1959:
- Consumer spending under £16m at the end of the year.
- Launch of the Mini.
- Christopher Cockerell invented the first hovercraft.
- 40% of manual workers considered themselves to be middle class (caused a problem for Labour, who identified with the working classes).
- April 1959- The Conservatives were able to give electors tax cuts of £350 million due to economic growth.
- The Conservatives won the election- Macmillan remains Prime Minister.
- M1 opened- First motorway- ran for 67 miles from London, built in 19 months, 3 lanes in either direction.
- 1959 Obscene Publications Act- Adult literature that was ‘in the interests of science, literature, art or learning’ should be exempt from censorship.

1960:
- People had more leisure time as working hours had been reduced.
- Consumer spending nearly £16.75m at the end of the year.
- New consumer goods such as TVs, fridges, phones, hoovers, washing machines and radios were available.
- Residential areas in South Africa begin to be segregated- start of Apartheid.
- Gaitskell’s position seemingly undermined- his party conference voted for unilateral nuclear disarmament despite his rejections. He lost the election.
- British Government to close to cancel the Blue Streak missile as a result of the CND.
- 56,50,000 cars and vans on the road.
- 28% of households own a car.
- British Rail faced a loss of £68 million.
- The compulsory 2 year national service for young men was abolished.
- The most popular record album was the ‘Sound Of Music’ soundtrack.
- December- First episode of Coronation Street airs.
- Number of illegitimate births was 5.8%.

1961:
- Britain first applies to join the EEC.
- A Labour Party conference agreed to drop unilateralism as party policy.
- Renault 4- First car with a hatchback. Seen as innovative.
- The E-Type Jaguar launched-£2200, was so popular as it was the fastest car on the market at 150mph- often encouraged young men to purchase due to the thrill of speed and power.
- Dr Richard Beeching (one of the new ‘scientific industrialists’) was appointed Chairman of the British Transport Commission- put forward 4 proposals.
- The contraceptive pill made available on the NHS for married women.