

Shoeburyness High School

Year 9 Subject Information

GCSE History



GCSE History

Subject Information:

- The examination board is **AQA**.
- You will cover **four different examination units**:
 - Paper 1: **Germany**; Democracy to Dictatorship, 1890-1945
 - Paper 1: **Conflict and Tension in Asia**, 1950-1975
 - Paper 2: Britain; **Health and the People**, c.1000 to the present day
 - Paper 2: **Elizabethan England**, c.1568-1603
- You will sit **two 2-hour examinations** at the end of Year 11.
- You will use **historical skills** covering: **explanation, source analysis and interpretation analysis and evaluation**.



GCSE History

Is GCSE History right for me?

Are you interested in the past?

Are you good at remembering key dates, names and places?

Do you like a challenge?

Are you willing to work hard?

If you have answered yes to these questions, then GCSE History might be right for you.



GCSE History

Germany; Democracy to Dictatorship, 1890-1945

You will understand the **key events in German history**; e.g. the impact of WWI, the Weimar Republic, the Stresemann era, the rise of the Nazis and the impact of the Nazis on the German people.

What topics have we already studied in History that link to this unit?

The First World War, the Interwar Years, the Second World War and the Holocaust.

Here are some examples of questions you will investigate:

- How did Germany become a **democracy** in 1918?
- What was the impact of the **Treaty of Versailles** on Germany?
- Why was the new **Weimar Republic** in danger in 1923?
- How did **Hitler** become Chancellor in 1933?
- How did the **Nazis** keep control?



GCSE History

Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950-1975

You will explore two wars – **Korean War 1950-53** and the **Vietnam War 1954-1975**. You will understand the causes, events and impacts of both wars.

What topics have we already studied in History that link to this unit?

The Cold War - Korean War and Vietnam War

Here are some examples of questions you will investigate:

- Why was the **tension** in **Asia**?
- Why did the **Korean War** start?
- Why did **Americans** get involved in **Vietnam**?
- How did the **anti-war movement** impact America?
- How did the **Vietnam War** end in 1975?



GCSE History

Britain; Health and the People, c.1000 to the present

You will explore the **development of medicine** from the Medieval era to present day. You will evaluate the **factors that caused these developments**, e.g. war, religion, science and technology etc.

What topics have we already studied in History that link to this unit?

The Black Death and the Great Plague, the Industrial Revolution and the World Wars.

Here are some examples of questions you will investigate:

- How has the understanding of **causes of disease** changed over time?
- What factors led to the **development of surgery**?
- Which individuals made significant **developments in treatments**?
- How did doctors treat their patients before **antibiotics**?
- Why was **the NHS** introduced in 1948?



GCSE History

Elizabethan England, c.1568-1603

You will explore the events of the **Elizabethan era** and understand the government, religious settlement and wars. You will also explore a specific Elizabethan site which looks at a part of the 'Golden Age'.

What topic have we already studied in History that link to this unit?

The Tudors

Here are some examples of questions you will investigate:

- Why was **Elizabeth I** known as the '**Virgin Queen**'?
- How was Elizabeth I able to defeat the Spanish in the **Spanish Armada**?
- How did Elizabeth I's government **control the people** of England?
- Why did Elizabeth I **execute Mary Queen of Scots**?
- Why was the Elizabethan era known as the '**Golden Age**'?



GCSE History

Examinations:

- You will sit **two formal examinations** at the end of **Year 11**.
- **Both examinations are two-hours long** and will involve **two units in each**.
- In each unit you will answer a **number of questions (16 different question)** ranging from a **4-mark question which is a small paragraph of 5 lines**, to a **16-mark essay questions which is at least 2 paragraphs and a conclusion**.
- For each unit, the **last question is an essay question** of 12 or 16-marks.
- There is **no higher or foundation tiers** to the exams.
- There is **no coursework**.



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Career Progression

Possible careers following further History studies include:

- Journalism
- Media
- Teaching
- Archaeology
- Politics
- Public Services
- Social work
- Law



GCSE History

University Progression

Some of our A Level students have recently gone on to study History, Law and English.



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