



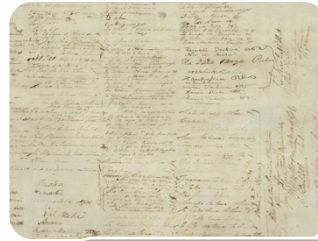
Maori Settlement

The first people to arrive in New Zealand were ancestors of the Māori. The first settlers probably arrived from Polynesia between 1200 and 1300 AD. They discovered New Zealand exploring the Pacific.



European Settlement

The first European to arrive in New Zealand was the Dutch explorer Abel Tasman in 1642. The name New Zealand comes from the Dutch 'Nieuw Zeeland', the name was given by a Dutch mapmaker. After 127 years an Englishman, Captain James Cook arrived in New Zealand on the first 3 voyages



Treaty of Waitangi

An agreement signed on Feb. 6th in 1840 and made between representatives of the British Crown and more than 500 Maori chiefs. It resulted in the declaration of British sovereignty over New Zealand.



New Zealand Wars

Māori came under increasing pressure from European settlers to sell their land for settlement. This led to conflict and, in the 1860s, war broke out in the North Island.



Social change and independence

In 1893, New Zealand became the first country to grant all women the right to vote. In 1907 New Zealand became an independent Dominion.