Headings	Notes
TERENCE O'NEILL	Two leading members of the Unionist government hoped to replace Brookeborough as Prime
BECOMES PRIME MINISTER OF NORTHERN	Minister.
IRELAND	One was the Finance Minister, Terence O'Neill. He wanted to modernise Northern Ireland
THE RIVALS FOR POWER	planned economic development.
	• The other was the Minister for Home Affairs, Brian Faulkner. He had used internment in 1959
	• to defeat the IRA's border campaign. This made him popular with traditional unionists who
	disliked O'Neill's modernising ideas.
TERENCE O'NEILL (1914–	Born into an aristocratic family in Co. Antrim, O'Neill grew up in England and served in the
1990)	British army during World War II. Afterwards he settled in Northern Ireland and was elected to
	Stormont.
	Brookeborough made him Minister for Home Affairs in 1955 and Minister for Finance in 1956.
	• When Brookeborough retired, O'Neill became PM. He wanted to modernise Northern Ireland,
	through economic planning and development.
	He encouraged multinational companies to come to Northern Ireland to replace jobs lost in
	the traditional industries of linen and shipbuilding.
	He also set up committees to suggest reforms in education, transport and town planning.
	• In order to encourage economic co-operation with the republic, he invited Taoiseach Seán
	Lemass to visit Belfast and went to Dublin himself.
	 In order to improve relations with the Catholic minority, he made some small gestures like
	visiting a Catholic school.
	But even these gestures were too much for some unionists. Led by Ian Paisley, they mounted
	an 'O'Neill must go' campaign.
	• At the same time, Catholics noted that he made no significant concessions. After he agreed to
	site the North's new university in Protestant Coleraine rather than Catholic Derry, some of them
	decided that only direct action could lead to reform. This led to the civil rights campaign in 1967.
	When violence broke out in Derry, O'Neill tried to strengthen his own position by calling an
	election for February 1969. The gamble failed.
Keywords	Gummary

Headings	Notes
TERENCE O'NEILL (1914– 1990)	Violence grew and in April he resigned as Prime Minister. O'Neill moved to England and was
	given a seat in the House of Lords.
	His English background and stiff manner made it hard for him to persuade unionist voters that
	Stormont had to reform if it was to survive.
BRIAN FAULKNER (1921–	• Faulkner was elected as a Unionist MP to Stormont in 1949. In 1959, during the IRA border
1977)	campaign, Brookeborough made him Minister for Home Affairs.
	 His tough policy towards the IRA made him popular with the ordinary unionists.
	• He hoped to become Prime Minister but when Brookeborough resigned, he was in America and
	the leaders of the Unionist Party chose O'Neill instead.
	O'Neill made him Minister of Commerce and he got foreign companies to set up in Northern
	Ireland.
	But his relationship with O'Neill was always tense and he resigned in January 1969 in protest
	at the reforms O'Neill introduced on the orders of the British government.
	When O'Neill resigned in April, Faulkner lost the leadership by one vote to James Chichester-
	Clark. He become Minister of Development in Chichester- Clark's government and worked hard
	to push through the reforms he had previously opposed.
	After violence grew, Chichester-Clark resigned in March 1971 and at last Faulkner was elected
	leader.
	As a gesture to nationalists, he proposed powerful committees in Stormont which nationalist
	MPs would chair.
	But unionists wanted him to take a hard line with the IRA and he introduced internment on
	9 August 1971.
	Because of the way it was imposed, it alienated moderate nationalists and strengthened the IRA
	Violence grew over the rest of the year, culminating in Bloody Sunday in Derry in January 1972.
	After that, British Prime Minister Edward Heath took responsibility for security and Faulkner
	resigned in protest.
	• That ended the Stormont government and began the period of 'direct rule' from London. At first
	Faulkner opposed direct rule but soon realised that power- sharing was the only way forward.
Keywords	Gummary

Headings	Notes
BRIAN FAULKNER (1921– 1977)	 After talks with the SDLP and the British and Irish governments late in 1973, he signed the
	Sunningdale Agreement.
	It set up a power-sharing Executive with Faulkner as First Minister.
	But the plan for a Council of Ireland angered many unionists who saw it as the first step to a
	united Ireland. When his own Unionist Party rejected the Agreement in December 1973,
	Faulkner left and set up the Unionist Party of Northern Ireland.
	The power-sharing Executive began work in January 1974 but was undermined when Heath
	called a general election and unionists opposed to the Executive won 11 out of the 12
	Westminster seats.
	• It fell in May when the Ulster Workers' Council strike paralysed Northern Ireland.
	• Faulkner lost influence after that and he retired from politics in 1977. He died shortly afterwards
	in a hunting accident.
O'NEILL BECOMES PRIME	When Brookeborough resigned, Faulkner was in America. A small group of Unionist leaders
MINISTER	quickly chose O'Neill to be Prime Minister without an election.
	• The lack of an election and O'Neill's English accent and aloof manner meant that he never got
	the wholehearted support of Unionist MPs.
THE IMPACT OF	When O'Neill took over, the ecumenical movement had eased traditional rivalries between
ECUMENISM	Catholics and Protestants around the world.
	• In Rome Pope John XXIII (23rd) supported ecumenism and encouraged Catholics to work
	with Protestants. He also held the second Vatican Council to reform the Catholic Church.
	• In the republic Seán Lemass became Taoiseach in 1959. He was more interested in economic
	development in the South and co-operation with the North than in talking about Irish Unity.
	Around Ireland some Catholics and Protestants felt the old enmities were meaningless. They
	began to attend each others' churches and support each others' charities.
	In the North, some people wanted to forget the old Catholic/nationalist and Protestant/unionist
	divide and work together to make Northern Ireland a better place.
Keywords	Summary

Headings	Notes
THE IMPACT OF ECUMENISM	But more traditional Protestants were opposed to the ecumenical movement. Their most
	prominent spokesman was <mark>lan Paisley</mark> .
O'NEILL AND THE NATIONALISTS	Influenced by ecumenism, O'Neill made some small gestures of good will towards Northern Catholics.
	He was the first Northern Prime Minister to visit a Catholic school.
	When Pope John XXIII died in 1964, he had flags fly at half mast.
	O'Neill also invited Taoiseach Seán Lemass to visit Belfast in January 1965 and soon afterwards
	visited Dublin himself. This led to talks on crossborder co- operation in tourism and agriculture.
	This was popular in the South and among Northern nationalists. But it angered traditional
	unionists and Paisley gained attention by attacking O'Neill's policies.
	unionists and i alsiey gamed attention by attacking o Nein's policies.
O'NEILL'S SOCIAL AND	O'Neill faced big economic and political problems. Unemployment was up, especially among
ECONOMIC POLICIES	Protestant workers in the shipyards. Some of them voted for the Northern Ireland Labour
PLANNING FOR	Party (NILP) rather than the Unionists.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	O'Neill hoped to win them back by developing the North's economy. He set up several committees
	to suggest new economic policies. Catholics noted that, in spite of his fair words, he did not
	appoint any Catholics to these committees.
	The Matthew Committee suggested having new 'growth centres' outside Belfast. Many
	people though this meant Derry, the North's second city, but O'Neill decided to build a
	completely new city near Lurgan and called it Craigavon. This decision was unpopular with
	people west of the Bann.
	The Wilson Committee wanted to encourage foreign firms to set up in Northern Ireland.
	Brian Faulkner as Minister for Commerce was successful in attracting some multinationals.
	By 1965, unemployment had fallen but most of the new industries and jobs went to the
	Protestant heartlands east of the Bann.
	Trotostant neartianes east of the Bann.
Keywords	Summary

Headings	Notes
CASE STUDY: THE	O'Neill also wanted to increase the number of students going to university. Northern Ireland's
COLERAINE UNIVERSITY CONTROVERSY	only university was Queen's in Belfast. The problem was: should the extra students go there or
THE NEED FOR MORE	should a completely new university be set up?
UNIVERSITY PLACES	• In Britain, the Robbins Committee had looked at similar issues and recommended several new
	universities.
THE LOCKWOOD	• In 1963 O'Neill set up a committee to consider what should be done in Northern Ireland. Chaired
COMMITTEE 1963–1965	by Sir John Lockwood, it had eight members, three of whom were English. One Catholic was
	invited to serve on it but when he was unable to do so, no other Catholic was appointed.
	• The Lockwood Committee quickly decided that Queen's should not be expanded. The question
	then was where to put the new university.
WHERE TO PUT THE NEW	• Derry, Coleraine, Armagh and Craigavon all competed to be the site of the new university, which
UNIVERSITY?	would create jobs and boost the local economy.
	 Most people assumed that Derry would win. It already had a small third-level college, Magee.
	This looked like the ideal basis for a new university but its building was small and in poor repair
	and there was nowhere for students to live.
	• The Lockwood Committee quickly decided against Armagh and Craigavon and focused on Derry
	and Coleraine. The Committee members visited both places and talked to their representatives.
	They were looking for:
	A site where the new university could be built.
	A place to accommodate students.
	Derry offered Magee but was so sure of success that they did not discuss other sites or
	accommodation for students.
	Coleraine offered a site for the university. They also said that the nearby holiday resorts of
	Portstewart and Portrush had plenty of boarding houses which were empty all winter, so students
	could live there at no cost to the government.
Keywords	Gummary
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Headings	Notes
LOCKWOOD DECIDES ON COLERAINE	The Derry case did not impress the Lockwood Committee members. They thought Magee was
COLERAINE	too small. New buildings would be needed and costly student hostels would have to be built.
	They also felt that Derry's sectarian tensions and lack of industrial development made it
	unsuitable for a university.
	Coleraine, on the other hand, had offered a site and could house students cheaply. It was also
	solidly Protestant and so free of sectarian tensions.
	As a result they recommended that Magee be closed and a new university be built in Coleraine.
DERRY'S RESPONSE TO	Derry people were angry when word of this decision got out. In January 1965 a University for
THE LOCKWOOD REPORT	Derry Committee was set up. Its members included unionists and nationalists. One of them
	was a young teacher, John Hume.
	They organised protest meetings and met with O'Neill and his Minister of Education.
	On 18 February the Unionist mayor of Derry and the Nationalist MP led a 2,000-strong motorcade
	to Stormont, while back in Derry pubs and shops closed in protest.
O'NEILL AND THE DERRY	The following day, O'Neill met secretly with leading Derry unionists. They persuaded him to
UNIONISTS	keep Magee open but did not press him to give the university to Derry.
	It seems they feared that it might draw new people, some of them Catholic, into the city. That
	could upset the delicately balanced unionist control of the city council.
	In the end O'Neill decided to put the new university in Coleraine, although he also decided to
	keep Magee open.
WHY DID THE LOCKWOOD COMMITTEE	Many people in Derry believed that O'Neill's government had influenced Lockwood's choice
CHOOSE COLERAINE?	but there is no evidence to support that theory.
	• It seems more likely that the committee members made their decision on the kind of rational
	grounds (a site and student accommodation) that the Robbins Committee had applied in England.
	• But Northern Ireland was not England. Its political realities were very different and the Lockwood
	report ignored these.
Keywords	Gummary

Headings	Notes
WHY DID O'NEILL ACCEPT THEIR	O'Neill did not have to accept their recommendation. He could have put the new university in
RECOMMENDATION?	Derry.
	But, like Derry unionists, he feared that doing so would disturb their control of the city.
	 He also knew that it would please unionist voters outside Derry if it was put in the mainly
	Protestant town of Coleraine.
QUESTION	How did the controversy about the location of Northern Ireland's second university reflect the
	political and religious divisions there?
EXAM QUESTION	• To what extent were the activities of the Apprentice Boys of Derry and/or the choice of Coleraine
	as the site of Northern Ireland's second university divisive? (HL 2009)
Keywords	Summary

Terence O'Neill

- 1. Finance Minister under Brookeborough
- 2. Believed N.I. could be modernised and reformed without threatening British rule
- 3. Unemployment double the rest of UK
- 4. Tried to attract foreign industry to N.I.
- 5. Mainly established in Protestant areas and did not keep pace with job losses
- 6. O'Neill introduced an official policy of Protestant-Catholic reconciliation.

O'Neill Meets Lemass

- 1. Taoiseach Sean Lemass had introduced a similar policy of attracting foreign industry to the South
- 2. As part of his policy of reconciliation O'Neill invites Lemass to visit Belfast in 1965
- 3. Visit a success
- 4. Visit provoked protests from Protestants led by Ian Paisley
- 5. In 1966 O'Neill visits Dublin
- 6. Many Protestants viewed these visits with dismay as they believed Catholics were their enemies

Civil Rights

- As a result of welfare state and investment in education many Catholics now better educated
- 2. Started to demand equal rights
- 3. 1966 Gerry Fitt becomes MP for West Belfast and gets support from British MPs for equal rights
- 4. Civil Rights Association inspired by the black Civil Rights Movement in USA
- 5. Demand was not to end partition
- 6. Catholics insisted that if they were part of UK they should have the same rights as all the citizens of UK
- 7. Many Protestants support civil rights

Five Demands

- 1. One person one vote
- 2. Redrawing of electoral boundaries and an end to gerrymandering
- 3. Laws against all forms of discrimination
- 4. The repeal of the Special Powers Act
- 5. Disbandment of B-Specials

Fall of O'Neill

- 1. In response to Civil Rights Campaign O'Neill sets up Cameron Commission to investigate disturbances and their causes
- 2. British Government force O'Neill to accept reforms (p.20)
- 3. Reforms enrage Loyalists and fail to satisfy the NICRA
- 4. Fearing he would introduce more reforms, Unionists begin to demand O'Neill's resignation
- 5. In Feb. 1969 O'Neill called a General Election
- 6. O'Neill won a slight majority but the election showed the Unionists were bitterly divided. O'Neill resigned in April 1969