



Year 12 History – The era of Reconstruction and the Gilded Age 1865-1890

Learning about this topic is important because:

This topic covers the weaknesses of the federal government in the aftermath of the American Civil War. It considers the politics of the 'Gilded Age' and the era of weak presidents. It also covers American society and economic growth in this period. On top of this, it also covers the relationship between the United States and the rest of the world.

This builds on: Specific contextual understanding of the American Civil War and the differences between the North and the South by considering Reconstruction and American society and economy in the aftermath of the American Civil War.

This leads to:

Populism, Progressivism and imperialism, 1890-1920

We will learn:

- The weaknesses of the federal government
- Reconstruction under Johnson and Grant
- The 'era of weak presidents'
- Social and regional divisions
- Developments in agriculture
- Urbanisation, industrialisation and the rise of corporations
- The continuation of isolationism and the Monroe Doctrine
- Tensions over Canada
- Dominance of laissez-faire
- The end of the frontier.

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Evidence
- Chronology and Knowledge
- Cause and Consequence
- Similarity and Difference
- Change and Continuity
- Significance
- Depth study of History.

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Reconstruction
Laissez Faire
Isolationism
Constitution
Federal, Republic
Impeachment
Freedmen's Bureau
The Redeemers
The Gilded Age
Patronage
Civil Service

You could learn more about this topic by:

Watch:

[Reconstruction and the Gilded Age - A level History](#)

Read:

P Boyer, American History: A Very Short Introduction, OUP, 2012
D Reynolds, America: Empire of Liberty, Penguin, 2010
H Brogan, The Penguin History of the United States of America, Penguin, 2001
C Calhoun (ed.), The Gilded Age, Rowman & Littlefield, 2007





Year 12 History – The era of Reconstruction and the Gilded Age 1865-1890

Financial panic.	
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Your teacher will assess your knowledge & understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and giving you feedback in lots of different ways. The key pieces of work in this topic are:

25 mark essay question

30 mark interpretation questions

Knowledge check quizzes



Year 12 History – Populism, progressivism and imperialism, 1890–1920

Learning about this topic is important because:

This topic covers the political developments in the US during the period 1890-1920, particularly the development and significance of populism and progressivism. It also covers big business and the role this continued to play in both US politics and the economy. This topic will consider the American economy and the extent to which it changed and developed during this period as well as the changes and developments in society. The topic will also consider the place of the US in world affairs and the approach that was taken to foreign policy.

This builds on: The previous topic which considered the weaknesses of the federal government in the aftermath of the American Civil War. It also considered the politics of the 'Gilded Age' and the era of weak presidents. It also covered American society and economic growth in this period. On top of this, it also covered the relationship between the United States and the rest of the world. Thus, students will be able to consider change and continuity between the two topics.

This leads to: Crisis of identity 1920-1945

We will learn:

- Political tensions and divisions: the reaction against Big Business at national and state level
- The ideas and influence of Bryan, Roosevelt and Taft; Populism, Progressivism and Wilson's New Freedom
- Economic change and developments: the rise of US dominance as an economic and industrial power and the consequences of this
- Social developments: mass immigration and urbanisation and their consequences; the position of African-Americans
- Foreign affairs: imperialism; engagement in international affairs; Spain and the Philippines; the Panama Canal; the First World War, neutrality and entry
- The USA by 1920: economic power; social and ethnic divisions; political reaction and renewed isolationism

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Evidence
- Chronology and Knowledge
- Cause and Consequence
- Similarity and Difference
- Change and Continuity
- Significance
- Depth study of History.

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Gold standard
'Ticket'
'New freedom'
Net importer
'Russian Jews'

You could learn more about this topic by:

Watch:

[Learning Academy](#) AQA A-level History 1K on YouTube

Read:

- H Brogan, The Penguin History of the United States of America, Penguin, 2001





Year 12 History – Populism, progressivism and imperialism, 1890–1920

Graft & kickbacks
Jobs for the boys
Imperialism
Protectorate
Platt Amendment

- P Clements, Prosperity, Depression and the New Deal: 1890-1954, Hodder, 2008
- J de Pennington, Modern America: 1865 to the Present, Hodder, 2005
- D Murphy et al, Flagship History - United States 1776-1992, Collins, 2001
- C Rowe, AQA History AS: Unit 1 - USA, 1890-1945, Nelson Thornes, 2008

Your teacher will assess your knowledge & understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and giving you feedback in lots of different ways. The key pieces of work in this topic are:

25 mark essay question
30 mark interpretation questions
Knowledge check quizzes



Year 12 History – The Affluent Society – 1951-64

Learning about this topic is important because:

This topic lays out the content of postwar Britain by building upon students' summer reading on the years 1945-51 and uses this to examine British society, politics, economics and culture under the Conservative governments of 1951-64.

This builds on: Specific contextual understanding of the years immediately prior to Churchill's electoral win in 1951 (1945-51) by developing on themes of postwar re-building, decolonisation, economic problems, the EEC, key elections, the rise of anti-establishment subcultures, the 'birth' of the 'teenager' the 'weekend' and 'leisure time', Britain's new place in the world and key political lines of division (the NHS, nuclear weapons, the welfare state, nationalisation).

This leads to:

The 'new era' under Wilson's Labour government from 1964-70.

We will learn:

- Features of the postwar consensus
- Internal party divisions
- The emerging European Economic community
- The rise of nuclear weapons
- The welfare state
- The significance of Prime Ministers
- Change/continuity within British Society
- The cause/consequence of technological developments
- Change/continuity of British Foreign Policy

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Evidence
- Chronology and Knowledge
- Cause and Consequence
- Similarity and Difference
- Change and Continuity
- Significance
- Thematic study of History.

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

Postwar consensus, rationing, devaluation, nationalisation, privatisation, welfare state, decolonisation, counter-culture, foreign policy, domestic policy, stop-go economics, socialism.

You could learn more about this topic by:

Watch:

[Economic Developments 1951 to 64: A Level History 2S: Modern Britain 1951- 2007 - YouTube](#)
[Conservative Governments 1951-1964 \(A Level History 2S: Modern Britain 1951- 2007\) - YouTube](#)
[Foreign Relations 1951-64- Britain, Europe and the Cold War - YouTube](#)

Read:

FRANK FIELD - Postwar Consensus - The Welfare State
JEREMY BLACK - Postwar Britain Overview

Your teacher will assess your knowledge & understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and giving you feedback in lots of different ways. The key pieces of work in this topic are:

25 mark essay question
30 mark source questions
Knowledge check quizzes





Year 12 History – The Affluent Society – 1951-64



Year 12 History – The Sixties – 1964-70

Learning about this topic is important because: This topic builds upon understanding of Britain in the 1950 and early 1960s to examine one of the 20th centuries most controversial and remembered decades under Wilson's Labour government	
This builds on: Specific understanding of the key themes of the course from 1951-64 of: economy, consensus, foreign policy, election results, political division, social division	
This leads to: The return of Conservative rule and the beginning of the end of the postwar consensus under Conservative Prime Minister Ted Heath (1970-74).	
We will learn: • Internal party divisions • The emerging European Economic community • Trade unionism at its peak • Immigration • The significance of Prime Ministers • Change/continuity within British Society • The cause/consequence of technological developments • Change/continuity of British Foreign Policy and decolonisation	We will develop/practise skills including: • Evidence • Chronology and Knowledge • Cause and Consequence • Similarity and Difference • Change and Continuity • Significance • Thematic study of History.
Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes: Postwar consensus, rationing, devaluation, nationalisation, privatisation, welfare state, decolonisation, counter-culture, foreign policy, domestic policy, stop-go economics	You could learn more about this topic by: Watch: Britain 1964-1970: The Wilson Government: Domestic Policies and the Economy - YouTube Social Developments in the UK 1964- 1970 - YouTube HAROLD WILSON: British Prime Minister; 1964 - 70 and 1974 - 76. - YouTube Read: Enoch Powell - Rivers of Blood speech – SUMMARISED The NHS in the 1960s
Your teacher will assess your knowledge & understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and giving you feedback in lots of different ways. The key pieces of work in this topic are: 25 mark essay question 30 mark source questions Knowledge check quizzes	





Year 12 History – The End of the postwar consensus – 1970-79

Learning about this topic is important because: This topic builds	
This builds on: Specific understanding of the key themes of the course from 1964-70 of: economy, consensus, foreign policy, election results, political division, social division as well as Northern Ireland	
This leads to: The continuation and change associated with the Thatcher government of 1979-90.	
We will learn: • Change/continuity regarding the postwar consensus • Party division, particularly over Europe • Britain's relationship with the European Economic community • Evaluation of Britain's economic performance • Change/continuity within British Society • The rise of Feminism and environmentalism • The escalation of the 'troubles' in Northern Ireland • Change/continuity of British Foreign Policy	We will develop/practise skills including: • Evidence • Chronology and Knowledge • Cause and Consequence • Similarity and Difference • Change and Continuity • Significance • Thematic study of History.
Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes: Postwar consensus, 3-day week, nationalisation, privatisation, welfare state, decolonisation, counter-culture, foreign policy, domestic policy, stop-go economics, U-turn, European Economic Community, trade unionism	You could learn more about this topic by: Watch: EDWARD HEATH Overview 1970-74 - YouTube Britain in the 20th Century: The Collapse of the Postwar Settlement, 1964-1979 - YouTube Listen: Britain in the 1970s History Extra podcast on Acast UK 1964-79 - Domestic problems under the Labour and Conservative Governments / Historical Association (history.org.uk) Margaret Thatcher and her Legacy / Historical Association (history.org.uk)
Your teacher will assess your knowledge & understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and giving you feedback in lots of different ways. The key pieces of work in this topic are: 25 mark essay question 30 mark source questions Knowledge check quizzes	

