



6th form Transition work

Subject: History

Exam Board: OCR

Instructions for transition work:

Before we start studying the first units, we would like you to do some research. It would be great if you have a good understanding of what the course entails and have some contextual knowledge of the period before we begin studying it.

Below there are a set of questions that I would like you to find answers to. Please bear in mind, we are doing A-Level now. I am looking for depth, understanding and quality research.

Transition work that must be completed prior to starting the course:

Britain 1930–1997

- Which individuals held the office of British Prime Minister from 1930-1997?
- What was the policy of Appeasement? What did Churchill think of this?
- How did Churchill's views about Empire clash with his party?
- Why did Churchill become Prime Minister in 1940?
- What was Churchill's view on Britain's role in the world after WW2?
- What was the post-war consensus?
- Why did the Conservatives win the 1951 general election?
- What were the main economic policies of the 1951-64 Conservative governments? (think about living standards, prosperity and unemployment)
- Why did Labour win in 1964?
- What were the main economic policies of the 1964-70 Labour governments?
- What were the aims and policies of Edward Heath?
- Why did Heath lose the 1974 elections?
- What were the reasons for support and opposition of Thatcher and her ministers?

The crusades and the crusader states 1095-1192



- What was the situation in Europe in 1090?
- Why was there a call to crusade?
- What was the situation in the Islamic near east at this time?
- What was the People's crusade?
- What happened during the First Crusade? Why was it a success?
- How were the crusader states able to survive in the 12th century?
- Why did the second crusade fail?
- Who was Saladin and what were his origins?
- How did the Muslims manage to retake Jerusalem in 1187?
- Who was Richard the Lionheart and was the Third Crusade a success?

Suggested further reading and resources that would be useful to look at prior to starting the course in September:

I would highly recommend students read *1984* by George Orwell. This will help you get to grips with the nature of history, and how different interpretations of the past can be altered to influence our contemporary mind set. You also need to appreciate the context in which Orwell wrote this book. It was first published in 1949, and the historical setting in which the book was written.

It is also a fantastic book, inspiration and devastating in places. Orwell was an efficient writer, and wrote things very clearly, so it is an enjoyable, quick read.

Other books worth reading over the summer break:

- *A People's History of the United States* – Howard Zinn
- *On Hitler's Mountain* - Irmgard Hunt
- *The Pursuit of History* – John Tosh
- *A brief History of the Crusades*- Geoffrey Hindley
- *The Crusades*- Thomas Ashbridge
- *A History of Modern Britain*- Andrew Marr
- *History of Modern Britain: The fate of Empire 1776-2000*- Simon Schama
- *Twentieth Century Britain: A very short introduction*- Kenneth Morgan



Things to watch:

- *Crusades with Terry Jones* (documentaries)
- *A history of Modern Britain- Andrew Marr* (documentaries)
- *Darkest Hour* (film, Netflix)
- *Thatcher: A very British Revolution* (BBC)
- *The Crown* (series, Netflix)