



History: Curriculum Overview

Year 8: What was the impact of wars and revolutions on Britain from c1642-present?

Half Term	Topic studied	What will I learn?	How will I be assessed?
Autumn 1	Why did the English start fighting each other?	A study of the causes and events of the English Civil War and the impact of the execution of Charles I on how England was run.	Essay: To what extent should Oliver Cromwell be viewed as a hero who championed liberty over the monarchy?
	How did Britain change between 1750-1900?	The significance of the Industrial Revolution: changes to industry, transport, housing, conditions for children in factories and public health in the 19 th century.	Source enquiry into child working conditions.
Autumn 2	Was the British Empire created for God or Gain?	Why did Britain want an Empire? The experiences of the colonists and the colonised in Australia, India, Ireland and South Africa.	Essay: How far do you agree that the British created an Empire for their own gain?
Spring 1	Why did it take so long to abolish slavery?	The transatlantic slave trade: conditions for slaves on the middle passage and on plantations, the work of abolitionists to bring about the end of the slave trade and slavery in Britain.	Essay on the key players involved in the end of slavery in Britain.
Spring 2	Did a single shot kill 17 million people? Did evil really triumph because good people did nothing?	Causes, events and significance of the First World War. Understand the events that led from WW1 to the appointment of Hitler as Chancellor in Germany in 1933 and the persecution of the Jews and other groups deemed by the Nazis to be outsiders, culminating in the Holocaust	Source analysis on life in the Trenches for the soldiers on the Western Front.
Summer 1	Why was Russian leadership so unstable in the early 20 th century?	A study of Russian rulers and instability, causes and events of the Russian revolution, the significance of Stalin's rule.	Essay: Write an account of the reasons for the Tsar's abdication.
Summer 2	Why did the world get colder after 1945?	The origins of the Cold War in Europe after WW2 and how the Cold War was experienced in Europe, America, Asia and the Middle East.	Knowledge test.