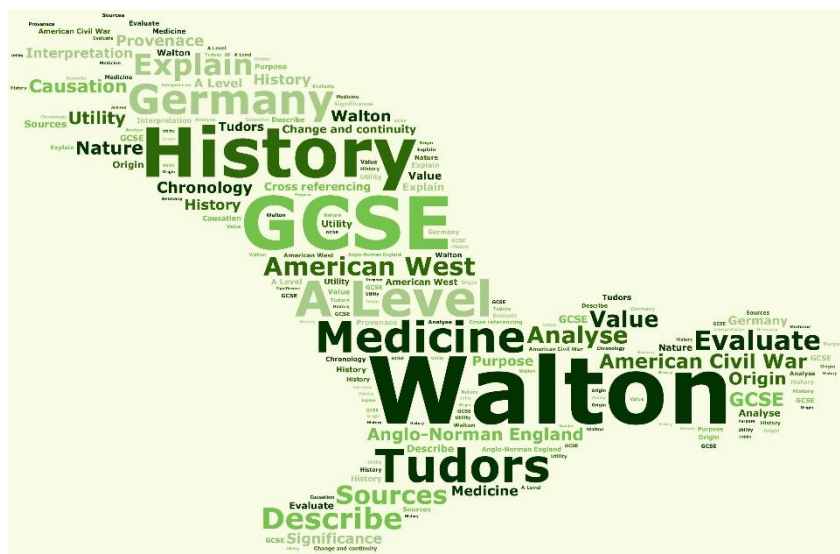


A LEVEL HISTORY TRANSITION WORK



History at A Level History examines the political, economic, social and cultural issues of different era and cultures. A Level History is about the acquisition of vital learning skills: you need to be able to read and digest large amounts of information and to pick out what is and is not relevant to the question you are dealing with. History will teach you how to analyse, reflect and to argue clearly in class and in writing.

What sort of work is involved?

- Reading around the topics and researching are key elements of A Level History.
- Historians need to be effective at making notes: grouping information according to themes and noting different sorts of evidence (dates, statistics and quotes).
- You will learn to evaluate source-material: understanding a document in relation to who wrote it and when it was composed.
- Writing essays is a major part of any History course. Learning how to assemble information into a thematic and analytical response to the specific question posed.

Exam Board – AQA

Units

- **1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603 – 40% of the course**
- **2J America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877 – 40% of the course**
- **NEA Coursework – Civil Rights the USA 1890s-1990s – 20 of the course**

1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603

This unit project contains a programme of activities and resources to prepare you to start an A Level in History in September. One half of your A-Level course will focus on the Tudor Monarchs 1485-1603. As such, the A level history course involves the study of an unfamiliar period of history and this is an opportunity for you to broaden your individual wider reading and to do some independent research into what this period of British history was like - a society dominated by religion and wars, with different systems of government than we have in Britain today.

Discovering the past is great fun. I hope that you will agree!



The project has been designed to prepare you for the type of work you will be doing throughout your History A Level course. It is structured over 4 weeks – 1 task per week. You will need to manage your time carefully and stay motivated to get the most out of your learning. This project will test your skills of independent work so make a plan at the start of each week to organise your time effectively.

Task 1:

Research the Wars of the Roses and create a fact file with as much detail as possible.

Your research must include:

- A timeline of events
- What was it, When, Where, who was involved? Why, Consequences & impact on people, peasants, nobles, England
- Feel free to add extra information that you find interesting
- This should be approx. 1 side of A4
- Watch these clips to aid your research:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNcBrrMoyL8>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SB_OThWd-eA

Task 2:

Create an A4 information sheet, with facts and images, one sheet for each of the following British monarchs: Edward IV, Richard III and Henry VII.

Your research must include:

- Background, upbringing, family life, marriages, children
- How did they become king?
- Three key events from their reign
- Two historians views on the Kings-what do historians have to say about them?

Task 3:

Draw a family tree of the Tudors - Add images.

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1r3qvzaOGU> (Just a bit of fun!)

What was Henry VII's claim to the throne?

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SB_0ThWd-eA

Carryout your own research and then create a table outlining the strengths and weaknesses of Henry VII's claim to the throne. Include what the term 'usurper' means.

Task 4:

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3bYh29LA00> and carryout further research into the 'Mystery of the Princes in the Tower'

"Richard III murdered the princes in the Tower" Assess the validity of this view

Based on your research write a balanced essay which provides evidence to both support and challenge the idea that Richard III was guilty of their murder. You must include specific evidence, with explanation, and reach a final judgement.

2J America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877



This unit project has been designed to prepare you for the type of work you will be doing throughout your History A Level course. It is structured over 4 weeks. You will need to manage your time carefully and stay motivated to get the most out of your learning. Make a plan at the start of each week to organise your work. This is a deliberately challenging project – we want to give you the opportunity to showcase your skills and show us your ideas and opinions. Be brave!

1: Research the topics listed below – aim to create a mind map/notes for each topic:

A. The American Political system

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zmc6fg8/revision/1>

- Job of the government
- US Constitution
- Bill of Rights
- Federal US government structure
- Political parties

B. Slavery and the USA

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/slavery-united-states>

C. Slavery and the Constitution

<https://www.thoughtco.com/what-does-constitution-say-about-slavery-105417>

2: Read about the causes of the US Civil War

- <https://www.historynet.com/causes-of-the-civil-war>
- Watch - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZHSvHrmxYaE&t=6s>

3: Write

Answer: 'How important was slavery in causing the American civil war in 1861?'

Tips:

Revisit your research notes and consider how these ideas might be relevant to your response. Possible causes:

- Westward expansion
- Abolition of slavery movement
- Economy
- States Vs Federal rights
- Slave and Non-Slave States
- Abraham Lincoln

When considering **importance** consider the following:

- How much tension did it cause between people?
- For how long did this tension go on for?
- Did this factor cause any significance change? Socially, politically, economically?
- How much did this change impact life in the USA during this period?
- Would this change have happened without this factor?

Your answer should be structured:

Introduction (50 words)

Briefly explain why the US Civil war took place. Outline why slavery can be seen an important causational factor. Introduce other factors that helped cause the war.

Main Body: Factor 1 – Slavery

Provide evidence and explain how slavery helped to cause the civil war. Assess the importance of slavery as a cause of the war. Does it link to any other factors?

(150 words)

Main Body: Factor 2

Provide evidence and explain how slavery helped to cause the civil war. Assess the importance of slavery as a cause of the war. Does it link to any other factors?

(150 words)

Main Body: Factor 3

Provide evidence and explain how slavery helped to cause the civil war. Assess the importance of slavery as a cause of the war. Does it link to any other factors?

(150 words)

Conclusion: needs to follow the original line of argument, and draws together evidence.

How important was slavery compared to other factors?

Would the war have happened if slavery hadn't have existed?

Would the war have happened if the other factors hadn't existed too?

(100 words)

Further Information to Support your Learning and deepen your understanding

The Tudor period

Reading List

Essential A Level History Textbook

You will be given this textbook when you start the course in September

- AQA A-level History: The Tudors: England 1485-1603 (AQA A Level History)

Fiction

- The White Queen, Philippa Gregory
- The Red Queen, Philippa Gregory
- The Kingmaker's Daughter, Philippa Gregory
- The Sunne in Splendour, Sharon Kay Penman
- Richard III, William Shakespeare

Non-Fiction

- The Plantagenets, Dan Jones (2013)
- The Hollow Crown: The Wars of the Roses and the Rise of the Tudors, Dan Jones (2015)
- The Wars of the Roses, Michael Hicks (2012)
- The Family of Richard III, Michael Hicks (2015)
- Winter King: The Dawn of Tudor England, Thomas Penn (2012)

Film/TV Resources

- The White Queen
- The Hollow Crown
- Richard III (1995)
- The Other Boleyn Girl (2003)
- Wolf Hall (2015)

Other Suggested websites:

- <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/medieval-england/>
- <http://www.warsoftheroses.com/>
- <http://www.britannica.com/event/Wars-of-the-Roses>
- http://www.richardiii.net/9_1_wotr.php
- <http://www.historyextra.com/article/military-history/12-facts-wars-roses>
- <http://shakespeare.mit.edu/richardiii/full.html>
- <http://www.sparknotes.com/shakespeare/richardiii/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH7CKzhCyyA>
- <http://tudorhistory.org/monarchs/>
- <http://www.royal.gov.uk/HistoryoftheMonarchy/KingsandQueensofEngland/TheTudors/TheTudors.aspx>
- <http://www.historyonthenet.com/tudors/monarchs.htm>
- <http://tudorhistory.org/>

The World is Out There – kind of!

Though you might not be able to physically visit these places, some of them have online tours available...

- Visit a Tudor building in your local area e.g. Burghley House, Hampton Court
- Visit the Tower of London and spend time in the White Tower
- Visit the Tudor galleries in the National Portrait Museum

- Read Shakespeare's plays Richard III and Henry VIII or even better see an adaptation on stage/tv
- Visit The Globe Theatre, London
- Visit a local museum to learn what life was like in your area during the reign of Tudor monarchs

American Civil War

Non Fiction:

- The Causes of the Civil War by Kenneth Stampp
- Battle Cry Of Freedom by James Mcpherson.
- The Impending Crisis, 1848–1861 by David M. Potter.
- The Civil War: A Narrative By Shelby Foote
- Memoirs By Ulysses S. Grant
- Upon The Altar of The Nation: A Moral History of the Civil War, 2007, Harry S. Stout.
- The Era of Reconstruction, 1865-1877 by Kenneth Stampp
- Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877 by Eric Foner
- Short History of Reconstruction by Eric Foner
- The American Civil War by Ken Burns - Netflix

Fiction:

- Uncle Tom's Cabin By Harriet Beecher Stowe
- The Killer Angels, by Michael Shaara
- North and South, by John Jakes
- Gone with the Wind by Margaret Mitchell

Websites:

- <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/10-facts-what-everyone-should-know-about-civil-war>
- <https://www.history.com/topics/american-civil-war/american-civil-war-history>
- <http://www.civilwar.com/>