

History – Changes in Fishing in Cornwall

Key Vocabulary	
Change	When something is different from how it was before.
Continuity	When something is the same as what it was before.
Cause	The reason/s why something happened.
Effect	The event that happened because of the cause.
Technology	The use of knowledge to invent new devices or tools.
Legislation	A law or a set of laws that have been passed by Parliament.

Historically, many towns on the Cornish coastline relied on fishing for income and employment.



Pilchards (Sardines)	Herring Fishing	Mackerel Fishing
The oldest large-scale fishing in Cornwall is Pilchard fishery. Pilchard fishing was carried out using large nets that were cast in a semi-circle around a shoal of fish. The net full of fish would then be pulled tight and smaller nets would be used to scoop up the fish into boats.	Herring were caught during autumn and winter, and from the 1890s until the 1930s herring was the most important fishery on the North coast of Cornwall. Herring were caught in drift nets which were deeper and larger than Pilchard nets but operated in a similar style.	Mackerel have been fished off the coast of Cornwall for hundreds of years. Fishermen used drift nets (that moved around the water) connected to lug rigged sail boats. Overtime, sail boats became steam drifters (early 1900s) and then these boats became motorised in the 1920s.