**The Greatest British Event**

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| **Event** | **Describe what happened during the event** | **Explain and assess why event is significant** |
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**Judgment: What do you think is the most significant event in British History?**

**Dunkirk, 1940**

333,000 British and French troops were trapped on the beaches of Dunkirk, France and surrounded by German forces. To rescue them, small British boats including fishing boats, sailed to the beaches over a number of days avoiding German fire and rescued the trapped soldiers, returning them to safety.

**The Blitz,**

Between 7th September 1940 and 10th May 1941, British cities were bombarded every night by the German air force. Despite building’s being destroyed and many deaths, the British people remained strong and cheerful and helped to show Hitler that his attacks would not destroy their lives and spirit.

**The World Cup, 1966**

England beat Germany 4-2 to become the 1966 World Cup Champions. People across Britain celebrated for days and it helped to promote both English football but also keeping healthy and fit through sport.

**The NHS, 1948**

Free, world class medical treatment was made free for everyone in Britain from 1948. Every British citizen has the right to health care free of charge. This has improved the health of Britons incredibly and the healthcare system is one of the best internationally.

**The Suffragettes, 1897- 1918**

The Suffragette movement were a group of people who petitioned (fought) for the equal rights of women in Britain and the right for women to vote. Despite being badly treated by the Police and Government, the Suffragettes continued to protest peacefully and did the jobs of men who fought in World War 1.

**The Great Exhibition, 1851**

The Great Exhibition held in 1851 was one of the first World Fair’s. It showed the industrial and scientific inventions made in Industrial Britain and demonstrated to other countries how industrious and powerful Britain was in the world. It helped to show that Britain was one of the strongest powers.

**The Magna Carta, 1215**

The Magna Carta was a legal document which changed many people’s lives in the Middle Ages. It made sure that King John treated everyone fairly and equally. The Magna Carta was the first step in developing the system of fair and equal laws which govern Britain today.

**The Spanish Armada, 1588**

The Spanish Armada was a brilliant naval victory for England against Spain. King Phillip of Spain sent his navy to England against Queen Elizabeth. Outnumbered and the weaker side, the British navy bravely fought and beat the Spanish navy. British freedom and security was guaranteed for many years.