THE SUFFRAGETTES



1. Read the text and complete with the correct option.

The move for women to have the vote had really started in 1.1897/ 1910 when Millicent Fawcett founded the 2.National Union of Women's Suffrage/ Rights for Women's Club. She believed in 3.peaceful protest/ violence to persuade men that women could be trusted to have the right to vote.

However, Fawcett's progress was very 4.slow/unpopular. Most men in Parliament believed that women simply would not understand how Parliament worked and therefore should not take part in the electoral process. Many women were angry and in 1903 the Women's Social and Political Union was founded by 5.Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters Christabel and Sylvia/Emmeline Pankhurst. The Union became better known as the 6.Suffragettes/ suffrage.

In 1905 two women interrupted a political meeting in Manchester to ask two Liberal politicians 7.Winston Churchill and Sir Edward Grey/ W.Churchill if they believed women should have the right to vote. Neither man replied and as a result, a series of violent occurrences started to happen.

The Suffragettes refused to bow to violence but the pacific way wasn't working. So they burned down churches and vandalised Oxford Street; they chained themselves to Buckingham Palace as the Royal Family was against women having the right to vote; they sailed up the Thames and shouted abuse, etc.

The government of Asquith responded with the 8.Cat and Mouse Act/ Repression Act, an effective weapon against the Suffragettes. As a result, the Suffragettes became even more extreme. However, they decided to stop the violent campaign and support the government when Britain and Europe was going through the World War One in 9.1914/ 1912.



2. What is *The Cat and Mouse Act*?

Suffragettes went on a hunger strike and when they were very weak, they were released from prison. If they died out of prison, this was of not responsibility of the government. However, they did not die but those who were released were so weak that they could take no part in violent Suffragette struggles.

The Government prosecuted those women claiming women's vote.

3. Look at the pictures. Choose one, analyse it and write your observations.

Text Source:https://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/the-role-of-british-women-in-the-twentieth-century/suffragettes/