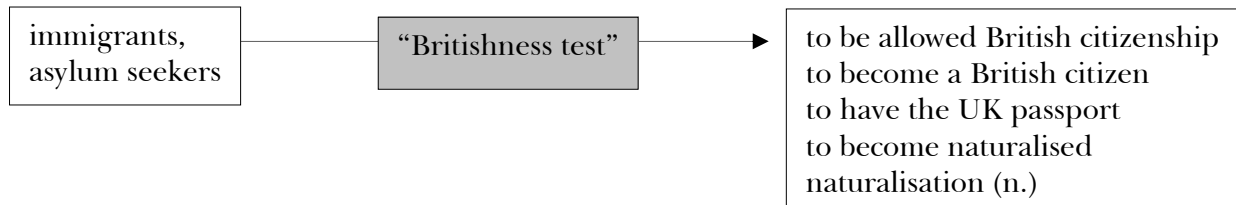


## Ministers to set ‘Britishness test’ for immigrants

By David Barrett, Home Affairs Correspondent, PA News, 03 September 2003



### earlier version of a draft (January 2003)

- how to claim benefits
- how to use the NHS
- knowledge on British history not required

### latest blueprint

- new exam > make them feel more proud
- applicants must learn about the **history** of the UK
  - > increases commitment to values
  - > responsibilities and privileges
- certain level of **language** ability rejected by panel members
- but progress in English (Welsh or Scottish Gaelic) required
- free English lessons
- minimum standard of English required
  - > in order to be able to take up unskilled jobs
  - > allows for participation in a common culture
- test needed > citizenship more esteemed and valued
- test also includes:
  - o etiquette
  - o good neighbours
  - o changing role of women
  - o sexual equality
  - o youth culture
  - o national holidays
  - o British national institutions
  - o values of toleration
  - o fair play
  - o freedom of speech and of the press

### to qualify for citizenship

- lived in the UK for 5 years
- married to a British citizen for 3 years

Home Secretary **David Blunkett**

Sir **Bernhard Crick**

Life in the United Kingdom Advisory Panel

**Humphrey Malins**

(Conservative home affairs spokesman)