

The 1980s: Neo-liberalism and Individualism



Consider the impact of these events and how it might have led to formation of youth subcultures and subcultures of resistance.



Falklands War: The UK went to war with Argentina over the Falkland Islands, achieving a swift military victory.

Brighton Bombing: IRA plant bomb in Grand Hotel Brighton, killing 5 at Conservative Party Conference

Miners' Strike: Youth in mining towns align with punk and anarchist movements. Music becomes a tool of resistance. Battle of Orgreave

Thatcher's Third Term: Right to Buy Introduced ushering in increased individualism amongst working class



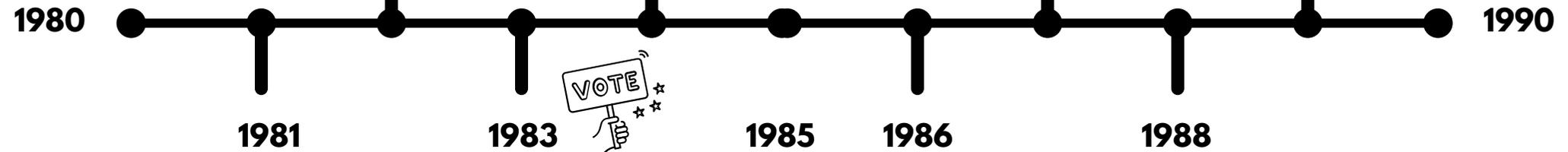
Berlin Wall Falls (November 9): Youth celebrate the end of the Cold War, with music and fashion reflecting newfound optimism and global connections.

Poll Tax Protests: The introduction of the Community Charge (Poll Tax) in Scotland sparked widespread protests, with resistance spreading across the UK.



Economic recession:

The UK entered a deep recession, with inflation and unemployment soaring



Urban Riots (Brixton and Toxteth): Riots broke out in Brixton (London), Toxteth (Liverpool), and other urban areas. Tensions between police and Black communities, fueled by discriminatory practices like "stop and search," led to violent confrontations.

Conservative Electoral Victory: Thatcher's government was re-elected with a large majority, buoyed by the Falklands victory and divisions within the Labour Party.

Unemployment Peaks: Youth unemployment hits record levels, fueling frustration and rebellion

LIVE AID: A global event showcasing music's power to unite. Queen's legendary performance becomes a defining moment in 1980s pop culture.

Broadwater Farm Riots: Tensions between police and Black communities lead to riots, and hip-hop in the UK grows as a medium for protest.

The Big Bang: Deregulation of financial markets widens the North-South divide



Second Summer of Love: Acid house and rave culture explode, marking a shift towards hedonistic, music-driven subcultures. Warehouse parties become a hallmark of youth rebellion.

