



Waseley
Sixth

A Level History Bridging Course

AQA A Level History

Developing as a Historian

***Paper 1 –
Breadth Study***

***Paper 2 – Depth
Study***

**The British
Empire c1857-
1967**

**Democracy and
Nazism:
Germany, 1918–
1945**



THE ACCESSION OF THE QUEEN OF INDIA



A Level History

These tasks are designed to give you a taster of what A Level History at Waseley will be like. They will introduce you to the topics that we study and give you a foundation in your knowledge and understanding in preparation for 6th Form. If you have any questions, please email either Mrs Dumycz for help.

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We follow the AQA A Level options 1J and 2O. You can find out more about these here:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042>

These units are chosen to tie into GCSE, where we will have studied a little on the British Empire and in Year 9 on the Holocaust. However, you do not need to have studied History a GCSE to join us in 6th Form.

Developing as a Historian means being able to see beyond facts, figures and dates. It means being able to analyse **cause and consequence**, understand **change and continuity**, discuss **significance** and **analyse** impact. It is about being able to understand **timelines** and timeframes, whilst also appreciating that the events we study are happening to, and for, (mainly) ordinary people. Through this we can develop a **deeper knowledge** and understanding of how our world has come to be, and of how it works the way it does.

The British Empire c1857-1967

This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

- Why did the British Empire grow and contract?
- What influenced imperial policy?
- What part did economic factors play in the development of the British Empire?
- How did the Empire influence British attitudes and culture?
- How did the indigenous peoples respond to British rule?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

The best place to begin is by creating your own map of the British Empire for 3 key dates: 1850; 1914 and 1965. You need to be aware of when different countries became part of and left the British Empire. Use the map below as a guide. You can easily find one online with simple google search.



Your teachers will encourage you to read *heavily*. This includes fiction as well as non-fiction.

Non-fiction:

You can often find these second hand online, or in online libraries. There are copies in school, and the list does include the key text that you will be given in September.

A Holland & A Holland, *Different Interpretations of the British Empire 1850-1950*, Heinemann, 2010

F McDonough, *The British Empire 1815-1914*, Hodder, 1994

M Chamberlain, *The Scramble for Africa*, Longman, 2010

A Jackson, *The British Empire: A Very Short Introduction*, OUP, 2013

J MacKenzie, *The Partition of Africa*, Routledge, 1983

B Porter, *The Lion's Share: A History of British Imperialism 1850-2011*, Routledge, 2012

N White, *Decolonisation: the British Experience Since 1945*, Longman, 1999

Fiction:

Kim. Rudyard Kipling. Penguin. 1981 along with many other Rudyard Kipling novels.

A Passage to India. EM Forster.

Old Filth series by Jane Gardam.

Flashman series. George MacDonald Fraser. These are easy to read, not too serious and can be adult in tone. They need to be read with a pinch of salt but are very good for gaining a good grounding of timeframes.

Podcasts and documentaries:

The BBC *Empire* documentary series by Jeremy Paxman is a MUST. You can find it here:

<https://youtu.be/vu5jPlsGYfo>

The British Empire in Colour

<https://youtu.be/AOBYch2k4yo>

BBC: *A History of Britain* by Simon Schama. Episode 14.

<http://www.infocobuild.com/books-and-films/social-science/HistoryOfBritain-SimonSchama/episode-14.html>

In Our Time. BBC4 Podcasts

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00547kp>

Activities

1. Complete the map task at the top of this section.
2. Complete the introductory learning on Seneca (you will need to set up an account, but it is free)

<https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/4dd48474-7381-4a8b-8d47-f52ec6b25dfd/section/61999b92-48f6-4068-9fbb-a6c2b16e2351/session>

3. Describe the social, political, and economic state of Germany in 1918.
4. Read one of the novels (or another suitable novel set in the British Empire during our time period) and summarise how the Empire, and its people are represented. Email your teacher if you need advice.

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945

This option provides for the study in depth of a period of German history during which a newly developed democratic form of government gave way to a dictatorial Nazi regime. It explores political concepts such as 'right' and 'left', nationalism and liberalism as well as ideological concepts such as racialism, anti-Semitism and Social Darwinism. It also encourages reflection on how governments work and the problems of democratic states as well as consideration of what creates and sustains a dictatorship.

As with Paper 1, it is vital to be aware of the 'map' of this unit. The best place to begin is by creating your own map of Germany for 3 key dates: 1919; 1939 and 1945. You need to be aware of the expansion and collapse of the Third Reich. Use the map below as a guide. You can easily find one online with simple google search.



Your teachers will encourage you to read *heavily*. This includes fiction as well as non-fiction.

Non-fiction: You can often find these second hand online, or in online libraries. There are copies of some in school, and the list does include the key text that you will be given in September.

G Layton, *Access to History: From Kaiser to Fuhrer: Germany 1900-1945*

M Collier, P Pedley, *Heinemann Advanced History: Germany 1919-45*

R Whitfield, *Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918-1945*

A McElligott, *Weimar Germany (Short Oxford History of Germany)*

L Rees, *The Nazis: A Warning from History*

L Smith, *Forgotten Voices of The Holocaust: True Stories of Survival from Men, Women and Children Who Were There*

Fiction:

The Bernie Gunther series by Philip Kerr

Alone in Berlin by Hans Fallada – a book about two people who try to resist the Nazis.

The 20th of July by Hans Hellmut Kirst - shows the Third Reich through the eyes of an ordinary, reluctant soldier.

Winter: A Berlin Family 1899 – 1945 by Len Deighton – a story of a father and his two sons. Read as flashbacks from both working as lawyers in the Nuremberg Trials. One son follows the doctrines of the Nazi Party, the other is exiled to America.

Podcasts and Documentaries:

Auschwitz - The Nazis and The Final Solution, [DVD]

Downfall (1 Disc Edition), [DVD]

Hitler: The Rise of Evil, (2003), [DVD]

Schindler's List - 20th Anniversary Edition, [DVD], [1993]

The Nazis - A Warning From History, [DVD]

The Relief Of Belsen, [DVD]

Babylon Berlin is the largest ever German TV drama. Currently all series are on Netflix and Series 1 is on Sky.

The Last Days of Sophie Scholl a film that uses the testimony of one of the leaders of the students White Rose Movement executed for opposition to Hitler's rule.

Defiance is the story of the Bielski family and their life during WWII (this is available on Netflix)

WWII in Colour a useful guide to the Second World War, in particular episodes 2,4,7,8 and 12 (this is available on Netflix)

The Weimar Republic: Germany's First Democracy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xwl6o2npqOY>

Germany: Memories of a Nation. BBC podcasts

Heil Hitler!: Confessions of A Hitler Youth (HBO Movie)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJ6umV7CVY8&feature=emb_logo

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