

Unit 1 Part One: Henry VII and Henry VIII, (1485-1547)

In this unit you will explore the study of an extended period and develop secure understanding of the process of change over time. The nature of causes and consequences, of change and continuity and of similarity and differences between 1485-1603 will be access; as well as the links between perspectives, such as political, economic, social or religious as well as appreciating developments relating to the perspectives separately over time. Also the role played by individuals, groups, ideas or ideology will be explored. Part One will focus on Henry VII and Henry VIII reigns – power, foreign policy, religion, economy and social environments will be discovered.

Unit 2 Part One: The Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin, 1917-1929

This unit is about revolution, change and continuity. In 1900 Russia was ruled by the Tsars. By 1917, the Bolsheviks had emerged as the leaders of a new communist Russia that was dominated first of all by Lenin and then Stalin. The course examines the condition of Russia before and after the First World War, finding reasons for revolution. It then considers the failings of the Provisional Government and the struggle of the Bolsheviks to enter power and to create a new nation. In the same time period however, the themes of Russian political life alter very little. Intrigue, brutality, terror and propaganda were used as a means to keep hold of power as much as by the Tsars as the Bolsheviks and their successors. Throughout Part One a special focus will be on learning key source work skills.

Unit 1 Part Two: Mid-Tudor Crisis (Edward VI and Mary I) and Elizabeth I (1547-1603)

Part two will also focus on the progress of change over time but by exploring the Mid-Tudor crisis with Edward VI and Mary I in power, followed by the triumph of Elizabeth I. Again power, foreign policy, religion, economy and social environments will be explored.

This unit (part one and two combined) is worth 40% of the A-level and is examined in a 2 hours and 30 minutes written examination. This is made up of three questions, one question of which focusses on historical interpretations.

Unit 2 Part Two: The Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin, 1917-1929

This unit builds on prior subject knowledge developed from Part One, and is an in-depth look at the rule of Stalin. Students will examine three main areas of Stalin's rule. Firstly, they will concentrate on economy and society, looking at the impact of Stalin's rule on Russia's population. They will move on to look at how Stalin kept political control, before finally examining the Great Patriotic War and Stalin's dictatorship.

Both Part One and Part Two will be examined in a 2 hour and 30 minutes written examination, counting for 40% of their A-level. It will contain a mixture of general essay questions and a question looking at primary sources.