

The Warriner School

History GCSE Information Booklet

AQA GCSE History 8145



Responsible – Respectful - Ready

Course Breakdown and Subject Content:

The GCSE History content comprises two exams which cover the following elements:

- one period study
- one thematic study
- one wider world depth study
- one British depth study including the historic environment.

Paper 1 Understanding the Modern World:

- Section A: Period Study: Conflict and Tension between East and West, 1945–1972.
- Section B: Wider World Depth Study: Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and Dictatorship.

How Paper 1 is assessed:

- Written exam: 1hour 45minutes
- 84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- 50% of GCSE

Questions:

- Section A – Six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – Four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- 4 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Paper 2 Shaping the Nation:

- Section A: Britain: Health and the People: c1000 to the Present Day.
- Section B: Elizabethan England, c1568–1603.

How Paper 1 is assessed:

- Written exam: 1hour 45minutes
- 84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- 50% of GCSE

Questions:

- Section A – Four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – Four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- 4 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

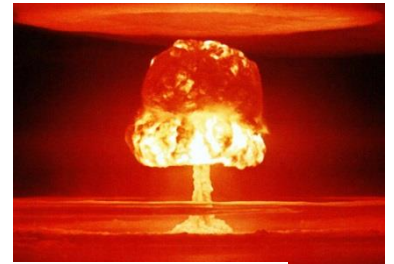
Paper 1 Understanding the Modern World:

Section A: Period Study: Conflict and Tension between East and West, 1945–1972:

This wider world depth study enables students to understand the complex and diverse interests of different states and individuals and the ideologies they represented. It focuses on revolutionary movements, the causes and events of the Cold War and investigates how and why conflict occurred and why it proved difficult to resolve international relations.

Part One: The Origins of the Cold War:

- The end of the Second World War: Yalta and Potsdam Conferences; the division of Germany; contrasting attitudes and ideologies of the USA and the USSR, including the aims of Stalin, Churchill, Roosevelt, Attlee and Truman; effect of the dropping of the atom bomb on post-war superpower relations.
- The Iron Curtain and the evolution of East-West rivalry: Soviet expansion in East Europe; US policies; the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan, their purpose and Stalin's reaction; Cominform; Comecon; Yugoslavia; the Berlin Blockade and Airlift.



Part Two: The Development of the Cold War:

- The significance of events in Asia for superpower relations: USSR's support for Mao Tse-tung and Communist revolution in China, and the military campaigns waged by North Korea against the UN and by the Vietcong against France and the USA.
- Military rivalries: the arms race; membership and purposes of NATO and the Warsaw Pact; the space race, including Sputnik, ICBMs, Polaris, Gagarin, Apollo.
- The 'Thaw': Hungary, the protest movement and the reforms of Nagy; Soviet fears, how they reacted and the effects on the Cold War; the U2 Crisis and its effects on the Paris Peace Summit and the peace process.

Part Three: Transformation of the Cold War:

- Berlin Wall: reasons for its construction and Kennedy's response.
- Tensions over Cuba: Castro's revolution, the Bay of Pigs and the missile crisis: the roles of Castro, Khrushchev, Kennedy; fears of the USA and reaction to missiles on Cuba; dangers and results of crisis.
- Czechoslovakia: Dubeck and the Prague Spring movement; USSR's response to the reforms; the effects the Prague Spring had on East-West relations, including the Warsaw Pact; the Brezhnev Doctrine.
- Easing of tension: sources of tension, including the Soviets' record on human rights; the reasons for Détente and for SALT 1; the part played by key individuals Brezhnev and Nixon.



Paper 1 Understanding the Modern World:

Section B: Wider World Depth Study: Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and Dictatorship:

This period study focuses on the development of Germany during a turbulent half century of change. It was a period of democracy and dictatorship – the development and collapse of democracy and the rise and fall of Nazism. Students will study the key individuals political, economic, social and cultural aspects of change.

Part One: Germany and the Growth of Democracy:

- Kaiser Wilhelm and the difficulties of ruling Germany: the growth of parliamentary government; the influence of Prussian militarism; industrialisation; social reform and the growth of socialism; the domestic importance of the Navy Laws.
- Impact of the First World War: war weariness, economic problems; defeat; the end of the monarchy; post-war problems: reparations, the occupation of the Ruhr and hyperinflation.
- Weimar democracy: political change and unrest, 1919–1923, including Spartacists, Kapp Putsch and the Munich Putsch; recovery during the Stresemann era (1924–1929): economic developments: the new currency, Dawes Plan and the Young Plan; the impact of international agreements on recovery; Weimar culture.

Part Two: Germany and the Depression:

- The impact of the Depression: growth in support for the Nazis and other extremist parties (1928–1932), including the role of the SA; Hitler's appeal.
- The failure of Weimar democracy: election results; the role of Papen and Hindenburg and Hitler's appointment as Chancellor.
- Hitler's dictatorship: the Reichstag Fire; the Enabling Act; elimination of political opposition; trade unions; Rohm and the Night of the Long Knives; Hitler the Führer.



Part Three: The Experiences of Germans under the Nazis:

- Economic changes: benefits and drawbacks; employment; public works programmes; rearmament; self-sufficiency; the impact of war on the economy and the German people, including bombing, rationing, labour shortages, refugees.
- Social policy and practice: reasons for policies, practices and their impact on women, young people and youth groups; education; control of churches and religion; Aryan ideas, racial policy and persecution; the Final Solution.
- Control: Goebbels, the use of propaganda and censorship; Nazi culture; repression and the police state and the roles of Himmler, the SS and Gestapo; opposition and resistance, including White Rose group, Swing Youth, Edelweiss Pirates and July 1944 bomb plot.



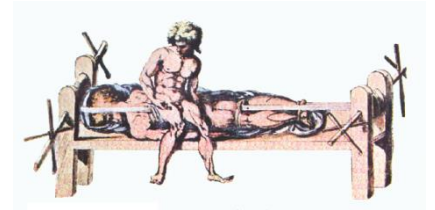
Paper 2 Shaping the Nation:

Section A: Britain: Health and the People: c1000 to the Present Day:

This is a thematic study which will enable students to gain an understanding of how medicine and public health developed in Britain over a long period of time. It considers the causes, scale, nature and consequences of short and long term developments and their impact on British society.

Part One: Medicine Stands Still:

- Medieval medicine: natural and supernatural ideas such as Hippocratic and Galenic methods and beliefs surrounding causes of illnesses.
- Medicinal progress: the contribution of Christian and Islamic faiths to the progress, ideas and treatment techniques.
- Public Health in the Middle Ages: the Black Death in Britain, beliefs about causes, treatment and prevention.



Part Two: The Beginnings of Change:

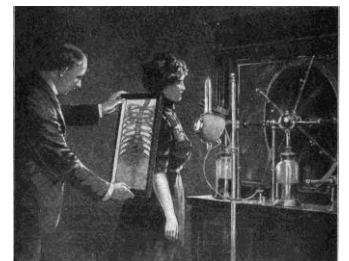
- The impact of the Renaissance on Britain: challenges and changes in anatomy, physiology and surgery; the work of Vesalius, Paré and William Harvey.
- Dealing with disease: traditional vs new methods of treating disease and plague, quackery, changes and growth in hospitals.
- Disease Prevention: inoculation; Edward Jenner, vaccination, opposition to change.

Part Three: A Revolution in Medicine:

- The development of Germ Theory and its impact on disease treatment: the importance of Pasteur and vaccination, Robert Koch and microbe hunting; Paul Ehrlich and magic bullets.
- Revolution in surgery: anaesthetics, including Simpson and chloroform; antiseptics, including Lister and carbolic acid, surgical procedures; aseptic surgery.
- Improvements in the public health: health problems in industrial Britain, cholera epidemics, public health reformers, government involvement including the 1848 and 1875 Public Health Acts.

Part Four: Modern Medicine:

- Modern treatment of disease: the development of pharmaceuticals e.g. penicillin and Fleming's discovery, new diseases and treatments, antibiotic resistance.
- The impact of war and technology: plastic, transplant and keyhole surgery, blood transfusions, X-rays; modern surgical methods e.g. lasers, radiation.
- Modern public health: importance of Booth, Rowntree, the Boer War, Liberal social reforms; impact of two world wars on public health, poverty and housing, the Beveridge report and Welfare State; creation and development of the NHS; costs, choices and issues of 21st century healthcare.



Paper 2 Shaping the Nation:

Section B: Elizabethan England, c1568–1603:

The study will focus on latter events of Elizabeth I's reign considered from economic, religious, political, social and cultural standpoints, and arising contemporary and historical controversies.



Part One: Elizabeth's court and Parliament:

- Elizabeth I and her court: background and character of Elizabeth I; court life, including patronage; key ministers.
- The difficulties of a female ruler: relations with Parliament; the problem of marriage and the succession; the strength of Elizabeth's authority at the end of her reign, including Essex's rebellion in 1601.

Part Two: Life in Elizabethan times:

- A 'Golden Age': living standards and fashions; growing prosperity and the rise of the gentry; the Elizabethan theatre and its achievements; attitudes to the theatre.
- The poor: reasons for the increase in poverty; attitudes and responses to poverty; the reasons for government action and the seriousness of the problem.
- English sailors: Hawkins and Drake; circumnavigation 1577–1580, voyages and trade; the role of Raleigh.

Part Three: Troubles at Home and Abroad:

- Religious matters: the question of religion, English Catholicism and Protestantism; the Northern Rebellion; Elizabeth's excommunication; the missionaries; Catholic plots and the threat to the Elizabethan settlement; the nature and ideas of the Puritans and Puritanism; Elizabeth and her government's responses and policies towards religious matters.
- Mary Queen of Scots: background; Elizabeth and Parliament's treatment of Mary; the challenge posed by Mary; plots; execution and its impact.
- Conflict with Spain: reasons; events; naval warfare, including tactics and technology; the defeat of the Spanish Armada.



Part Four: The Historic Environment of Elizabethan England:

- The historic environment is 10% of the overall course, which equates to approximately 12 hours out of 120 guided learning hours.
- Students will be examined on a specific site in depth. This site will be as specified and will be changed annually. The site will relate to the content of the rest of this depth study to enrich their understanding of Elizabethan England.
- There is no requirement to visit the specified site.
- Teachers may wish to visit a similar site in their locality to inform their teaching.

Future Careers in History:

- **Politics** – John F Kennedy, Gordon Brown, Prince Charles all studied history at university.
- **Journalism**
- **Marketing**
- **Law** - More "subject-specific" professions such as law are keen to employ historians, the most prominent being QC Michael Briggs and QC Michael Mansfield, who has recently been involved in the Bloody Sunday inquiry.
- **Finance/Accountancy** - the late Sir Roland Smith was director of the Bank of England.
- **Management** - History graduate Sir Howard Stringer is chairman of Sony Corporation.
- **Civil Service** - Political 'thinktanks', watchdogs, national charities and general advisory bodies have history graduates in many top positions.
- **Museums, libraries, the arts**
- **Administration**

Course Expectations:

- Be responsible in your lessons.
- Be respectful regarding the subject content, your teachers and peers.
- Be ready to learn and have all relevant equipment.
- Be prepared and ready to complete all classwork and homework on time.
- Be prepared and ready to conduct wider reading around the topics.
- Be prepared and ready to enjoy each lesson and to uncover history.

Why study GCSE History?

It's 'enjoyable',
'interesting' and
'challenging' according to
our current Year 11
students.

You get to learn
about the horrors,
challenges and
successes of past
times.

Studying history provides
you with the ability to
think critically, debate
and develop independent
research skills.

It offers a variety of career
options such as politics,
marketing, finance, law,
civil service, journalism and
management.