

# WEST COVENTRY SIXTH FORM



## SUBJECT TRANSITION BOOK Summer 2024 HISTORY

STUDENT NAME:



## TO GET YOU STARTED

**Please complete the following activity over summer and hand in on the first lesson back.**

Germany: Please hand in to Mr Jones on your first lesson.  
Investigate and research the following individuals:

- **Kaiser Wilhelm I**
- **Otto von Bismarck**

Produce a fact file or information sheet describing their lives, key events and careers; along with explaining why they were significant people. A picture, graph or newspaper article might be nice. Approximately 500 words each.

Modern Britain: Please hand in to Mrs Lewis on your first lesson.

1. Create a poster titled 'How the British Government works.'  
Include a summary of
  - 5 main political parties in the country; Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats, The Green Party and Reform.
  - Role of the House of Lords
  - Role of the House of Commons
  - 3 branches of Government; Judicial, Legislative and Executive
2. In no more than 500 words, sum up the legacy of the Atlee government from 1945-1951.

## THE COURSE

### AQA GCE History AS and A-Level

A Level History at The West Coventry Sixth Form encourages you to explore the events and issues that have shaped the world we live in. The focus is on modern European history and 20<sup>th</sup> century British history, both with an emphasis on change and development over time. It is concerned with every aspect of the human experience and helps us to understand and make sense of today's world. It also helps to "train the mind," encouraging the skills of critical judgement and the clear presentation of arguments. Students will gain a real insight into the ways historians work and enjoy the challenge and satisfaction of researching into interesting aspects of history. There is also an opportunity to complete an in-depth study on a specially selected area of British.

The course is comprised of 3 components: a breadth study (component 1), a depth study (component 2) these both run throughout the duration of the AS and A-Level course, and the historical enquiry (component 3).

**AS Component 1 = Breadth Study.** Is an **internal** written exam taking 1 ½ hours, total marks out of 50, students must answer 2 essay questions, 1 of which is compulsory and using sources.

**A-Level Component 1 = Breadth Study.** Written exam taking 2 ½ hours, total marks out of 80, students must answer 3 essay questions, 1 of which is compulsory and using sources.

**The topic is: The quest for political stability; Germany, 1871 – 1991.**

[AQA | History | Subject content | 1L The quest for political stability: Germany, 1871–1991](#)

**AS Component 2 = Depth Study.** Is a **internal** Written exam taking 1 ½ hours, total marks out of 50, students must answer 2 essay questions, 1 of which is compulsory and using sources.

**A-Level Component 2 = Depth Study.** Written exam taking 2 ½ hours, total marks out of 80, students must answer 3 essay questions, 1 of which is compulsory and using sources.

**The topic is: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007**

[AQA | History | Subject content | 2S The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007](#)

**Component 3** = Non-exam assessment (A-level only). It will be a topic that you need to research by yourself, under the guidance of your teacher, then produce an essay of approximately 4,500 words.

## **ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS**

Normally a grade 6 in History at GCSE is required, though a grade 5 would be considered in certain circumstances. Students who have not taken GCSE History would be considered based on their overall performance at GCSE (especially English) and a proven commitment to background reading and learning historical skills.

## **TEACHING STAFF**

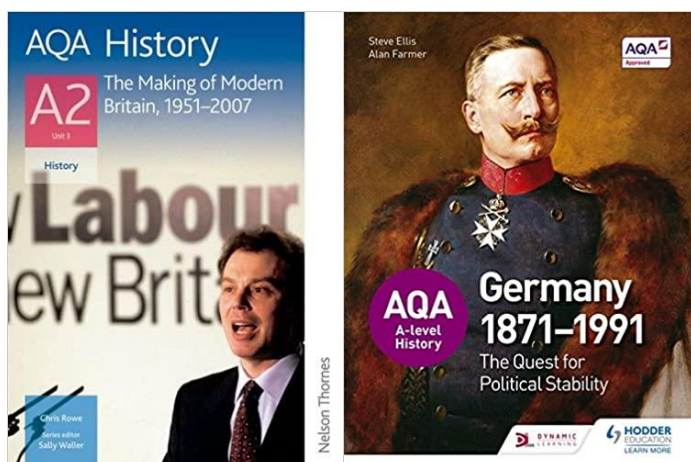
Mr. A. Miles – [staffaxm@westcoventryacademy.org](mailto:staffaxm@westcoventryacademy.org)

Mr D. Jones – [staffdxj@westcoventryacademy.org](mailto:staffdxj@westcoventryacademy.org)

Mrs C. Lewis - [staffcfl@westcoventryacademy.org](mailto:staffcfl@westcoventryacademy.org)

**READING**, is crucial, if you want to succeed at A Level History

You do not have to buy books **BUT** it would be useful if you could get a copy of the 2 core books. You might be able to pick them up second hand if you look on amazon etc.



The following are useful books and many can be found via your local library.

**The Quest for political stability: Germany 1871-1991.**

- L Abrams, *Bismarck and the German Empire*, Routledge, 1995
- A Farmer, *The Unification of Germany 1815-1919*, Hodder Murray, 2007
- M Fulbrook, *Interpretations of the Two Germanies 1945-1990*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2000
- D Geary, *Hitler and Nazism*, Routledge, 2000
- S Lee, *Imperial Germany 1871-1918*, Routledge, 1999
- S Lee, *The Weimar Republic*, Routledge, 1998
- S Lee, *Hitler and Nazi Germany*, Routledge, 1998
- J Thomanek and B Niven, *Dividing and Uniting Germany*, Routledge, 2000
- D Williamson, *Bismarck and Germany 1862-1890*, Longman, 1997
- D Williamson, *The Third Reich*, Longman, 1995

Modern Britain:

- S J Lee, *Aspects of British Political History 1914-1995*, Routledge, 1998
- N Lowe, *Mastering Modern Britain*, Palgrave, 1998
- **A Marr, *A History of Modern Britain*, Macmillan, 2007** . This can be found second hand.
- A Mayer, *Women in Britain 1900-2000*, Hodder, 2002
- D Murphy (ed), *Britain 1914-2000*, Collins, 2000

- M Pearce, *British Political History 1867-200: Democracy and Decline*, Routledge, 2001
- C Rowe, *Britain 1929-1998*, Heinemann, 2004

## **Visual sources and websites:**

### **Germany:**

- M Sturmer, *The German Century*, Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1999
- P Adam, *Art of the Third Reich*, Harry N Abrams, 1992
- DDR Design, 1949-1989, Taschen, 2004
- [www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk)
- [www.germannotes.com](http://www.germannotes.com)
- [www.schoolshistory.org.uk](http://www.schoolshistory.org.uk)
- [www.thehistorychannel.co.uk](http://www.thehistorychannel.co.uk)
- [www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa](http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa)

### **Britain:**

*Andrew Marr's History of Modern Britain*, DVD 2entertain, 2009

<http://www.news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/modern/>

## **IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?**

Students play an active part in lessons with discussion work and presentations and are expected to contribute their views and opinions in class. They are encouraged to research topics independently by reading widely and making use of specific internet sites to locate relevant information. A level History should be enjoyable but it is a challenging subject that requires a positive attitude and willingness to learn. Join a library and start reading some of the books on the lists.

## **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

Employers value History students because of the wide range of skills they learn and develop as well as their ability to work independently or as part of a team. An A Level in History is good preparation for many careers such as Law, Journalism, Politics, Media, Police, Social Work, Teaching and many other areas of work.