



KS4 History Reading List

Below is a list of reading, viewing and visit opportunities which will extend your learning out of the classroom. You should aim to do at some of the things for each of the units. It doesn't matter which ones, you can pick which you would prefer.

Some of the visits are free, many of the books are in the school library or can be accessed for free from the library service either in physical or eBooks. Many of the videos are available on YouTube or streaming services or we have them several of them in department. If you want to watch our copies let us know and we can arrange to show them over some lunch times.

It is worth keeping an eye on BBC iPlayer under the history section. They often have things not listed below which would be good but they tend to not be on there for very long and change frequently.

Another good resource is BBC History magazine. This can be accessed cheaply when they have offers if you subscribe (which you can cancel once you've had the cheaper issues and resign up again) or can be accessed for free via the library service (either digitally or physically).

I have left two slots on each unit for you to add additional things you have found to watch / read / visit. Please tell us about those things so we can add them to the list for next year.

V = visit

NF(A) = academic non-fiction text

TB = school textbook

S = TV drama series

D = documentary

N = novel for adults

YA = novel for teenagers

F = film

GN = graphic novel

NF = non-fiction



Year Group	Topic(s)	Type	Title and author	Description
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	V	Leeds medical museum	The Thackeray Medical Museum in Leeds is awesome. Downstairs they have a replica 19 th century street and displays on the development of medicine. Upstairs they have exhibitions on the development of surgery. It's a bit gory and really fascinating.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	V	Science Museum – medicine exhibition	The Science Museum in London has history of medicine exhibition which is rather good and free to enter.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	V	St Thomas's old operating theatre London	This museum is an old operating theatre which is fascinating. It's not pricey and national trust members can get in half price.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	TB	Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History Medicine Through Time, C1250-Present: Student Book by Sally Thorne and Hilary Stark	Exam board textbook, which will be used in class. We do not have enough funds to lend copies out. Students do not need a copy but may like to have one to consolidate learning covered in lesson and for exam practice tips.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	D	Pain , Pus and Poison (Michael Moseley)	Open University series. You can get it on DVD but it is pricey so I would suggest finding it on YouTube instead. (3 episodes).
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	D	Blood and guts a history of surgery (Michael Moseley)	BBC series. Don't think it is available on DVD. I've found it in the past on YouTube or daily motion.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	D	Filthy Cities Medieval London (Dan Snow)	BBC series. Don't think it is available on DVD. I've found it in the past on YouTube.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	S	7 industrial wonders of the world – sewer king (Bazalgette episode)	Available on DVD but easily found on YouTube.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	NF (A)	The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A medical history of humanity by Roy Porter	Academic book about the history of medicine
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	D	The NHS a difficult beginning	BBC documentary. Don't think it is available on DVD. I've found it in the past on YouTube.



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Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	YA	Saw bones by Catherine Johnson	Novel about an apprentice to a Victorian surgeon.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section B: Medicine through Time	N	The wages of sin by Katie Welsh	This is very gruesome and deals with murders of prostitutes in Victorian Edinburgh so check that it is OK to read from an adult at home. The main character is a female trainee doctor.

Year Group	Topic(s)	Type	Title and author	Description
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	V	War Graves trip	There are many sites in the Ypres and Somme area which are worth a look at. If you've been on the year 8 trip you will have seen them. If your family decides to do this as a trip as part of your holiday please email Mr Stek for ideas of places worth visiting
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	V	Imperial War Museum London – WW1 exhibition	This is free to enter and well worth a look if you are in London
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	NF (A)	World War I: An Illustrated History by L Clark	Covers the First War World in good detail with illustrations
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	NF (A)	The First World War by GJ Groot	Gives lots of details about World War One
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	F and N	All Quiet on the Western Front	Film and Novel which tells the war from the German side.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment	F and N	Regeneration	Novel about World war One looking at the experience of a famous war poet.



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	(WW1 trenches and surgery)			
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	D	The Great War (BBC)	Comprehensive BBC series about World War One
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	D	The Somme: from Defeat to Victory	Documentary about the Somme from the BBC available on DVD or found on youtube.
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	D	Blood and guts a history of surgery (Michael Moseley)	BBC series. Don't think it is available on DVD. I've found it in the past on youtube or daily motion
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	YA	Dawn Dusk Both by Eve Edwards	Novels focusing on nurses in World war One
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	YA	Poppy and Poppy in the Field by Mary Hooper	Novels focusing on nurses in World war One
Year 10	Paper 1 – Section A: Historic Environment (WW1 trenches and surgery)	YA	Things a Bright Girl can do by Sally Nichols	Mostly focuses on Suffragettes but also stuff on impact of World War One



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Year Group	Topic(s)	Type	Title and author	Description
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	TB	Edexcel GCSE History (91) Early Elizabethan England, 1558–1588	Textbook written for this option in the new specification
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	F	Elizabeth	The early years of the reign of Elizabeth I of England and her difficult task of learning what is necessary to be a monarch.
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	F	Elizabeth: the Golden Age	A mature Queen Elizabeth endures multiple crises late in her reign including court intrigues, an assassination plot, the Spanish Armada, and romantic disappointments.
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	NF (A)	Elizabeth the Queen by Alison Weir's	Weir biography of Elizabeth is a highly informed detailed piece.
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	NF (A)	Elizabeth I by Anne Somerset	This is a comprehensive and well-sourced coverage of the political sphere.
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	TB	Access to History: Elizabeth I Meeting the Challenge: England 1541-1603 by John Warren	A detailed textbook written for A Level can be used by GCSE students to inform their knowledge.
Year 10	Paper 2B4: Early Elizabethan England	NF (A)	'Elizabeth, Apprentice' by David Starkey	A woman in a man's world, confident of her destiny to reign, intensely intelligent, passionate, Elizabeth was to become England's most successful ruler.



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Year Group	Topic(s)	Type	Title and author	Description
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	TB	Edexcel GCSE History (91) The American West, c1835–c1895	Textbook written for this option in the new specification
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	D	The West (PBS 1996)	In-depth programme about life in the American West and the resulting conflicts between the Plains Indians, settlers and the US Government.
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	NF and F	Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee by Dee Brown	Beginning with the Long Walk of the Navajos in 1860 and ending 30 years later with the massacre of Sioux men, women, and children at Wounded Knee in South Dakota, it tells how the American Indians lost their land and lives to a dynamically expanding white society.
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	NF	The American West by Dee Brown	As the railroads opened up the American West to settlers in the last half of the 19th Century, the Plains Indians made their final stand and cattle ranches spread from Texas to Montana.
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	N	These is my Words by Nancy Turner	Sarah begins her diary in the summer of 1881, when her family sets out on the wagon trail from Arizona Territory to Texas. As they travel through a land of rattlesnakes and Indians, hastily dug graves and unbearable loneliness, Sarah turns out to be her family's greatest support.
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	D	The American West by Tony Robinson	Engaging documentary series investigating many aspects of the American West course. Available on YouTube
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	D	Into The West	Steven Spielberg Docu-drama about White settlement of the American West. Available on YouTube
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	N and F	The Revenant	Helpful to develop understanding of Mountain Men. This is a 15 certificate, so parent or carer consent required.
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	D	How the West was Won by Ray Mears	Documentary series investigating the White settlement of the West, and the impact on Plains Indians life.



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Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	F	Dances with Wolves	Film looking at elements of Plains Indians life and the complex relationship between Plains Indians and White settlers.
Year 11	Paper 2P3: The American West	D	How Wild was the Wild West (BBC)	BBC documentary series



Year Group	Topic(s)	Type	Title and author	Description
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	V	Imperial War Museum – Holocaust exhibition	The London Imperial War Museum’s Holocaust exhibit is stunning and free to enter.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	YA and F	The Book Thief by Markus Zusak	This novel tells the story of death who happens to be following the story of a young girl living in Nazi Germany. Also available as a film.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	N	Alone in Berlin by Han Fallada	Novel set in Nazi Germany. Based on a true story which tells the story of a couple who decide to oppose the Nazis after their son is killed at war.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	NF	Anne Frank’s diary	Anne Frank’s diary telling her story of how her family hid for the Nazis during World War Two.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	D	Causes of WW2 / Nazis	https://youtu.be/Fur-A32ms60
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	S	Hitler –the rise of evil	Drama series on the early years of Hitler. Available cheaply on amazon or easy to find on YouTube.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	D	The Nazis a warning from History	BBC documentary series. Very good indeed. Very cheap on Amazon and easy to find on YouTube.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	YA	Boy in the striped Pajamas by John Boyne	Novel or film about a young German boy who makes friends with a young Jewish boy.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	NF	Weimar and Nazi Germany by Hinton and Hite	A Level textbook. Very helpful if you want to extend knowledge
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	NF	The Third Reich by Michael Burleigh	Academic book about the Third Reich.



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Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	YA	Auslander by Paul Dowsell	Novel about a young boy living in Nazi Germany who doesn't want to be involved in the Nazi Party.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	N	Fatherland by Robert Harris,	Adult fiction set in an alternative world where the Nazis won the war. Has grown up themes so please check that your parent is happy for you to read it first.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	N or S	The man in the high castle by Philip K Dick	Book or series on Amazon Prime set in alternative world where the Nazis won the war. It has some grown up themes so check if OK to view but it really gives a sense of the terror people lived under whilst the Nazis were in power.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	YA	When Hitler stole pink rabbit by Judith Kerr	Novel about a Jewish girl's story under Nazi rule.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	GN	Maus: a survivor's tale (and sequel) by Art Spiegelman	A graphic Novel which tells the story of the Holocaust.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	TB	Edexcel GCSE (9-1) History Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939	Exam board textbook, which will be used in class. We do not have enough funds to lend copies out. Students do not need a copy but may like to have one to consolidate learning covered in lesson and for exam practice tips.
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	N	Two Brothers, Ben Elton	
Year 11	Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany	F	The Pianist	Following a Jewish family in Poland as the experience persecution at the hands of the Nazi regime, from boycott to the ghettos. Some graphic / harrowing scenes.