

A Level History preparation for year 12.

✘ Unit 1: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855 – 1964

Year 12 focus: Autocracy, Reform and Revolution: Russia 1855 – 1917.

This unit takes you on a journey through the last of the Tsar's to war and revolution, more war and more revolution, followed by a lot of political intrigue. There is murder and scandal along the way with the odd famine; a true historical tale!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqGBRn7oBEg> This link takes you to part 17 of a series about 'The History of Russia in 100 minutes'. You will need to watch this one and each one that follows up to and including part 24. Each one lasts about 4 minutes. It will give you a good overview of the story and introduce you to key individuals.

In preparation for the year 12 History course:

- Complete a fact file on each of the following to identify who they were, what they believed in and a brief summary of their achievements and failures. Each of the key people are covered in the different episodes of 'History of Russia in 100 minutes'
Alexander II; Alexander III; Pobedonostsev; Nicholas II; Witte; Stolypin; Lenin; Trotsky; Alexandra (the Tsarina) and Rasputin.
- What influence did the Russian Orthodox Church have in Russia?
- Find out what each of the following were and give 3 key points about each one, including when they happened:
Crimean War; Russo-Japanese War; Bloody Sunday (in Russia); Russia in the First World War; abdication of Nicholas II; Provisional Government.
- Find out the meaning of the following words and terms:
Autocracy; Emancipation; serfs; autocracy; Russification; bourgeois; proletariat; Marxism; Bolshevik; Duma; Mir; Okhrana; Zemstvo; Holy Synod.
- If you are interested in the second part of the course, 'Animal Farm' would give you an overview of the topic after the 1917 revolution.
- On BBC iPlayer watch Lucy Worsley "Empire of the Tsars: Romanov Russia."
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73eaNrTX3CA> This gives you some background to the Romanov dynasty.

✘ Unit 2: The Making of Modern Britain; 1951 – 2007.

AS focus: Building a New Britain, 1951 – 1979.

The content of this unit focuses on the political, economic, social and international changes which have moulded Britain since World War Two. The drama 'White Heat' (BBC dramatisation) gives a good overview of the period focusing on key issues and changes within society. Andrew Marr 'History of Modern Britain' is in both book and DVD format and covers the developments and changes in Britain over the period. Both are highly recommended. There are also a range of films linked to the time period. All would give you some understanding of what society was like in Britain post World War Two. Don't forget, you can also talk to family, friends and neighbours – most have lived through part of the time period you are going to study!

In preparation for the year 12 History course:

Watch the first episode in the Andrew Marr series about Modern Britain which starts at the end of the Second World War and looks at the position that Britain was in politically, financially and socially.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b00brnr1/andrew-marrs-history-of-modern-britain-1-advance-britannia>

Find out what was happening in Britain 1951 – 1979. Use the grid below as a template for your research (It will need to be a lot bigger to fit the detail in!). Focus on the key policies, individuals and developments within each time period. Add information from the Andrew Marr documentary and the following links:

<https://www.britannica.com/place/United-Kingdom/Britain-since-1945> Scroll down to the heading ‘Conservative Government 1951 – 64’.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/overview_1945_present_01.shtml This gives a good overview.

<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/britain-1950> This gives a summary of the first decade of the period.

	1951 - 1964	1964 - 1970	1970 - 1979
Political party in power and their policies.			
Economic developments			
Social changes and new developments			
Foreign policy and developments			

You will need your completed work for the first History lesson as they will form the basis of the group overview discussion and activity. Your research will therefore need to be clearly presented with specific detail.

In preparation for A level History:

A range of core text books are provided for the duration of the course. However, to support exam preparation students are **requested** to purchase the following books:

- “*The Making of Modern Britain, 1951 – 2007*”. AQA AS/A level History ‘My revision notes’. Peter Clements: Hodder (2016).
- “*Tsarist and Communist Russia: 1855 – 1964*”. AQA AS/A level History ‘My revision notes’. Michael Scott-Baumann: Hodder (2017).

These are revision guides which cover the two year course and provide support work for the duration which covers the content as well as the source and essay writing skills.

Enjoy your summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.

History Department.