

Year 11 into Year 12 Preparation Work – History

The idea of this work is to prepare you for some of the topics you will be studying at A Level, practice some of the key skills as well as find out some new information!

At A level we study:

Britain Transformed, 1918-1997	Paper 1	Yr 12
The USA, 1920-1955: Boom, bust and recovery	Paper 2	Yr 12
The witch Craze in Britain, Europe and North America c1550-c1750	Paper 3	Yr 13
The impact of the Blitz on civilian morale	Coursework	Yr 12/13

Task 1: How much could twenties Britain be described as a period of transformation?

You need to investigate what life in the 1920s was like in Britain using a range of different sources. This is the first period that we study for the Britain unit and could be argued to be one of the most significant. Think about the situation the country finds itself in, the 'War to end all wars' has just ended, the peace settlements have been created and the country has to find a way to move forward. Using the links investigate the range of different sources available in the National Archives. You need to investigate 3 main areas:

- Social change
- Economic change
- Political change

Research each area and write up what you have found out. You need to assess what the significant changes were in each area and how much each area changed (also consider what didn't change and the relative success of each). You should make reference to things that cause change, or hinder it as the case may be, such as legislation, people, events etc. You should write about a page on each area and make reference to source material from the National Archives site to support and challenge your argument. You might want to consider the NOP of the sources and how this affects your argument.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/twenties-britain-part-one/>

<https://nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/twenties-britain-part-two/>

Task 2:

Carry out some of your own research about the 1920s in the USA. Use the same criteria (Social, Economic and Political) and look at what changes took place in America. Then write a comparison of what life in Britain was like compared with the USA, using the 3 different criteria to help you. You could explain what the differences were and why these might have been the case. Explain which country had a better 1920s and why.

Additional Tasks you might choose to do:

- Watch *The Great Gatsby* (it is on Netflix)
- Watch *The Iron Lady* - we study interpretations of Margaret Thatcher in year 12 and this is a useful interpretation.
- Carry out some research on the Blitz – when did it start, who was affected, where was affected, numbers of casualties, impact on life in Britain, Blitz Spirit. This will help with your coursework. Just keep a note of the websites you used and for which notes.
- Download and read the topic booklet for A Level History, we follow Route H and do the first USA option (1920-1955) <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/history-2015.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FTeaching-and-learning-materials&filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Document-Type%2FTopic-booklet>