Level: A1+/A2 Age: Teenagers/Adults

MALVINAS: A BIT OF HISTORY

A) What do you know about the history of Malvinas Islands? Answer the following questions and, if you don't know the answer, predict it.

1) Who discovered the Islands? When?

.....

2) Where do the names Malvinas and Falkland derive from?

.....

3) Who was the first governor?

.....

4) When were they invaded by the British?

.....

5) When was the war between Argentina and Great Britain over the Islands?

.....

B) Read the following text and choose a title.

1) British Invasion ☐
2) Argentina and the Islands ☐
3) History Timeline ☐

The islands were probably first sighted by Amerigo Vespucci in 1501, though Esteban Gomez, the captain of one of Magellan's ships, is said to be the first one to sight them. Up to 1690, Spanish, English, Dutch and French ships visited or wintered in the islands. In that year, Captain John Strong entered the sound between the islands and named it Falkland Sound in honour of Viscount Falkland, the Treasurer of the Navy. In 1764, the French founded a colony on East Falkland. The sailors were from the city of St Malo and were often referred to as the "Malouines" from where the Spanish name Malvinas is derived. A year later, a British settlement was established on West Falkland. Two years later, the Spanish bought the French settlement, Port Louis. From that moment, the colony was named Puerto Soledad. In 1770, a Spanish force expelled the British, but a year later Spain returned the colony to Britain. In 1774, the British departed from the colony for reasons of economy, leaving a lead plaque claiming sovereignty. A year later, Captain Cook discovered South Georgia.

After the Revolution of 1810, Spain evacuated the islands, and in 1820 the Buenos Aires government proclaimed its sovereignty over the Falklands. A few years later, Juan Manuel de Rosas sent a governor, Mr. Vernet, with a garrison and settlers. In 1831, there was an incident with three American ships because they were hunting seals without permission. In reprisal, a warship attacked and destroyed Puerto Soledad. Because of this, the British invaded the islands in 1833, sending all Argentinians and Mr. Vernet back to the continent. Buenos Aires protested, but the British annexed the islands to Britain. From then on, despite Argentina's claims for sovereignty, the islands remained British.

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How do we say the years in English?

1810: eighteen ten
2000: two thousand
1703: seventeen oh three
2017: twenty seventeen

C) Read the text again, and make a timeline. Add any information you may know and it is not presented in the text.