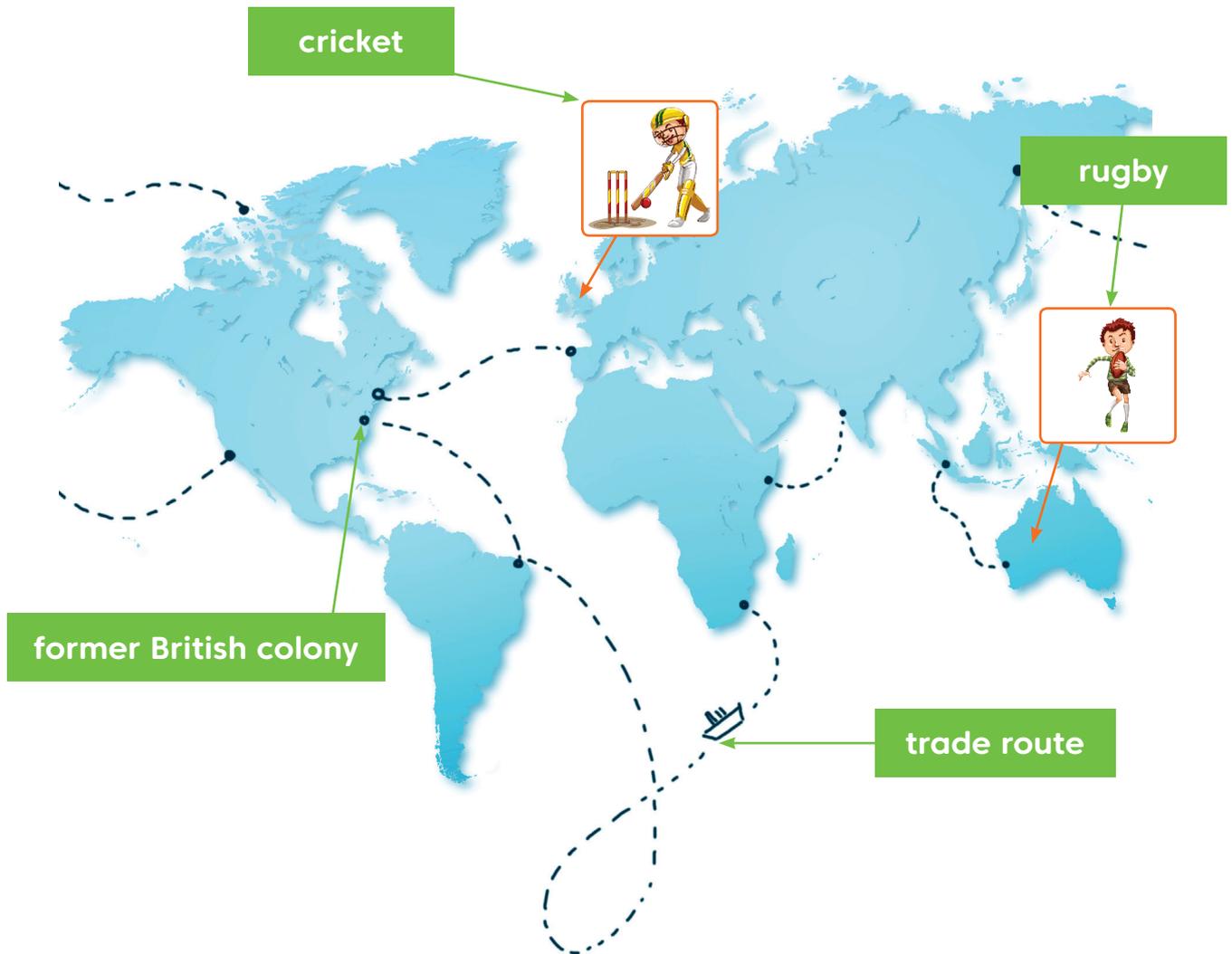
This book is about the rise and fall of the British Empire.

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## 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.



• a. powerful

• b. expand

• c. permanent

• d. remain

• e. load

• f. democratic

• g. capture

• 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 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_