

The 1950s

The 1950s were different from today.



There were few supermarkets in the 1950s, so shoppers had to visit many different small shops to get their shopping.



Most people listened to the radio because television was very new and there were only a few programmes.



Children played out in the street. The roads were very quiet as there were not many cars.



Many men worked in coal mines, factories and shipyards. Some women worked in the 1950s but many became housewives when they got married.

Coronation of Elizabeth II

A coronation is a ceremony where the crown is placed on the head of the new king or queen. Elizabeth II was the Queen of the United Kingdom for 70 years until she died in 2022. The coronation ceremony of Elizabeth II took place on 2nd June 1953 at Westminster Abbey, London. Many people celebrated the coronation by holding street parties.



Queen Elizabeth II on her coronation.



Street party to celebrate the coronation.

Changes over time

The way people use land changes over time. For example, in the 1950s there were fewer cars, so fewer roads were needed. Today lots of people have cars, so there are many more roads for people to drive on and driveways for parking.



A street in the 1950s.



A street today.

Glossary

artefact An object from the past that tells us something about how people used to live.

childhood Time in a person's life when they are a child.

housewife An old-fashioned name for a married woman who stays at home and looks after the house and children.

museum A place that people can visit that contains important objects linked to history, science or art.

past Something that has already happened.

present Something that is happening now.

today On this day.

Victorian Victorian times were the years between 1837 and 1901 when Queen Victoria was Queen of the United Kingdom.

