



Year 11 → Year 12

History A Level Transition

Work

## Year 11 → Year 12 A Level History Transition Work

**FIRST THINGS FIRST:** Well done for the completion of your History GCSE. The next stage of your education in History will start in September and in preparation we would like you to carry out the following work in advance. Failure to complete this work will at least call into question your commitment to the course, and in the worst case scenario will result in your expulsion from the course.

We have assumed that your standards of literacy are already up to scratch owing to the fact that you are already here. However there will be an assessment in September soon after the course starts that will test your essay writing skills.

The expectation is that this work is typed and presented in a sensible format. You also need to include a bibliography of any books/websites used at the end of the work.

**REMEMBER: IF YOU HAVE ON THIS COURSE YOU HAVE  
EARNED YOUR WAY INTO IT ON MERIT. AS SUCH YOU ARE  
NOW A MEMBER OF A VERY SELECT GROUP OF STUDENTS.  
AS A CONSEQUENCE, SOMEONE HAS HAD TO BE  
DISAPPOINTED. THIS IS THE FIRST PIECE OF WORK THAT WE  
EXPECT FROM YOU. NOT DOING IT WILL NOT REFLECT AT  
ALL WELL ON YOU AND WILL NOT BODE WELL FOR THE  
COURSE ITSELF. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.**

- 1) Find and file a map of the United States of America. Ensure that it shows the divide between northern and southern states.
- 2) What are the founding principles of the American Constitution?
  - a. BONUS: What are the strengths and weaknesses of it?
- 3) Research and create a diagram that explains the organisation of the Federal government of the USA. Add details of the responsibilities of each branch of the Executive.
- 4) Research one key event in American history before 1945: The American Civil War OR the Westward Expansion OR the American War of Independence. Following your research, create a fact sheets with the following key information: What? When? Why? Consequences?
- 5) Research the main American political parties. What were their main viewpoints?
- 6) Create a timeline outlining the main events of the Cold War.
- 7) Use the following website to create a timeline of American presidential elections from 1945 onwards: [www.270towin.com](http://www.270towin.com). Choose two and detail what the main issues were and why you think the outcome was particularly interesting.
- 8) Research and ensure that you understand the different between social, economic, political, religious and international history. Create a reference sheet for future use.
- 9) Research and ensure that you understand the differences between Capitalism and Communism. Create a reference sheet for future use.
- 10) Complete the glossary of key terms on the next page.

## Glossary:

<b>Constitution</b>	
<b>Bill of Rights</b>	
<b>Executive</b>	
<b>Congress</b>	
<b>Supreme Court</b>	
<b>House of Representatives</b>	
<b>Senate</b>	
<b>Impeach</b>	
<b>Intransigence</b>	
<b>Convention</b>	
<b>Great Migration</b>	
<b>Executive Order</b>	
<b>Social mobility</b>	
<b>'Iron Curtain'</b>	
<b>USSR/ Soviet Union</b>	
<b>Containment</b>	
<b>Isolationist</b>	
<b>Brinkmanship</b>	
<b>Inflation</b>	
<b>Baby Boom</b>	
<b>States' rights</b>	

<b>State of the Union Address</b>	
<b>Lynching</b>	
<b>HUAC</b>	
<b>McCarthyism</b>	
<b>Appeasement</b>	
<b>De jure/ De facto segregation</b>	
<b>Ghettoisation</b>	