

History

Summer Work Booklet



PETERBOROUGH KEYS
ACADEMIES TRUST



PiXL Gateway: Progression

History

A Transition Unit of Work

The beginning of your journey to becoming an
A Level Historian

Contents:

- I. Building Block 1: Chronology
- II. Building Block 2: Causation and Consequence
- III. Building Block 3: Significance
- IV. Building Block 4: Interpretation

Building Block 1: Chronology

During your A Level studies you will be exploring new time periods, topics and themes in both breadth and depth. Understanding the key chronology of your units will be central to your ability to both analyse sources in their context and engage critically and meaningfully with essay questions.

Step 1: Look at the specifications for the three examination units you will be studying.

[OCR A Level History A \(H505\) Specification](#) – Unit codes = Y102, Y218, Y318

Step 2: Create a timeline on A3 paper which spans the entire period you will be studying for each of your three units.

Step 3: On your timeline, plot on the key events with full dates and titles.

Step 4: For each event, can you write a brief description of what happened and the consequences of it?

Step 5: In a separate colour, draw and annotate arrows explaining the connections between the events in your timeline – how are key events/changes connected?

Building Block 2: Causation

A majority of the essays you write throughout Year 12 and Year 13 will address the conceptual focuses of causation – why do events happen, and what are the implications of them?

Step 1: From your timeline for each of your examination units, identify 5 key events (if in doubt, double check with your History teacher for Year 12 to see if the events you have chosen are suitable!).

Step 2: Create a mind map, with the event in the middle.

Step 3: On the left hand-side, identify between 5-10 causes as to why this event happened. For each event use the “shades of likelihood” scale to explain how far, and in what ways, this cause led to the event occurring:

1	2	3	4	5
Partially	Noticeably	Dramatically	Certainly	

Step 4: For your causes, now categorise your factors into the following themes: political; social; economic; long-term cause; and short-term cause.

Step 5: From your causation map, can you now identify what you think is the most important cause behind this event, and justify your decision?

Building Block 3: Readings

A Level History will not only require you to study the past, but also to engage critically with the interpretations of different historians about the past: historiography.

Task 1: Select one of the texts/documentaries/podcasts from the reading list below.

Task 2: Complete the reading sheet with what you learnt from that interpretation:

- What are the main ideas of the interpretation?
- What notes/quotes/detail can you add to those main ideas?
- Write a summary for the entire interpretation.

Login details:

Massolit – Online lecture videos – resources for all 3 exam units

You need to create your own login details on the website.

[MASSOLIT – Short video lectures from the world's best academics for school teachers and students around the world.](#)

Interpretations

Unit 1 – Anglo-Saxons and Normans, 1035-1107

[MASSOLIT – The Norman Conquest and the Reign of William the Conqueror, 1035-87 | Video lecture by Prof. David Bates,](#)

[MASSOLIT – William I and the Succession, 1051-1106 | Video lecture by Prof. Robert Bartlett,](#)

[MASSOLIT – Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest, 878-1066 | Video lecture by Dr Benjamin Pohl,](#)

Marc Morris, *The Norman Conquest*

David Woodman, *Edward the Confessor*

Marc Morris, *William I*

John Gillingham, *William II*

1066 [44. 1066 | The Rest Is History on Acast](#)

The death of Edward the Confessor [12 Days: Death of Edward the Confessor and the Dreyfus Affair | The Rest Is History on Acast](#) (only need to listen to death of Edward)

Unit 2 – International Relations, 1890-1941

[MASSOLIT – International Relations in Europe, 1914-39 | Video lecture by Prof. David Stevenson,](#)

[MASSOLIT – World War I: Causes and Origins, 1815-1914 | Video lecture by Dr Sascha Auerbach,](#)

[MASSOLIT – The USA and Japan, 1941-52 | Video lecture by Dr Christopher Harding,](#)

Ian Kershaw, *To Hell and Back*

Hew Strachan, *The First World War*

Frank McDonough, *The origins of the First and Second World Wars*

History of Germany - <https://play.acast.com/s/the-rest-is-history-podcast/102.germanyfromadenauertoangela>

Anglo-German relations - <https://play.acast.com/s/the-rest-is-history-podcast/67.anglo-germanrelations>

Causes of the First World War - <https://play.acast.com/s/the-rest-is-history-podcast/9.causesofthefirstworldwar>

The Western Front - <https://play.acast.com/s/the-rest-is-history-podcast/90.thewesternfront>

End of First World War - <https://play.acast.com/s/the-rest-is-history-podcast/118.remembrance>

Unit 3 – Russia and its rulers, 1855-1964

[MASSOLIT – Russia: The End of Imperial Russia, 1894-1917 | Video lecture by Prof. Peter Waldron,](#)

[MASSOLIT – Russia: Revolution and Civil War, 1917-22 | Video lecture by Dr Mark Levene,](#)

[MASSOLIT – Russia: The Rule of Stalin, 1922-41 | Video lecture by Dr Arfon Rees,](#)

Robert Service, *A History of Modern Russia*

Simon Sebag Montefiore, *The Romanovs*

Simon Sebag Montefiore, *Stalin*

Cornell Notes

Name

Date:

Topic

Subject

Main Ideas:

Notes:

Summary:



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