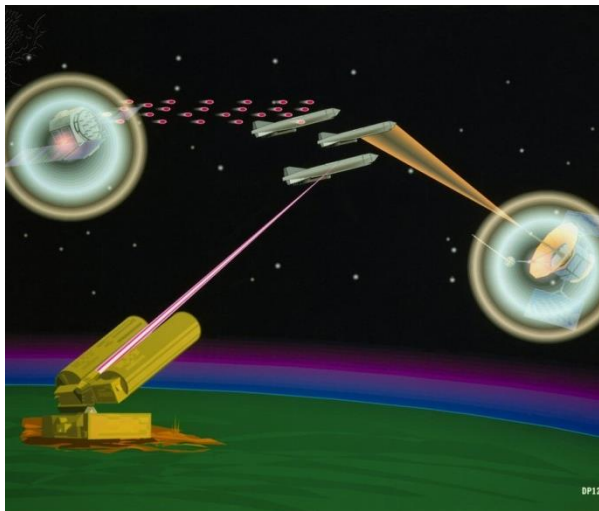


Starter task

Look at these pictures and in pairs decide what decisions you think Thatcher made in foreign policy.



The Falklands

Sort the statements for / against intervention in the Falklands. Then use the statements to answer the question 'Was Thatcher right to send forces to Argentina in 1982?'

Britain was in a process of de-colonisation: Hong Kong and Rhodesia would be given independence soon.	The Falklands had been owned by Britain since 1833 but the Argentinians had laid claim to the land since 1817.	The Falklands had little strategic importance. This was a tiny island populated by sheep farmers and the Argentinians supplied their energy and flights in and out!
The islanders wanted to remain British.	General Galtieri and the military junta of Argentina wanted to gain popularity in the middle of an economic slump.	British military intervention could have failed (compare with Suez).
The United States backed the expedition and allowed the British to use US islands (Ascension Island).	The Falklands are 8,000 miles from UK and 400 miles from Argentina.	HMS Sheffield was sunk by Argentinian Exocet missiles. Only US intervention stopped them gaining more of these.
Once British troops landed they would defeat the ill-equipped and poorly trained Argentinians.	Victory would raise Thatcher's political support at home and raise Britain's profile globally.	This action would cement the special relationship with the US.

The EEC

Below is a list of Thatcher's aims in Europe. For each statement research what Thatcher actually did or said. For each decide if she was successful.

- I do not want a politically integrated Europe. I want the nations to retain their sovereignty but for trade to be boosted across Europe.
- I do not want Britain to pay more into Europe than she receives back!
- I want to work closely with European countries.
- I want to extend the number of countries in the EEC so that power is shared and not dominated by Brussels.
- I fear a united Germany.
- I do not want Europe to divide my Tory party.

Teaching notes

The images in the starter are

Thatcher and the Common Market	Thatcher and Reagan (close US relations)
Thatcher and Gorbachev ('could do business together')	Anti-nuclear protests (against Thatcher's pro- nuclear stance)
The Falklands War	The 'Star Wars' programme (the strategic defence initiative)

Before completing the card sort on the Falklands you could get students to watch two podcasts on YouTube '[Thatcher's Foreign Policy \(1/2\)](#)' and '[Thatcher's Foreign Policy \(2/2\)](#)'. They could use the podcasts to identify Thatcher's decisions and decide if they were successful.

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