

History A Level pre-course task

Wars of the Roses

Know your kings!

We look at several, and confusingly they all share the same three names. Using the slides below, complete the task – this will be the front page of your folder. The pictures are easy to find on Google images.

Know your kings


Henry VI was the third Lancastrian King. They are known as the House of Lancaster because Henry, his father (Henry V) and grandfather (Henry IV) were descended from the Dukes of Lancaster.

The Yorkists were supporters of Richard Duke of York (1411-60) and his son Edward, who became Edward IV. Richard, Duke of York was Henry VI's cousin. He always swore loyalty to Henry until, in 1460, he said that he had a better claim to the throne than Henry. When Richard was killed at the battle of Wakefield (1460) his son, Edward, became Yorkist leader. He was crowned King Edward IV in 1461.



Task
Use the pictures and research to make a clear and memorable first page for your folder – it must do the following:

- Have the Kings in order, with dates
- Show clearly if they were Lancastrian or Yorkist. Try to put them on opposing sides to be clear and use the roses colours
- Have brief detail for each (see next slide)



Henry VI




Richard III




Henry V




Henry VII





Edward V





Edward IV



Henry V





Henry VI





In 1445 Henry VI married the French princess Margaret of Anjou. Their only son Edward of Lancaster was born in 1453 but never became King

Edward IV





Edward IV twice restored peace, making England more peaceful.

Edward V





King for only three months in 1483, Edward V and his brother, the "Princes in the Tower", then disappeared...

Richard III



Richard III was the younger brother of Edward IV. Until 1483 he was loyal to Edward so everyone was shocked when he deposed young Edward V in 1483 and became King

Henry VII



Henry had no chance of becoming King until Richard III deposed young Edward V. Many Englishmen distrusted Richard and wanted to depose him. They chose Henry as their leader because he was distantly related to Henry VI.

International Relations

Understanding the background of Europe before 1890 is really key – Europe was not the place then that it is now! Germany in particular was a new country and one growing in power and influence.

1. Using this Bitesize link, create a resource (mindmap, table, headings) on Germany:

- Parliamentary government – strengths and weaknesses
- Prussian Nationalism
- Industrial, economic and demographic changes
- Social reform and growth of socialism
- Navy laws – success and failure

Make sure you keep a glossary of key words (usually in bold).

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z36wycw/revision/1>

2. Using pages 1-28 from the course textbook (below) your task is to create a map of Europe in 1890 (easy to download blank maps from Google, but make sure you put in 1890!) and annotate/fact file each of the following countries:

- Germany
- France
- Great Britain
- Russia
- Italy
- Austria Hungary
- Turkey

For each country you need to know:

- Where it is/was
- Who were the leaders
- What type of government did they have
- Ideology
- Which countries were their allies
- Which countries were their main threats
- Key events for that country since 1800

3. Using this knowledge, write an extended explanation of why Germany's position before WWI may have led to problems in Europe – think about Britain, France and Russia in particular. What might these countries not like and why? Use specific examples from your learning

Course textbooks:

Must have:

Access to History: War and Peace: International Relations 1890-1945 Fourth Edition by David Williamson, ISBN 978-1-4718-3828-6

England 1445-1509: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII by Nicholas Fellows and Sharon Litter, ISBN 978-1-4718-3668-8

Good to have:

The Wars of the Roses (Enquiring History Series) by Ian Dawson, ISBN 978-144414448

