

Gillingham School History Department

In A level history you will study two units in Year 12 Russia and Britain.

RUSSIA 1894-1941 SUMMER TASKS

To help you gain an overview of the first part of the course an excellent resource can be found on the BBC Bitesize Higher site using the following link

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj72pv4>

This starts from 1881, which is earlier than our course but we will look at the previous Tsar to provide context to the reign of Nicholas II.

Using these materials to produce revision resources such as mindmaps and flashcard will give you a real headstart. Even reading the sections through and completing the online quizzes (called tests but they are multiple choice knowledge questions) will be very useful.

Useful book resources include;

- OCR A Level History: Russia 1894-1941 [Andrew Holland](#)

- My Revision Notes: OCR AS/A-level History: Russia 1894-1941 [Andrew Holland](#)

For something which combines fact with drama you could watch the Netflix series 'The Last Czars'

Alternatively to get a sense of the oppressive nature of life under the Communist dictatorship which is entirely fictionalised but still gives a real sense of the nature of the system, read the book 'The Gentleman in Moscow' or watch the series based on the book, available on Paramount.

BRITAIN 1900-1951 SUMMER TASKS

Task One

To help you gain an overview of what Britain was like in 1900 and an overview of the course you can watch the first Episode of Andrew Marr's The Making of Modern Britain 1 - A New Dawn (2009). This can be found either on the school portal or on You tube on the following link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5QW5c2YfmZE&list=PL893CLp7Z25eGtT-1TkcktHh-2QbbjUDf&index=1>

Using this documentary create a mind map of some of the key issues in the early part of the 1900's. Focus on some of the following:

- Why Britain 1900-1951 was such a great period of change.
- The class system, key political parties.
- The impact of the Boer War
- Poverty and the impact of Rowntree's report
- Women's position in Society

Task Two

You could also watch the following clip from BBC Bitesize Higher site using the following link, there is some follow up reading if you would like to explore this topic further.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z83ggk7/video>

You could also try to learn some of the terminology which you will come across in the early part of the course.

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| Laissez Faire | |
| Chancellor of the Exchequer | |
| 'New liberalism' | |
| National efficiency | |
| Unions | |
| House of Lords | |

Have a great summer and looking forward to seeing you in an A level History class soon!