

Step up to A-Level History

This is a menu of tasks to help you get ready to study History at A-Level. Try to choose a 'balanced diet' of activities each week to ensure variety in your learning. Keep your completed work organised in a folder so that you can submit your transition work during your first History lesson.



Short Video Clips (less than 10 minutes)

Each of these clips offers context for the course. Write down any key details they reveal or inferences you can make from them. List questions the clips raise that you would like to understand more about (aim for 3)?

How American Power is divided

[American Politics](#)



Political Rivals

[Gladstone and Disraeli](#)



The Great Reform Act

[The Great Reform Act 1832: Origins and Opposition](#)



Longer Video Clips, Films or Documentaries

These videos will get you thinking even more about [Insert Subject] issues. Select one video, record the key points of context or information that you found significant, alongside 5 subsequent questions that the video has spawned.

The Industrial Revolution

[Industrial Revolution Clip](#)



The Cold War: A crash Course

[Cold War](#)



Political Cartoons

["Them damn cartoons"](#)



Programmes and Podcasts

There is a huge array of History radio programmes and podcasts available. If you do not have a podcast app, or cannot sign in to BBC Sounds, this would be your first thing to remedy. Below are a few stretching and informative programmes for you to enjoy. Make notes on ½ page of A4 about what you have learnt about the topic of each programme and which opinions you agree with and why.

The Corn Laws

[The Corn Laws](#)



The Manhattan Project

[Manhattan Project](#)



General Elections

[The History of general elections](#)



Questions to Consider

The questions below are designed to get you thinking more broadly about some of the underlying issues within the course we study in Year 12. Choose a question and try discussing it with somebody else. Then write 500 words exploring different possible responses and explaining your own opinions.

Why do we study History?

What influences a Historians views?

Are all primary documents valuable to a historian?



Debate

Task: Read the linked page regarding Presidents Truman's presidency and complete the activities below.

[Harry S. Truman: The American Franchise | Miller Center](#)



EST. 1629



Summarise the positives and negatives in Truman's presidency.

How did the demographic of America change after WWII?

How significant was the 'Red Scare' to American domestic and foreign policy?

How far did everyone achieve the 'American Dream' under Truman?



Books and Other Longer Reads

These books are excellent introductions to the themes we study in [Insert Subject]. They are available to buy and download as e-books, some of them are free!

The Cold War
John Gaddis

Liberty's Dawn
Emma Griffin

The Five
Hallie Rubenhold

