

GCSE History Reading list for extended knowledge and homework

Below is a list of reading, viewing and visit opportunities which will extend your learning out of the classroom. You should aim to do at least three of the things per unit. Some of the visits are free, some of the books are in the school library or can be accessed for free from the library service either in physical or ebooks.

It is worth keeping an eye on BBC iPlayer under the history section. They often have things not listed below which would be good but they tend to not be on there for very long and change frequently.

Another good resource is BBC history magazine. This can be accessed cheaply when they have offers if you subscribe (which you can cancel once you've had the cheaper issues and resign up again) or can be accessed for free via the library service (either digitally or physically). We also have copies within the department you can come and read at lunchtimes.

And feel free to add additional things you have found to watch / read / visit! Please tell us about those things so we can add them to the list for next year.

Medicine (Paper 1)

Watch

- Blood and Guts, a History of Surgery (Youtube)
- Pus, pain and poison documentary (Youtube)
- Scream! A History of anaesthetics (Youtube)
- *Filthy cities Medieval London: Dan Snow (Youtube)
- Breaking the Mould, telling the story of penicillin (BBC)
- Quacks (Youtube)
- Florence Nightingale <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jONlz7vaMnU&t=41s>
- Edward Jenner <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJRJeOxX6no&t=8s>
- John Hunter- Links to background knowledge for Jekyll and Hyde for English GCSE. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BT14Xzqvfoo>

Podcasts

- Sawbones: various topics about medical history, in-depth knowledge but very accessible and genuinely funny! Scroll through their back catalogue and find their earlier episodes which cover topics we cover: cholera, plague, four humours, antibiotics.
- <https://www.missedinhistory.com/> A useful collection of podcast that cover a range of topics.

Read

- Blood and Guts: A short history of medicine by Roy Porter – Overview of unit
- Time traveller's guide to Medieval England by Ian Mortimer – Insight into Medieval Medicine
- Blood and Guts: A History of Surgery by Richard Hollingham – Developments in surgery
- The Knife Man: Blood, Body-snatching and the Birth of Modern Surgery by Wendy Moore - Developments in surgery
- The Greatest benefit to mankind by Roy Porter – Overview of the unit
- The Butchering Art by Lindsey Fitzharris -Joseph Lister and Antiseptic
- William Bynum, A Very Short Introduction to the History of Medicine ('A Very Short Introduction to..' series).

Cold War (Paper 2)

Watch

- **'CNN Cold War' YouTube – 24 part in-depth documentary series covering the Cold War. Could be especially useful to watch an episode on any event you are not confident on.

- The World at War: iconic series on WW2. Episode 24 and Episode 25 are very relevant to your course, look on YouTube.
- Busting the Berlin Wall: Amazing Escape Stories. Google it.

Podcasts

- **Versus History features History teachers debating historical arguments. It's aimed at A Level as well as GCSE, so stretch yourself! There are episodes on all sorts of topics, the easiest way to browse is to press 'Control F' and search key words on this page <http://www.versushistory.com/podcasts.html>
- History Rocks: Short 15 minute podcasts on the Cold War. A Level focused but still great to challenge yourself and build-up in-depth knowledge.
- GCSE History Revision Podcast (has an image of Nixon looking grumpy: scroll through their back catalogue for Cold War and Germany.
- Dan Snow's History Hit: Browse back catalogue for Cold War and range of topics. <https://www.historyhit.com/podcasts/>

Elizabeth (Paper 2)

Watch

- **Elizabeth - From The Prison To The Palace - Part 1 of 4 [David Starkey] (Youtube)
- **Elizabeth - The Virgin Queen - Part 2 of 4 [David Starkey] (Youtube)
- **Elizabeth - Heart Of A King part 3 of 4 [David Starkey] (Youtube)
- **Elizabeth – Gloriana part 4 of 4 [David Starkey] (Youtube)
- **Elizabeth I's Secret Agents: BBC documentary. Google it.
- A History of Britain, episode 7 (Google it)
- *Her Majesty's Spymaster: Sir Francis Walsingham (Youtube) – Walsingham and MQS
- Battlefield Britain, Spanish Armada (Youtube) – Spanish Armada
- **Dan Snow 12 Days to Save England, Armada, YouTube
- Elizabeth I Secret Agents (Youtube) – Walsingham and the plots against Elizabeth
- Bloody Queens: Elizabeth and Mary (Youtube) – Relationship between MQS and Elizabeth
- Mary Queen of Scots (released in 2019)
- BBC - A History of Christianity episode 4: Reformation watch – context on Henry VIII and the Reformation for context of Elizabeth's religious settlement
- Episode 4: The Spanish Armada, Battlefield Britain (youtube)

Podcasts

- ** 'Rex Factor' is a laid back podcast, chatting about English monarchs. The Elizabeth episode is a good introduction to her reign. <https://rexfactor.podbean.com/e/40-elizabeth-i> For good prior knowledge, it would be good for you to listen to the episodes on Henry VIII, Edward VI and Mary I too (you do have to create an account for this one)
- Historyextra.com: Inside the mind of Elizabeth I. Helen Castor explores the psychology of the Virgin Queen.
- BBC In Our Time: The Spanish Armada. In-depth look at one of the key moments of Elizabeth's reign <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00v1qyb>
- BBC In Our Time: The death of Elizabeth I. In-depth look at the end of Elizabeth's reign <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00n5nqr>
- Versus History features History teachers debating historical arguments. It's aimed at A Level as well as GCSE, so stretch yourself! There are episodes on all sorts of topics, the easiest way to browse is to press 'Control F' and search key words on this page <http://www.versushistory.com/podcasts.html>

Read

- Helen Castor, Elizabeth I: A study Insecurity
- Ian Mortimer, The Time Traveller's Guide to Elizabethan England

Weimar and Nazi Germany (Paper 3)

type	title	description
V	Imperial War Museum – Holocaust exhibition	The London Imperial War Museum’s holocaust exhibit is stunning and free to enter.
YA & F	The Book Thief by Markus Zusak	This novel tells the story of death who happens to be following the story of a young girl living in Nazi Germany. Also available as a film.
N	Alone in Berlin by Han Fallada	Novel set in Nazi Germany. Based on a true story which tells the story of a couple who decide to oppose the Nazis after their son is killed at war.
NF	Anne Frank’s diary	Anne Frank’s diary telling her story of how her family hid for the Nazis during World War Two
D	Causes of WW2 / Nazis	https://youtu.be/Fur-A32ms60
S	Hitler –the rise of evil	Drama series on the early years of Hitler. Available cheaply on amazon or easy to find on youtube.
D	The Nazis a warning from History	BBC documentary series. Very good indeed. Very cheap on Amazon and easy to find on youtube.
NF	Weimar and Nazi Germany by Hinton and Hite	A Level textbook. Very helpful if you want to extend knowledge
NF	The Third Reich by Michael Burleigh	Academic book about the Third Reich
YA	Auslander by Paul Dowsell	Novel about a young boy living in Nazi Germany who doesn’t want to be involved in the Nazi party.
N	Fatherland by Robert Harris,	Adult fiction set in an alternative world where the Nazis won the war. Has grown up themes so please check that your parents/carers are happy for you to read it first.
N or S	The man in the high castle by Philip K Dick	Book or series on Amazon prime set in an alternative world where the Nazis won the war. It has some grown up themes so check if OK to view but it really gives a sense of the terror people lived under whilst the Nazis were in power.
YA	When Hitler stole pink rabbit by Judith Kerr	Novel about a Jewish girl’s story under Nazi rule.
GN	Maus: a survivor’s tale (and sequel) by Art Spiegelman	A graphic Novel which tells the story of the Holocaust.
TB	Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939	Exam board textbook, which will be used in class. We do not have enough funds to lend copies out. Students do not need a copy but may like to have one to consolidate learning covered in lesson and for exam practice tips.
N	Two Brothers, Ben Elton	
F	The Pianist	Following a Jewish family in Poland as the experience persecution at the hands of the Nazi regime, from boycott to the ghettos. Some graphic / harrowing scenes.

V = visit

NF(A) = academic non fiction text

TB = school textbook

S = TV drama series

D = documentary

N = novel for adults

YA = novel for teenagers

F = film

GN = graphic novel

NF = non fiction