

LESSON
3.



LESSON DESCRIPTION			
<p>The lesson will detail the difficult path to the Good Friday Agreement through the ceasefires and various political talks that took place. The lesson highlights important talks and ceasefires starting from the Downing Street Declaration up until the signing of the Good Friday Agreement.</p>			
LESSON INTENTIONS	LESSON OUTCOMES		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summarise the various attempts to bring peace to Northern Ireland through peace talks 2. Consider how paramilitary violence threatened to halt peace talks 3. Demonstrate objectives 1 & 2 through digital media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to exhibit an understanding of the attempts made at this time to bring about a peace agreement in Northern Ireland. • Students will be able to recognise why ceasefires played a key role in the peace process. • Employ ICT skills to express an understanding of the topic. 		
HANDOUTS AND GUIDES	DIGITAL	SOFTWARE	HARDWARE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 3 Key Information • M3L3Research Task • M3L3Tasksheet • Audio Editing Storyboard • Video Editing Storyboard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested Additional Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio Editing Software e.g. Audacity • Video Editing Software e.g. Movie Maker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whiteboard • PCs / Laptops • Headphones / Microphones

MODULE 3. PATHWAYS TO PEACE
3: THE PEACE PROCESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND



ACTIVITY	LEARNING OUTCOMES
<p>Starter – Students will watch Suggested Additional Resources 3 which describes the beginning of the new Northern Ireland government after the Good Friday Agreement. Explain to students that this was the outcome of years of off and on political talks – how and why did these talks take place?</p>	<p>The video will give the students an opportunity to see the outcome of the political talks that took place in Northern Ireland. The video serves as an introduction to the topic.</p>
<p>Using the Key Information, teachers will have a choice of activities to engage students.</p> <p>Teachers may choose to split the class into groups and ask students to use the discussion points to discuss issues from the topic. Students will then share their discussions with the rest of the class.</p> <p>Alternatively, teachers may want to use the Questions/Tasks as group discussion questions or to test individual knowledge.</p> <p>The Alternate Task will require students to work in pairs to construct a timeline using events that have been cut out from the M3L3Tasksheet. Upon completing this task, students will then be required to research George Mitchell and Marjorie Mowlam to discover what role they played in Northern Ireland peace talks.</p> <p><i>*If possible, allow students to research the topic on the internet – suggested additional resources / search engine.</i></p>	<p>The Key Information is designed to cover the information within the topic and meet the learning objectives</p> <p>The discussion questions on the Key Information are designed to meet the learning objectives through interaction and Q&A.</p> <p>The questions on the Key Information are designed to meet the learning objectives through the students understanding of the information.</p> <p>The various activities should allow the students to learn while they interact. The activities will also serve to reinforce knowledge and encourage discussion.</p>
<p>Plenary - Students will share their views on the discussion points raised in the alternate task (this may be undertaken as a new, brief discussion or as an expansion of ideas that pupils have already discussed if they completed the alternate task). This may be completed by open discussion or as a graffiti wall through use of post-its (these thoughts could be revisited in a later lesson).</p>	<p>Regardless if students have previously discussed the issues during the task or this is a new discussion, this will be a good opportunity for them to share their ideas (either publicly or anonymously). It will give students a chance to reflect on the events which lead to the Good Friday Agreement and how certain personalities may have helped talks along the way.</p>

KEY
INFORMATION
3.

THE PEACE PROCESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The troubles in Northern Ireland continued right into the early 90's. However things began to change and improve as more and more talks on the future of Northern Ireland took place. Some of the most important talks took place between SDLP leader John Hume and Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams. The discussion centred on the future of Northern Ireland. This marked a new direction for republican attitudes. The talks between Adams and Hume sparked further talks between both the British and Irish governments debating the future of Northern Ireland.



L-R: Gerry Adams (Sinn Féin leader, 1983-Present), John Hume (SDLP leader, 1979-2001), David Trimble (UUP leader, 1995-2005)

L-R: John Major (British PM, 1990-1997), Bertie Ahern (Irish Taoiseach, 1997-2008) and Ian Paisley (DUP leader, 1971-2008)

KEY EVENTS

1993

The Downing Street Declaration // 15th December 1993

The declaration was an agreement between the governments of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

The document did not bring an end to violence but did set up a structure in which a peaceful political settlement could be created. Unionists reacted in opposition, calling it a sell-out of unionism. Republican attitudes were cautionary and needed reassurance and clarification of the declaration. For real political talks to continue, it was stated that loyalist and republican paramilitary groups should be encouraged to enter into ceasefires.

- Peace must involve a permanent end to the use of paramilitary violence
- The British government had no "selfish strategic or economic" interest in NI
- A United Ireland could only be brought about by peaceful means
- The Irish government would try to address unionist fears of a United Ireland by amending the Irish Constitution
- The people of Ireland, North and South, had the exclusive right to solve the issues between North and South by mutual consent
- The British government would uphold the right of the people of NI to decide between the Union with Great Britain or a United Ireland

1994

PIRA Ceasefire // 31st August 1994

In response to the Downing Street Declaration the PIRA called a ceasefire.

CLMC Ceasefire // 13th October 1994

In response to the Downing Street Declaration the Combined Loyalist Military Command called a ceasefire.

1996

PIRA ends Ceasefire // 9th February 1996

The PIRA detonated a bomb on Canary Wharf in London. The bomb killed two people and caused an estimated £100 million worth of damage. The PIRA claimed they had ended their ceasefire because of the British Government's refusal to talk to Sinn Féin.

How do all party talks begin?

On **24th January 1996** a solution to all-party talks was forwarded by an International Body, known as the Mitchell Report. As well as stating principles of non-violence, the main factor of the report was that decommissioning of paramilitary arms should take place during (rather than before or after) all-party talks. The report was approved by all parties, however the Ulster Unionist Party (**UUP**) expressed uncertainties and the Democratic Unionist Party (**DUP**) rejected it totally.

MODULE 3. PATHWAYS TO PEACE

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1996

Renewed Political Talks

On **28 February 1996** the British and Irish governments set a new date (10th June 1996) for the start of all-party talks. Parties had to agree to abide by the six 'Mitchell Principles' (as stated in the Mitchell Report) and attended an introductory set of talks. These talks took place on 3rd March 1996 at Stormont. The Ulster Unionist Party and the Democratic Unionist Party refused to join whilst Sinn Féin were denied entry.

Elections to the Northern Ireland Forum // 30th May 1996

As part of the decision on who would contribute to all-party talks, a general election was called. Despite the Ulster Unionist Party getting the most votes, the major outcome of the election was that Sinn Féin had increased its vote to a record 15.5%. In the absence of a PIRA ceasefire, Sinn Féin was still denied entry to talks.

Continuing Violence

June 15th 1996 saw the PIRA detonate a bomb in Manchester City Centre injuring 212 people and causing widespread damage to the surrounding area. This was a problem for Sinn Féin as they were not fully accepted into all-party talks whilst the PIRA continued their violent campaign. In response to PIRA violence, the Ulster Freedom Fighters (**UFF**) engaged in violence for the first time since 1994.

1997

New Government // 1st May 1997

Thursday 1st May 1997 saw a general election held across the UK. The result was a new government in Britain; the Labour Party. New British Prime Minister Tony Blair wasted no time in engaging in talks with Sinn Féin. However, these talks were put on hold due to continuing PIRA violence.

2nd PIRA Ceasefire // 20th July 1997

After pressure from both the British and Irish governments and John Hume and Gerry Adams, the PIRA renewed their ceasefire from 1994.

Continued Talks

On **29th August 1997** new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Marjorie 'Mo' Mowlam, accepted the PIRA ceasefire as genuine, invited Sinn Féin into the multi-party talks at Stormont and engaged in talks with the UFF. The multi-party talks resumed again on 15th September – the Democratic Unionist Party boycotted the talks due to the presence of Sinn Féin. On 23rd January 1998 the UFF reinstated their ceasefire.

The Good Friday Agreement // 10th April 1998

After drawn-out and intense discussions, all the parties that took part in multi party talks at Stormont signed The Belfast Agreement.

1998

PERSPECTIVES

1. "Recognising the potential of the current situation and in order to enhance the democratic process and underlying our definitive commitment to its success, the leadership of the PIRA have decided that as of midnight, August 31, there will be a complete cessation of military operations. All our units have been instructed accordingly."

Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA) Ceasefire Statement, 31st August 1994

2. "After a widespread consultative process initiated by representations from the Ulster Democratic and Progressive Unionist Parties, and after having received confirmation and guarantees in relation to Northern Ireland's constitutional position within the United Kingdom, as well as other assurances, and, in the belief that the democratically expressed wishes of the greater number of people in Northern Ireland will be respected and upheld, the CLMC will universally cease all operational hostilities as from 12 midnight on Thursday 13th October 1994."

Combined Loyalist Military Command (CLMC) Ceasefire Statement, 13th October 1994

3. "And so I ask you to build on the opportunity you have before you; to believe that the future can be better than the past; to work together because you have so much more to gain by working together than by drifting apart. Have the patience to work for a just and lasting peace. Reach for it. The United States will reach with you. The further shore of that peace is within your reach."

Speech by the President of USA, Bill Clinton to the People of Derry/Londonderry, 30th November 1995

4. "A day like today is not a day for soundbites, really. But I feel the hand of history upon our shoulders. I really do."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair, 8 April 1998, arriving in Belfast for the talks which produced the Good Friday Agreement

QUESTIONS



EXTENSION ACTIVITY 1:

Why did continuing PIRA violence present a problem for Sinn Féin?

EXTENSION ACTIVITY 2:

Create a timeline of ceasefire activity in Northern Ireland beginning with the Downing Street Declaration and ending with the Good Friday Agreement.

TASK 1

Consider Perspectives 3 and 4 and answer the following questions:

- How significant do you think Bill Clinton's involvement was in bringing about the Good Friday Agreement? (You may want to carry out some research to help answer this)
- In your opinion, to what extent do you believe that Northern Ireland has reached the "shore" of peace?
- Why do you think Tony Blair believed this was such a significant day in Northern Ireland's history?

TASK 2

Prior to the announcement of the Downing Street Declaration, a number of secret talks took place between John Hume of the SDLP and Gerry Adams of Sinn Féin. These talks were focused on how Northern Ireland could move forward, away from violence.

Start by looking at the following websites: <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/events/peace/pp8893.htm> and <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/events/peace/pp9398.htm> Try and find more information on the Hume/Adams talks before answering the questions.

- In your opinion, how important were the secret Hume/Adams talks to the Peace Process?
- Despite secret talks between the British government and the PIRA, how did continuing violence threaten to derail the peace process?

ALTERNATE TASK

- Students will work in pairs to construct a timeline from the events that have been cut out from the M3L3Tasksheet.
- Discussion: What do students think was the most important development in the timeline?
- Still in pairs, students will research information about George Mitchell and Marjorie "Mo" Mowlam and answer the questions on the M3L3ResearchTask.
- Discussion: How might external personalities/politicians have furthered peace talks?

SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



1) http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/topics/troubles_peace - Peace in the Troubles



2) http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/topics/troubles_politics - Politics in the Troubles



3) http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/topics/troubles_politics#p016krpg – Political Settlement in Northern Ireland



4) <http://www.theguardian.com/northernireland/page/0,,1569841,00.html> – A Brief History of the Troubles

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THE DOWNING STREET DECLARATION // 15TH DECEMBER 1993

The declaration was an agreement between the governments of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

The document did not bring an end to violence but did set up a structure in which a peaceful political settlement could be created. Unionists reacted in opposition, calling it a sell-out of unionism. Republican attitudes were cautionary and needed reassurance and clarification of the declaration. For real political talks to continue, it was stated that loyalist and republican paramilitary groups should be encouraged to enter into ceasefires.

PIRA ENDS CEASEFIRE // 9TH FEBRUARY 1996

The PIRA detonated a bomb on Canary Wharf in London. The bomb killed two people and caused an estimated £100 million worth of damage. The PIRA claimed they had ended their ceasefire because of the British Government's refusal to talk to Sinn Féin.

PIRA CEASEFIRE // 31ST AUGUST 1994

In response to the Downing Street Declaration the PIRA called a ceasefire.

CLMC CEASEFIRE // 13TH OCTOBER 1994

In response to the Downing Street Declaration the Combined Loyalist Military Command called a ceasefire.

RENEWED POLITICAL TALKS

On 28 February 1996 the British and Irish governments set a new date (10th June 1996) for the start of all-party talks. Parties had to agree to abide by the six 'Mitchell Principles' (as stated in the Mitchell Report) and attended an introductory set of talks. These talks took place on 3rd March 1996 at Stormont. The Ulster Unionist Party and the Democratic Unionist Party refused to join whilst Sinn Féin were denied entry.

HOW DO ALL PARTY TALKS BEGIN?

On 24th January 1996 a solution to all-party talks was forwarded by an International Body, known as the Mitchell Report. As well as stating principles of non-violence, the main factor of the report was the conclusion that decommissioning of paramilitary arms should take place during (rather than before or after) all-party talks. The report was approved by all parties, however the UUP expressed uncertainties and the DUP rejected it totally.

ELECTIONS TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND FORUM // 30TH MAY 1996

As part of the decision on who would contribute to all-party talks, a general election was called. Despite the Ulster Unionist Party getting the most votes, the major outcome of the election was that Sinn Féin had increased its vote to a record 15.5%. In the absence of a PIRA ceasefire, Sinn Féin was still denied entry to talks.



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CONTINUING VIOLENCE

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NEW GOVERNMENT // 1ST MAY 1997

Thursday 1 May 1997 saw a general election held across the UK. The result was a new government in Britain; the Labour Party. New British Prime Minister Tony Blair wasted no time in engaging in talks with Sinn Féin. However, these talks were put on hold as a cause of continuing PIRA violence.

2ND PIRA CEASEFIRE // 20TH JULY 1997

After pressure from both the British and Irish governments and John Hume and Gerry Adams, the PIRA renewed their ceasefire from 1994.

CONTINUED TALKS

On 29th August 1997 new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Marjorie 'Mo' Mowlam, accepted the PIRA ceasefire as genuine, invited Sinn Féin into the multi-party talks at Stormont and engaged in talks with the UFF. The multi-party talks resumed again on 15th September – the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) boycotted the talks due to the presence of Sinn Féin. On 23rd January 1998 UFF reinstated their ceasefire.

THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT // 10TH APRIL 1998

After drawn-out and intense discussions, all the parties that took part in multi party talks at Stormont signed The Belfast Agreement.



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GEORGE MITCHELL AND MARJORIE "MO" MOWLAM WERE 2 KEY FIGURES IN THE SIGNING OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT. RESEARCH THE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS....

WHAT ROLE DID GEORGE MITCHELL PLAY IN THE SIGNING OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT?

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WHAT WERE THE 6 'MITCHELL PRINCIPLES'?

1.

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2.

Blank area for writing the answer to question 2.

3.

Blank area for writing the answer to question 3.

4.

Blank area for writing the answer to question 4.

5.

Blank area for writing the answer to question 5.

6.

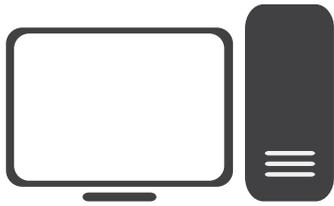
WHAT ROLE DID MARJORIE "MO" MOWLAM PLAY IN THE SIGNING OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT?

Blank area for writing the answer to the question about Marjorie Mowlam's role.

Suggested Search Terms:

- George Mitchell + Good Friday Agreement
- The Mitchell Principles + Good Friday Agreement
- Mo Mowlam + Good Friday Agreement





DIGITAL TASKS

AUDIO EDITING TASK



TASK DESCRIPTION

Students will work in pairs to script, record and edit a radio report which announces and discusses the details behind the 2nd IRA ceasefire from the Key Information – how did it come about? What does it mean for the peace process? The report will have the students acting out roles as news presenters, announcing the ceasefire, how it happened and what it means for Northern Ireland. Students will research the topic by looking at the Key Information (and if possible, performing an internet research). The report will be at least 1 minute long.

PLAN

Information will be sourced from the internet and used to help write a script.

- Students will be supplied with search terms by the teacher and source appropriate images, videos, and news articles from the internet – ask students to consider the reliability and objectivity of the information they find.
- Students will identify and select information to use and save it appropriately in a dedicated folder with a meaningful filename (this may be images or quotes that helped them to write their script).
- Students will keep an account of the sites they have visited in a saved document.

DO

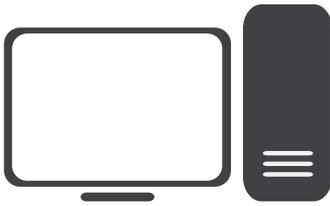
Students will record their script and use the various editing tools to edit their recording (e.g. selection tool, time shift tool, trim, silence, etc...). When the recording has been edited, the pair will complete the audio file by exporting it in a suitable file format (WAV / MP3).

- Students may experiment with sound effects but students must consider whether these effects are necessary and appropriate.
- Remind students to save their work in a dedicated folder with an appropriate filename.

REVIEW

Give students the opportunity to view each other's work. This may be done by playing back the best work or students may circulate the room.

Taking other students' feedback into account, ask students to justify their choices and decisions, including any difficulties they encountered in the creation of their audio file. This may be completed in the form of a saved document.



DIGITAL TASKS

FILM MAKING TASK



TASK DESCRIPTION

Students will create a movie of at least 30 seconds which details events from the Downing Street Declaration to the Good Friday Agreement. Students will research images (and if possible audio and video) and information from the internet which will be used in their movies.

PLAN

Information will be sourced from the internet and designed in the form of a storyboard.

- Students will be supplied with search terms by the teacher and source appropriate images, videos, audio and information from the internet – ask students to consider the reliability and objectivity of the information they find.
- Students will identify and select information to use and save it appropriately in a dedicated folder with a meaningful filename (this may be images or quotes that helped them to write their script).
- Students will keep an account of the sites they have visited in a saved document.
- Students will use the information and media they have sourced and construct a storyboard for the making of their movie.

DO

Students will import the various media items they sourced from the internet. Using their storyboards as a guide, students will construct their movie using various editing tools (Splitting, Trimming, Transitions, Effects and Captions/Titles). Students will complete their piece of work by exporting it in a suitable file format (e.g. WMV/MP4).

- Encourage students to consider the size and style of fonts, the size of images, the effects/transitions used and the tools available to them within the software package.
- Remind students to save their work in a dedicated folder with an appropriate filename.

REVIEW

Give students the opportunity to view each other's work. This may be done by viewing selected pieces of work or students may circulate the room.

Taking other students' feedback into account, ask students to justify their choices and decisions, including any difficulties they encountered in the creation of their video file. This may be completed in the form of a saved document.

ALTERNATE TASK

Through an all class discussion, decide on the 5 most important events from the Downing Street Declaration to the Good Friday Agreement. Split the class into 5 groups and assign each one of the events. Each group will plan and create a movie which explains why this event was important and what it meant to Northern Ireland during political talks. When the movies are finished, show them to the class back to back. A review of the task could then be performed using a 2 star/1 wish format or KWL. Each movie will be at least 30 seconds long.

