

How to revise in History

A common misconception with history revision is that knowing everything will be enough, unfortunately factual recall is only the start of what is needed in a History GCSE.

It is massively important that we are now focussing revision on what might come up in the summer exams, so please make sure that you consult the **RAG** sheets to ensure you are not revising out of topic.

We should stick to short but quality sessions of revision, half an hour can often be enough to revise and write a good answer. Hours spent ploughing through textbooks will not improve our understanding of how to analyse, however for our revision to be quality we must have **no outside distractions**.

Revision must always have an **analytical purpose**, for example creating mind maps is good but only if we are analysing the information and annotating where causes, changes, impacts, consequences etc are. These key concepts are what our subject is all about, simply knowing dates and names is not enough.

Questions often ask 'How far...' so in your revision look to **analyse** this, even when simply doing a mind map or taking notes.

Great revision should **start with a question**, for example '*Explain how African Americans were impacted by WWII (10)*'. If we start here we can then research from a textbook, analyse our findings and then write the answer. This process will allow you to tick off the different topics whilst improving your analysis and exam techniques.

The final step of your revision should be to **bring it into school** for marking, it is of no use to you on the floor or wall. I can mark it and give you advice on how to improve. This should be handed in **every week**.

Revision checklist

- Are you revising something in our module?
- Do you have somewhere quality to revise?
- Are you analysing when taking notes?
- Do you have a question to aim for?
- Have you brought that question to school for marking?