

A-Level History Summer Work

Making of Modern Britain Summer Research Task

Task 1: Complete the research into the Prime Ministers of Great Britain from 1951-2007. You must annotate the images on the timeline and for each one identify the following:

1. Their name
2. Political Party
3. Years they were prime minister
4. A detail(s) about their background/upbringing
5. A detail (s) about what happened whilst they were prime minister.

TASK 2: History is about Big Ideas and we explore these through historical concepts. Look at the timeline you have just created in task one and reflect on your research and record some ideas in response to each of these questions. You should aim for 50-100 words for each question:

1. What has changed overtime?
2. Which PM do you think was most significant?
3. Which PM's are most similar?
4. Which PM's are most different?

Russia Background Summer Research Task:

Task 1: Complete the research into the following selection of Russian Tsars from before the course starts. This will help you to understand the character traits of Russian Leaders and the challenges in ruling Russia. For each leader you must identify the following:

1. Their name (did they have a nickname?)
2. Years they ruled
3. Years they were prime minister
4. A detail(s) about their background/upbringing
5. A detail (s) about what happened whilst they were Tsar and the challenges they faced or overcame.

Tsars:

Michael I / Ivan V / Peter I / Peter III / Catherine II / Paul / Nicholas I

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Extension: Complete wider reading and listening from the suggested books, articles and podcasts below:

Podcasts - subscribe from wherever you get your podcasts. Here are some of the relevant episodes.

- **The Rest is History:** 439 – Disco – 70s America / 417-420 – Britain in 1974 / 401 – Windrush The Story of Black Britain / 363-364 – Sixties Fashion / 223 – Sun, Sea & / 186- the New Elizabethan Age / 178-179 – French Presidents / 169-172 – The Falklands / 167-168 – Oil – 1973! / 143-144 – The Trial of Charles I / 120 – The oil weapon / 106-107 – Watergate / 91 – the Beatles / 65 – A Very British Scandal / 50 – Teenagers / 23 – The 90s
- **The Empire Pod:** 82- Crimea: The War on Repeat / 83- The charge of the light brigade / 84 – A tale of two nurses: Seacole and nightingale / 87 – Tolstoy: War and the Russian Empire / 88 – The Russo-Japanese War: Asia Strikes Back / 90 – The Russian Revolution: Overthrowing the Tsar / 91 – Lenin and the rise of the Bolsheviks
- **Since Attlee and Churchill:** The podcast about postwar British politics.
- **History Hit**
- **Real Dictators**
- **In Our Time, BBC Sounds**

Additional: Ken Loach on Post War Britain (2013) - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01r54q3>

Books:

Charles Spencer, *Killers of the King* (2015)

Dominic Sandbrook, *Never Had it so Good* (2010).

Ed. Nick Tiratsoo, *From Blitz to Blair* (1998).

Blair Worden, *The English Civil Wars 1640-1660* (2010).

Orlando Figes, *The Story of Russia* (2023).

Robert Harris, *Act of Oblivion* (2023).

Simon Sebag Montefiore, *The Romanovs* (2016).

Tom Holland, *Rubicon* (2004).