

An Introduction to **A-Level History**

What is involved in A-Level History?

This pack contains a programme of activities and resources to prepare you to start an A-level in history in September. It is aimed to be used now and throughout the remainder of the summer term and over the summer holidays to ensure you are ready to start your course in September. The suggested activities will start to engage with and enjoy history ! It's a fantastic subject to study, and we hope you enjoy your learning.

If you need any clarification or find another amazing resource, do get in touch!

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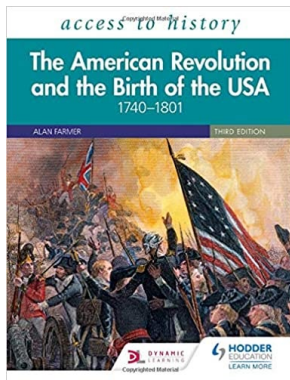
Read History Based Books

These books are all popular books about History and great for extending your knowledge and understanding.

These are numerous books you could read. There are great books available on audible, kindle too.

Activity- You could write a book review on it and hand this to your teacher in September.

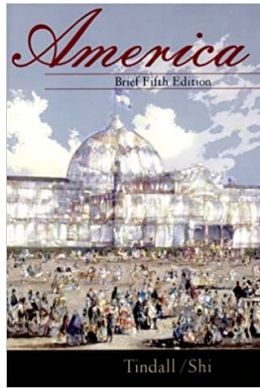
Books for Birth of the USA 1760-1800 Unit



Access to History: The American Revolution and the Birth of the USA 1740–1801, Third Edition – 26 Jun. 2020 by Vivienne Sanders

ISBN-10: 1510459189 **ISBN-13:** 978-1510459182

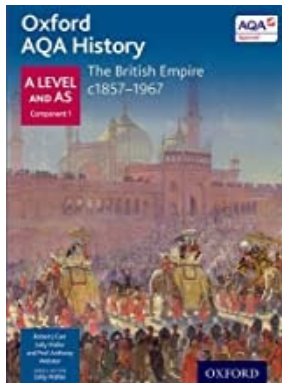
This is the new edition of the course textbook . It will be used in every lesson and is really helpful. It costs about £17.99 on Amazon. You may not want to buy a book at this stage- which is fine. (The old edition of this book is by Alan Farmer and is still really helpful.)



America: A Narrative History By Tindall, George Brown, Shi, David Emory

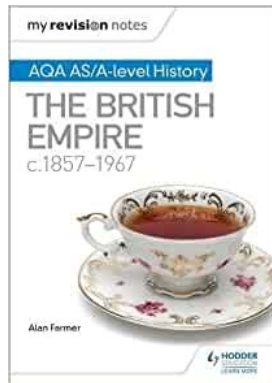
This book is a really helpful factual account of our time period and beyond. It is the standard textbook used in American schools. This book is cheaper if you buy older editions from websites like Abebooks or even Ebay **ISBN-13: 978-0393974423**

For the British Empire Unit



Oxford AQA History for A Level: The British Empire c1857-1967 Paperback – 18 Jan. 2016 **ISBN-13:978-0198354635**

This is the course Textbook for the Empire unit- we will use in in class - (It might be worth buying now as it's cost fluctuates from £12.99 if bought now to £29.00 if bought in January on Amazon!)



**My Revision Notes: AQA AS/A-level History The British Empire, c1857-1967
Paperback – 25 Nov. 2016** by Alan Farmer (Author)

ISBN: 9781471876349. This revision guide is excellent for the Empire unit- well worth the investment



Empire: What Ruling the World Did to the British

by Jeremy Paxman | 7 Jun 2012 **ISBN-10:** 0670919578 **ISBN-13:** 978-0670919574

This is a great companion book and is easy to read- a paperback copy costs about £2.99 on Amazon

Crash Course- Introduction to US History Videos

These videos by John Greene are a great introduction to the USA course

The 7 Years War Episode 5

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vKGU3aEGss>

Taxes & Smuggling - Prelude to Revolution: Episode 6

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eytc9ZaNWyc&t=2s>

Who Won the American Revolution? Episode 7

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3EiSymRrKI4&t=330s>

The HBO John Adams mini-series is also really good and fairly historically accurate (However, you may need to pay £12.99 on Amazon video to buy the whole series)

Less historically accurate but good fun are the following;

-The Sons of Liberty mini series 2015 and The Patriot - This Mel Gibson film is a bit over dramatic but still interesting

We look at Alexander Hamilton in the second year so if you want to listen to the musical soundtrack on Youtube that can also be helpful.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OM7R6xmuz-Y>

Activity- Complete a summary of each Crash Course using the Cornell note making format on explained on the next page.

Effective Note Making

Making effective notes in lessons is an essential skill for A-level History Practice producing notes using the Cornell System by summarising two of the crash course videos you have watched . Complete your notes in the following format and show them to your teacher when you start your course in September.

SUBJECT		TOPIC	
DATE			
LESSON FOCUS			
QUESTIONS AND CUE-WORDS		NOTE TAKING	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Record: During the video use the note-taking column to record the lesson using concise sentences and abbreviations.2. Questions: As soon after class as possible, write questions in the left hand column based on the notes in the note taking column. Writing questions helps to clarify meanings, reveal relationships, establish continuity, and strengthen memory. Also, the writing of questions sets up a perfect stage for exam studying later.3. Recite: Cover the note-taking column with a sheet of paper. Then, looking at the questions or cue-words in the question and cue word column only, say aloud, in your own words, the answers to the questions, facts, or ideas indicated by the cue-words.	

4. Reflect: Reflect on the material by asking yourself questions, for example: "What's the significance of these facts? What principle are they based on? How can I apply them? How do they fit in with what I already know? What's beyond them?"

5. Review: Spend at least ten minutes every week reviewing all your previous notes. If you do, you'll retain a great deal for current use, as well as, for the exam.

SUMMARY

After class, use this space at the bottom of each page to summarize the notes on that page.

Topics to Research

In the Spring term- we look at the British Empire unit

We look at Britain gaining an Empire 1857-1914 in year 1 and in year 2 how Britain Decolonised 1945-1967. The Crash Course Introduction to 19th Imperialism video gives some good background

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

Jeremy Paxman's Empire series on Youtube is quite a good introduction to first year content - He also has a great book to accompany the series.

Episode 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfTSUARuwTg&t=1930s>

Episode 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJg8MX5QStc&t=957s>

Episode 3 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRV90sg_joQ&t=2195s

Episode 4 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCzQ5DzoQDA>

Episode 5 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5tM_X3Grhk&t=2808s

Extra Challenge

For understanding the sheer size and extent of Empire is important look at the attached timeline and find out one fact about each event up to 1914 that would be great.

British Empire time line

- 1834: Slavery abolished throughout entire Br Empire.
- 1842: Britain wins 'Opium War' against China
- 1857: Indian Mutiny begins
- 1866: Livingston has 3rd expedition to Afr to discover source of Nile (until 1873).
- 1867: Diamonds are discovered in South Africa.
- 1869: Suez Canal opened.
- 1871: Stanley finds Livingstone after he is lost in Africa.
- 1873: Onset of Great Depression
- 1875: The Khedive of Egypt's stake in the Suez Canal was purchased by the Prime minister Disraeli.
- 1876: Title 'Empress of India' given to Queen Vic..
- 1879: Zulu war which results in Br victory (1880). '
- 1880:.. The first Boer War begins (until 1881).
- 1881:Mahdi uprising in Sudan (until 1898).
- 1882: Br occupation of Egypt starts-The 'veiled protectorate'.
- 1884: Berlin Conference in November (until 1885).

- 1885: General Gordon dies at Khartoum.
- 1886: General election on Irish Home Rule leads to Gladstone being defeated. Gold is discovered in the Transvaal (South Africa).
- 1889: Br South Africa Company is chartered. By Ceceil Rodes -Rhodesia is named after him.
- 1890: Cecil Rhodes becomes PM of Cape Colony.
- 1895: Joseph Chamberlain is appointed Colonial Secretary. Cecil Rhodes resigns from being Cape Colony PM due to failure of 'Jameson Raid'.
- 1896: Advances in the Sudan led by Kitchener.
- 1897: Lord Milner is appointed the High Commissioner of SA. Queen Victoria's Diamond jubilee.
- 1898: Battle of Omdurman. Kitchener defeats the Sudanese . The Fashoda incident between Br and Fr ends, Fr backs down. Br in full control of Sudan (formal annexation).
- 1899: 2nd Anglo-Boer war begins in October (until 1902). In December there is a 'black week' of Br deaths in said war.
- 1900: In February Lord's Kitchener and Roberts command Br army in Boer War. There is the Boxer Rebellion in China. In October, the Conservatives win the 'khaki election'.
- 1901: Awful Br treatment of Boer prisoners of war leads to international outrage. Queen Victoria dies. The Commonwealth of Australia is formed.
- 1902: Br win the Boer War. The Union of SA created. Anglo-Japanese Alliance is signed.
- 1903: Joseph Chamberlain resigns as Colonial Secretary to form the Tariff Reform League.
- 1904: The Anglo-French Entente is signed.
- 1905: Partition of Bengal leads to Indian outrage.
- 1906: In January the Liberals win a huge victory in general election. Self-gov restored to Transvaal and Orange River Colony.
- 1907: The Anglo-Russia convention is signed.. Gandhi begins first non-violent resistance campaign in South Africa. INC splits.
- 1909: Morley-Minto reforms implemented in India. Indian Councils Act.
- 1910: SA given self-governing dominion status.
- 1911: Delhi Durbar shows transfer of Raj capital. Imperial Conference in London.
- 1912: 3rd Irish Home Rule Bill, Ulster Covenant signed to make sure Ulster stays in Br.
- 1913: Crisis in Ireland, Ulster Volunteers forms.
- 1914: WW1 begins in August.