

HISTORY A (J410)

(EXPLAINING THE MODERN WORLD)

War and British Society c.790-c.2010 Scheme of Work

Recommended guided learning hours: 30

Note to teachers

This British thematic study focuses on the relationship between war and society over a long period of British history, c.790 to c.2010. This includes a broad sweep of time which covers the impact of different types of warfare (including defence from invasion, conquest and civil war). Covering 1000 years, the thematic study is a different type of historical practice from the depth studies and even the period study.

Key topic	Teaching and learning hours	Indicative content	Suggested content	What kinds of questions should students consider? <i>These questions are not exam-style questions, but a good plenary activity might be to ask students in pairs to talk uninterrupted for 30 seconds answering one of these questions to check understanding in the lesson</i>	Resource
c.790-1500	2	Viking raids on Anglo-Saxon England 790-1066; impact of the raids; responses to the raids.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key features of the Viking raids: location, reasons for, purpose of Impact of the raids: on local people, on government and kingship Responses to the raids: locally and nationally 	<p>How and why did the Vikings raid England? Did the raids have any impact? Were the raids (and their impact and response to them) similar or different?</p>	Walsh, B., Wheeley, T., Bryant, D., Bircher, R., <i>OCR GCSE History Explaining the Modern World: War & Society</i> (London 2017)



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	2	The Norman Conquest: English resistance; the establishment of Norman control under William I; the establishment of the Feudal system; the extent of impact of the changes introduced by the Normans on different levels of society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of war fought in 1066 and after e.g. Harrying of the North Nature of the English resistance and reasons for failure How William established control Key features of the feudal system and its impact on people such as ordinary peasants, towns, Anglo-Saxon thegns and earls 	<p>Why did the Normans succeed where the Vikings failed?</p> <p>How much had England changed by 1100?</p> <p>How big a change was the Feudal System?</p>	
	3	Feudal society c. 1100-1215: feudal relationship between monarchs and barons; breakdowns in the relationship under Stephen 1135-1154 and John 1214-1216.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key features of the relationship between monarchs and barons e.g. examples of when it worked well Reasons for breakdown of the relationship under Stephen Outcomes on feudal society of Stephen's reign Reasons for the breakdown of the relationship under John Outcomes on feudal society of John's reign 	<p>How well did the Feudal system work?</p> <p>Why did some kings get on well but not others?</p> <p>What was the impact of baronial rebellion on England?</p>	



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	3	Significance of war in medieval society c.1290-c.1450: changing nature of war and its effects; development and adaptation of feudal service; financial cost of war; impact on populations where armies fought or were stationed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of wars The role of war in society: training, education, tactics, strategy Changing nature of warfare: developments in technology Feudal service and how it changed Financial cost of war: examples, how it was funded, and the effects on kings and parliaments Impacts on populations: resources, population growth, side effects 	<p>How did a medieval king prepare for war?</p> <p>Did the significance of war change between c.1290-c.1450?</p> <p>Were wars good value for money?</p> <p>Was the impact of wars on the local people always negative?</p>	
c.1500-1750	2	Elizabeth I's wars with Spain in Europe and the new world, their impact on the prestige and power of the monarch and relations with Parliament; the actions of English privateers, including their impact on the security, economy and the people of England.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth's aims and actions in Europe – alliances, wars, raids Raids and privateers in the New World – how they operated, where, and what they brought back Impact of Elizabethan wars on the people – Parliamentary reaction, economic improvement, Spanish Armada 	<p>Why did Elizabeth go to war with Spain?</p> <p>Were privateers useful?</p> <p>Was the impact of Elizabethan wars on England different to previous wars' impact?</p>	



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	2	Warfare on the English-Scottish borders and its impact on border society c.1500-c.1600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When, where and how wars were fought The effects of these wars on English and Scottish attitudes and governments Local impacts on people 	<p>What was the point of English-Scottish warfare? Were the results beneficial for anybody?</p>	
	4	The Civil Wars of 1642-1651 in England, Scotland and Ireland: the nature of these wars; their impact on the people of England, Scotland and Ireland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How the wars were fought: armies, technology, battles, equipment Reasons for Parliament's victory Local impacts of battles and wars in England, Scotland and Ireland e.g. Drogheda National impact on parliament and government, and the people e.g. Diggers, Levellers 	<p>How similar were the civil wars to previous wars? Were these the first wars to have a big impact on ordinary people? Was it really 'the world turned upside down'?</p>	
c.1750-2010	1	Imperial wars in the 18 th and early 19 th centuries: gains made in the Seven Years War (1756-1763) and their effects on Britain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How the Seven Years' War, the American Revolutionary War and wars in India were fought Increased role of the navy in the later 18th century Benefits and drawbacks for Britain – economy, growth and reduction in size of empire Impacts on governments e.g. changing attitudes to empire and warfare 	<p>Was the navy now more important than the army by 1800? Were the gains in the Seven Years War wiped out by the loss of America? Did wars in Canada, America and India have the same features and outcomes?</p>	



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	1	Wars against Revolutionary / Napoleonic France and subsequent effects on British society and politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasons for war against France 1792-1815 Reasons for success and failure in battle e.g. Trafalgar, Waterloo Effects on society e.g. continental blockade, growth of army and navy Effects on government and politics e.g. success of Pitt, failure of Fox, Tory dominance, increased use of the army 	<p>Did the reasons for, key features of, and impact of wars against France change under Napoleon?</p> <p>Why was Britain able to win?</p> <p>Did these wars change Britain much more than any other wars?</p>	
	2	Imperial conflicts in the second half of the 19 th century: effects of the Crimean War; Boer Wars 1880-1881 and 1899-1902	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How were these wars fought – problems and difficulties e.g. strategy, communications, distance, local difficulties and challenges Effects of imperial conflicts on governments e.g. changing attitudes to empire and the armed forces Effects on people e.g. increased media awareness and reporting, increased awareness of the problem of poverty 	<p>How did the role of the media change wars in the later 19th century?</p> <p>Were the Boer Wars the last wars of their type or the first modern wars?</p> <p>Why did the British armed forces struggle to win these wars?</p>	



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	5	The First and Second World Wars: the beginnings of 'total war', including the impact on people's lives, increased state power and the changing relationship between the state and the people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of war: trenches, battles, the sea, the air, different fronts in the First World War • Types of war: desert, jungle, European, air and sea wars in the Second World War • Everyday impact on people of both world war e.g. rationing, bombing, devastation, loss of life, loss of freedoms, conscription, conscientious objectors • Impact on governments e.g. the increased role of the state in the two world wars; effects of the wars on government policy post-1918 and post-1945 • 'Never again' – the changed relationship between state and people 	<p>What was the idea of 'total war'?</p> <p>How accurate are popular conceptions of the First and Second World Wars?</p> <p>Were the social effects of the wars more important than their political or military effects?</p>	



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	3	Post-1945 conflicts – impacts and popular responses: Cold War and Britain in the 1950s and 1960s; IRA campaigns 1969-1994; the Iraq War 2003; terrorist threats and counter measures post-2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and why people protested, supported or reacted to the Cold War and the Iraq War • Popular attitudes to the Cold War, the IRA, Iraq and terror • Changing everyday life e.g. bombs, civil defence, changes to the law post 2001 • Impact of these conflicts on the role of government and government control of the people 	<p>What were the similarities and differences in popular responses to post-1945 conflicts?</p> <p>Has government control of the people changed more because of post-1945 conflicts than because of the World Wars?</p> <p>What similarities and differences can be drawn between 19th, 20th and 21st century conflicts and their effects on the government and people?</p>	





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