

Modern History A Level Bridging the Gap Task

As part of your preparation for your A level studies in History, you will need to complete a note-taking exercise over summer. As well as giving you crucial background knowledge for Units 1 and 2, it will give you an insight into the demands of History at advanced level.

Please be aware that you will be given an exam style question in both units in the second week back. These will be done under exam conditions and assessed against the A level mark schemes. You will need to revise and learn the notes that you make. Your notes will also be looked at for detail, selection and understanding.

The topics are as follows:

Unit 1: 'Land of the Tsars' Russia in 1855

Unit 2: 'A New Jerusalem?' Britain 1945-51

Do your best! We look forward to seeing you in September.

Mr Doran & Mr Kelly

Unit 1H Russia Notes guidance sheet

Bridging the Gap: A Level Modern World History

Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855-1963

Section (A):

Use the selected pages to help you create notes on the background to Russia.

- Remember to read a section in full before you start the activity
- Remember to label sections/lists etc. clearly. Using colour will help.
- Remember notes should be short – don't copy everything out, pick the important points out. But not so short they make little sense!

Section	Activity
The lands of Russia (p.9)	Create a spider diagram that shows how diverse Russia was in terms of terrain, climate etc. Include specific examples.
The peoples of Russia (p.10-11)	Read the text and create a list of problems that would face ruling the peoples of Russia with supporting examples.
The making of modern Russia (p.12)	Make a timeline of key events in Russian history.
How was Russia ruled? (p.13-14)	1) Create a table on the functions, membership etc. of the various aspects of the Russian system of government. 2) Create a list of problems the government faced
Religion (p.15-16)	1) Why was the Orthodox Church so strong in Russia? 2) Describe the mysticism of Old Believers 3) Why as the Orthodox Church a support for the Tsar? 4) How were Jews treated in Russia?
Russian Society (p.16-17)	1) Draw a large triangle on one side of A4. 2) Divide it into three sections horizontally (leaving the most room for the bottom section)

	<p>3) Make notes in each section on the life and problems of the Upper Classes/Middle Classes/Serfs</p> <p>4) Using the last paragraph in the section list ways the Tsar controlled the population</p>
The royal family (p.18-19)	In no more than 50 words summarise the life of the royal family.
The Russian economy (p.19-20)	<p>1) Using the first paragraph – give reasons why attempts to modernise Russia had met with little success</p> <p>2) Using the second paragraph – How did Russia compare to other European countries? List reasons why Russia struggled to industrialise.</p> <p>3) Using the third paragraph – list reasons why communication and transport was so bad</p> <p>4) Using the fourth paragraph – what had allowed industrialisation to happen in Russia?</p>
Conclusion (p.21)	Use a note-taking technique of your choice, summarise the situation in 1855 on the death of Nicholas I.

Section B:

Use your notes to make a large summary table as outline below. You will need to draw upon all aspects to complete the sections.

Aspect	Strengths	Problems
Political		
Economic		
Social		

And finally.....

You will need to bring your Bridging the Gap notes to the first lesson in September.

In the first two weeks you will be given an essay question based on this work.

You will complete the essay in timed conditions in class.

Further instructions and advice will be given in the first lesson. We want you to take this seriously but don't panic about. If you have completed this work thoroughly you will be successful.

Unit 2S Britain Notes guidance sheet

Attlee's New Jerusalem: Britain 1945-51

Introduction:

Clement Attlee was Prime Minister of Britain between 1945 and 1951 at a time when Britain was reeling from the impact of fighting WW2. The economy was in ruins and badly dependent upon US loans. There could be no immediate end to rationing. Homelessness was rife as 25% of housing had been destroyed in the war and many still lived in slum conditions. In the terrible winter of 1947, things got so bad that plans were drawn up for dealing with mass starvation. And yet, Attlee had come to power promising to build a new Britain; a 'New Jerusalem' where the old, sick and vulnerable would be looked after; a more fair and equal society than that which had gone before; a Britain which would never again return to the hunger, poverty and unemployment of the 1930s. In these notes, you are going to explore how successful Attlee's government was in living up to its promises and the legacy it left for future generations.

Notes: Use the following extracts (found as a scanned document)

- 'Successes and failures in achieving economic recovery' pp. 127-130
- 'The New Jerusalem': the achievements of the Attlee government and the birth of the welfare state pp. 131-143
- 'The Legacy of the Attlee governments 1945-51' pp.29-30 (At the end of the scanned documents)

TASKS

1. Make notes on the successes and limitations of Attlee's government in the following areas:
 - Economy
 - Nationalisation
 - Welfare Reforms
 - NHS
2. Create a spider diagram to sum up any reasons you think might explain Labour's defeat in 1951.
3. Summarise the legacy of Attlee's Government

Key Words:

If you are unsure of the meaning of any of the following key words, look them up before you start:

Welfare State:

Nationalisation:

Socialism:

Legacy: