• Britain and France agree to divide the middle-east - Lebanon and Syria for France, Egypt and Iraq for Britain, Palestine placed under 'international administration' due to disagreement.

• Britain was determined to secure Palestine (close to expelling Ottomans from the territory) whilst Zionist persuasion led to the Balfour Declaration (1917)

• British occupy Palestine (1917) and now played down Pro-Zionist policy (not needed any longer), but the Arab population rallied in response to the Zionist threat and Balfour Declaration - beginning of Palestinian-Arab nationalism.

Interpretations of the influence of Zionism on British policy in Palestine:

• Zionism was seen as an ally, Jews were believed to wield power in the US and Russia.

• Britain used Zionism as a means of keeping away foreign influence from the Suez Canal and Middle-Eastern interests

• The British misunderstood Jewish and Zionist realities, exaggerating the influence of world Jewry and ignoring the diversity of Jewish politics.

Post First World War

• British awarded mandate for Palestine (San Remo, 1920) - recognised by the League of Nations (1923)

• Palestine designated 'A' mandate - developed enough to 'stand alone' shortly after the assistance of the mandate power.

• Britain accepted this role, with its real motivation being to protect interests in the region

• The mandate's articles obliged Britain to support the establishment of a Jewish national home (not state) in Palestine. (18)

British Administration

• Britain ran Palestine as a 'crown colony' rather than a mandate, similar to other parts of the empire.

• Ambiguity over the term 'Jewish national home' - Zionists interpreted it as a Jewish state (for obvious reasons) Britain may have seen it as a joint Arab-Jewish state - Many of Britain's colonies contained rival religious and cultural interests.

• Britain does not grant Palestine a legislative council - Palestinians would not cooperate and acknowledge the mandate's commitments to Zionism.

The Yishuv (Jewish community)

The Jewish population constructed an economy separate from the Arabs - small (only 70,000 of 700,000 population at the beginning of the mandate) with only 100,000 emigrating in the first decade.

• Immigration increases between 1933 and 1936 (fifth aliyah) due to rise of fascism in Europe - 170,000 emigrated (Jews now 30% of the population)

• These included more professionals and was concentrated in the coastal settlements rather than the central hills (23)

• Jewish settlement focused on land acquisition (7% by the end of the mandate) - mainly by the Jewish National Fund (JNF) - these purchases had a large influence on the partition of 1947 (important)

The Histadrut (federation of Jewish labour) was a major institution, biggest employer of Jewish labour, had its own (illegal) defence force - Haganah