Victorian Britain introduction

Governance in Britain in the early 19th century:
  - 1801 act of union
  - Role of Ireland in modern British history
  - English dominance
  - Great reform act 1832
  - Ireland under represented
  - “imbalance rectified” e.g: potato famine
  - The difference between England and Britain

The English population at the time was 54% of Britain however English MPs made up 72% of parliament. This shows that the English were overly represented which left Ireland to be severely underrepresented. However the population in Ireland was reduced by such a large amount after the potato famine that Ireland suddenly became better represented in respect to population size.

Parliament was made up of:
  - Monarch
  - House of lords
  - House of commons
And at this time a constitutional monarchy had been established and although the government was considered to be quite representative at the time, only a small number of people had the franchise (vote).

Role of government:
  - Diplomacy
  - Taxation
  - National debt
  - Cheap government
  - Localism
  - Voluntary associations

Extent of national coherence:
  - Dominance of the English language
  - Role of wars
  - Internal single market – the movements of trade and finance
  - Symbolic rule of the monarchy
  - Common Protestantism

Monarchs:
  - King George III (1760-1820)
  - King George IV (1820-1830)
  - King William IV (1830-1837)
  - Queen Victoria (1837-1901)