

Early 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: 'Hispanic Kingdoms' Spain in 1469

Unit 2: 'The War of the Roses' Britain in 1450

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

Ms Ferrier & Mrs Smith

Unit 1B Spain Notes guidance sheet

Woodward, *G Spain in the Reigns of Isabella and Ferdinand 1474-1516* (Hodder & Stoughton 1997)

The purpose of this exercise is to outline the unity of the Iberian Peninsula (Spain) in 1469.

Read the extract first, then use the subheadings and questions to make notes on the 2 Kingdoms. As you do this think about the similarities and differences of the Kingdoms that made up Spain.

What was the Iberian Peninsula?

-Which Kingdoms made up the peninsula?

-For each state Size

 Ruler

 Regions

 Any other factors you think are important.

What do many Historians suggest it changed during the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella?

Castile and Aragon

The Crown and its Administration:

-Who ruled the Kingdom?

The Cortes

-What was it?

-What could it do / not do?

-How had it changed over time?

The Royal Court and Political Control.

-What powers did the King have?

-How did the court operate?

- How were monarchs able to keep control of their Kingdoms?
- How was law and order maintained?
- How did the nobility help maintain control?

The Economy

- What impact did geography and agriculture have on the economy?
- What were the main areas of trade?

Society

- What were the different layers of society?
- What role did the nobility play?
- What was life like for the peasants?

Religion

- Why did some feel the church needed reform?
- What were the problems within Christianity?
- How were people affected by these problems?
- How were other religions treated?

Foreign Relations

- Which countries were allies/rivals? How did this change over time?

Key words:

As you read through the text find the meanings of the following words - or look them up!

Alcabala	
Anachronistic	
Conversos	
Convivencia	
Correedor	
Cortes	
Diputacion	
Fueros	
Hemandades	
Hidalguie	

Limpeza de sangne	
Mudejars	
Partidas	
Senorios	
Sepratism	

When I look at your notes I will be looking at the relevance, detail and presentation.

You will need to learn the information in your notes to write an essay under exam conditions in week 2 of the course.

Unit 2B Britain Notes guidance sheet

A level - 2B: Wars of the Roses, 1450-99

Bridging the Gap Work

This unit provide the study in depth of a period in which the English monarchy suffered instability and the country was subjected to a range of political, economic and social pressures. It develops concepts such as authority, hierarchy, faction and legitimacy. It also encourages you as historians to reflect on the sources of power within a state, causes of political breakdown and the impact of dynastic instability on the 'common people'.

Section A - Note taking

1. Read *Turvey, The Wars of the Roses and Henry VII: Britain 1450-1509*, p.1-13. Make notes under the following sub-headings. Your notes will be analysed for detail, selection, presentation and understanding.

- **The Kingdom of England**
- **Monarchs of England**
- **Breakdown in Royal Authority**
- **Government of England**
- **Law and Order**
- **Economy**
- **Society and Social Order** (in addition create a diagram to illustrate social order in England)
- **Foreign Policy**

2. What does the following key terminology mean?

- Divine Right
- Personal monarchy
- Kings Council
- Royal Court
- Court of Exchequer
- Court of Chancery
- Royal Proclamations
- 'Great Chain of Being'
- Aristocracy
- Gentry
- JPs
- Marcher counties
- The Pale
- Regular clergy
- Secular clergy

Section B - Essay

Henry VII dealt effectively with challenges to his royal authority in the years 1489 to 1499?
Assess the validity to this view (25 marks)

Task

You are going to write a response for this question in exam conditions the second week back in September.

Your task is to prepare notes based on this question. You will then revise from these notes and write the response up in test conditions (without notes).

To help with this question use the reading material from ***Cathy Lee, Britain 1483-1529***, p. 46-75.