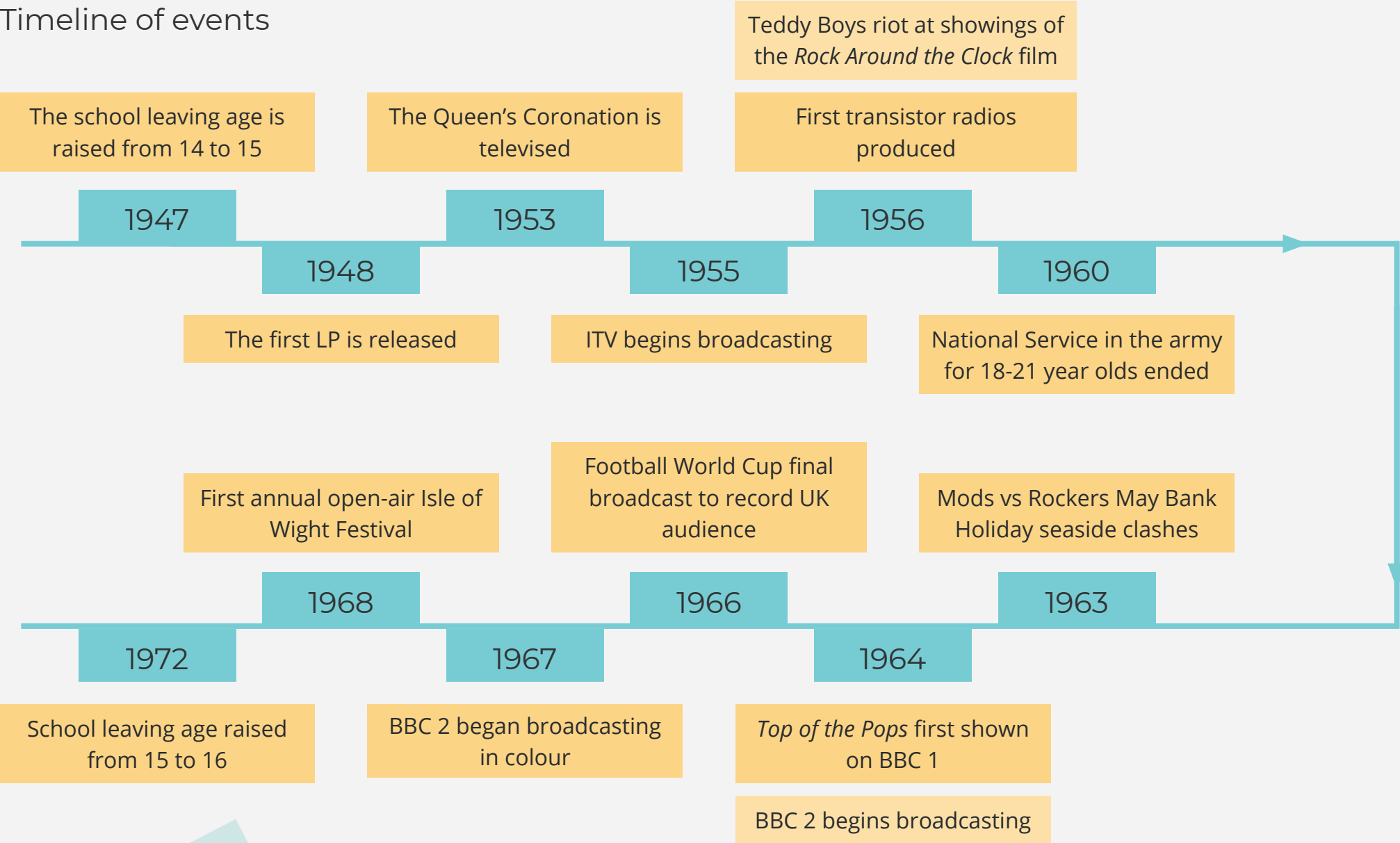


Key Question 5 : What were the main changes in entertainment in this period?

Timeline of events



“Will the people in the cheaper seats clap your hands? And the rest of you, if you’ll just rattle your jewellery.” John Lennon as the Beatles performed in front of the Queen in 1963

**Important concept**

Generation gap – attitudes of young people on a range of issues (drugs, sex, fashion, politics, etc.) were increasingly different to those of their parents. They wanted to be seen as individuals with their own interests and ideas, not just as younger versions of their parents.

**How music was listened to**

**Record players** made listening to the new vinyl records easier e.g. jukeboxes in coffee bars like the 2i’s or Dansettes at home.

**Cassettes** could also be recorded on. By 1977 more music was sold on cassette than on vinyl records. Sony introduced the Walkman in 1979.

**Transistor radios** (1956) were portable so could be listened to anywhere e.g. pirate radio stations or BBC Radio 1 from 1967.

**Television** showed music on ITV [Cool For Cats (1956), Oh Boy! (1960)], and the BBC [Six-Five Special (1957) and Top of the Pops (1964)].

**Dance Halls** had live music in the 1950s but by the 1960s young people preferred **nightclubs** like the Cavern Club in Liverpool.

**Festivals** outdoors meant audiences could listen to a wide variety of musical acts e.g. the Isle of Wight Festival started in 1968 and by August 1970 the audience was 600,000 people; the event featured more than fifty musical acts including The Who, Jimi Hendrix and The Doors.

Key words	
Vinyl records	could be singles (one song) or albums (many songs)
Transistor radio	small portable radios powered by batteries often referred to as “trannies”
Nightclub	open at night for young people to go dancing
Festival	open-air concert with a lot of bands playing
Teenage subculture	a group of teenagers with shared fashion and musical tastes
Juvenile delinquent	teenagers who do not do as they are told, often caught fighting or vandalising
Counter culture	a set of ideas and beliefs that young people had that were completely different to their parents

## Key Question 5 : What were the main changes in entertainment in this period?

### Popular musical trends 1951-1979

c.1951 : 'mom and dad' music : American crooners like Frank Sinatra, orchestral pieces, comedy records, recordings of West End musicals

1950s **TRENDS** : **Rock 'n' Roll** - upbeat black American music that was made for a white audience e.g. Cliff Richard with The Shadows in 1958.

**Skiffle** was a home-made British response to rock 'n' roll with cheap and easy to play instruments e.g. Lonnie Donegan's 'Rock Island Line'.

1960s **TRENDS** : **'Beat music'** was driving rhythms and the backbeat in the drumming influenced by American R&B records e.g. The Beatles.

**Psychedelic rock** tried to replicate the mind-altering experience of taking hallucinatory drugs like LSD. E.g. 'A Whiter Shade of Pale' by Procul Harem and Pink Floyd's 'Pipers At The Gates Of Dawn'.

1970s **TRENDS** : Glam rock was loud and bright and challenged ideas about sexuality e.g. David Bowie's stage persona -Ziggy Stardust.

**Punk rock** was a raw sound made by young people often with little musical skill. Punk lyrics were deliberately provocative, attacking the Royal Family, dead end jobs, the police, war, anarchy, consumerism. The Sex Pistols are the most notorious of the punk bands as they deliberately tried to be controversial.

### Television

Why did the television become so popular?

1. Hire purchase – paying in monthly instalments e.g. Radio Rentals
2. Improving the television service across the UK -
  - in 1955 a 2nd channel paid for by adverts began broadcasting – ITV
  - in 1964 a third channel, BBC2, began broadcasting (in colour from 1967).
3. Important events that encouraged people to watch television -
  - *The Coronation of 1953* - Queen Elizabeth II's coronation [crowning ceremony] took place in Westminster Abbey on 2 June 1953. It was the first major public event to be broadcast live on UK television. More than half the viewers of the Coronation Service were in the homes of friends and about 1,500,000 were viewing on televisions in public places like shops.
  - *The World Cup 1966* - ITV and BBC were allowed to show the 1966 World Cup Final from Wembley where England beat West Germany 4-2. It was watched by 32.6 million people in the UK. It is still the most watched television programme in the UK and demonstrated the huge influence of television on the popularity of sport by the 1960s.

### Teenage culture

By 1960, 40% of the UK population was under the age of 25. This led to a *generation gap* and the development of a *counter culture* :

- FASHION arguing about shorter skirts for girls, longer hair for boys
- ATTITUDES challenging religious views about sex before marriage
- DRUGS cannabis smoking and LSD became popular.

There were a number of distinct teenage subcultures between 1951 and 1979.

TEDDY BOYS (early 1950s), they wore Edwardian-styled outfits. The 'teds' listened to earlier rock 'n' roll e.g. records by Bill Haley.

ROCKERS (later 1950s) riding motorbikes, wearing leathers, jeans, t-shirts; listened to a newer rock 'n' roll stars like Gene Vincent and Eddie Cochran.

MODS (early 1960s) wore smart Italian collarless jackets, parkas, rode scooters; listened to modern jazz, American Rhythm & Blues and soul music.

HIPPIES (later 1960s) wore natural clothing, with long unwashed hair; believed in drug-taking, sexual freedom; listened to psychedelic music like Pink Floyd.

PUNKS (mid to late 1970s) very aggressive, dressed to upset people with brightly coloured hairstyles; listened to their own raw style of rock music.