

Name:

History Transition Booklet

Paper 1F: In search of the American Dream: the USA, c1917-96



Topic Overview:

Paper 1, Option 1F: In search of the American Dream: the USA, c1917-96

Overview

This option comprises a study of the dramatic political, economic and social transformation of the USA in the twentieth century, an era which saw the USA challenged by the consequences of political, economic and social inequalities at home while maintaining its position as a world superpower.

In 1917, the USA entered the First World War as the fastest growing economy in the world and with the potential to become a leading world power. By the end of 1918, America had ended the war as the world's 'top nation'. Until the outbreak of the Second World War in 1941, the USA was reluctant to become the world's policeman — the policy of isolationism — but was more willing to encourage the spread of its political, economic and cultural values: democracy, capitalism and mass popular entertainment. After 1945, as the USA and the USSR pursued the Cold War, the USA aggressively promoted these values as one of the world's two superpowers. The USA was, and is, a country of contradictions. Radical revolutionaries had fought for independence from Britain in the 1770s but conservative conformity was the prevailing political attitude. The 'American Dream' was of security and prosperity but equality of opportunity often meant 'rugged individualism': sorting out one's own problems. Meanwhile ethnic minorities, women, the poor, social minorities and radicals often struggled to be heard in the 'land of the free'. The history of the USA in the twentieth century can be seen as the history of ordinary Americans trying to come to terms with these contradictions.

In the 1920s, America experienced both 'boom' and 'bust'. Non-interventionist Republican presidents allowed the economy to expand with little regulation. Many Americans flourished but few farmers, African Americans and immigrants prospered. After the Wall Street Crash in 1929, most Americans were hit by a decade of the Great Depression and those who were already poor suffered most. The majority of voters put their trust in President Roosevelt, who promised a New Deal to save the country, but it was probably his decision to enter the Second World War that bailed America out.

Post-1945 America experienced an unparalleled prosperity which saw the creation of an affluent white middle-class. In the 1960s, this led to resentment from those who were excluded — the search for civil rights — and, perhaps most surprisingly, backlash from the youth who had benefited most: counter-culture. President Johnson's 'Great Society' programme did try to help the poor but he was undermined by the disaster that was the Vietnam War.

Many Americans hoped that the 1970s would bring greater stability. However, despite continued superpower status and the advance of American popular culture, it only brought further challenges. Conservative America hoped that

President Nixon would bring stability but he resigned amid scandal and corruption. Neither Republican nor Democrat presidents were able to deal effectively with either social tensions or economic downturn.

In the next decade the tensions did not go away, but 1980 ushered in 12 years of more confident Republican rule. Ronald Reagan's presidency (1980-88) was just as controversial as Margaret Thatcher's in Britain but President Clinton's first term in office (1992-96) was heavily influenced by its political and economic conservatism. However, social and cultural values continued to polarise even more. Even today, 'Obama-care' may have introduced health insurance for more Americans than ever before, but ultra-conservative republicanism is also thriving.

Suggested Reading

Fiction (I thoroughly recommend these to give you some context!)

- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- Go Set A Watchman by Harper Lee
- My Antonia by Willa Cather
- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
- The Colour Purple by Alice Walker
- The Crucible/All My Sons/A View from the Bridge by Arthur Miller (Plays)
- Gone with the Wind by Margaret Mitchell
- The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
- Catch 22 by Joseph Heller
- The Help, Kathryn Stockett

Non-fiction

- Robin Bunce and Laura Gallagher, *Edexcel AS History, Unit 1: Pursuing Life and Liberty: Equality in the USA, 1945-1968* (Pearson, 2009).
- Peter Clements, *Prosperity Depression and the New Deal Third Edition, Access to History* (Hodder Education, 2005).
- Doug and Susan Willoughby, *The USA 1917-45, Heinemann Advanced History* (Heinemann, 2000).
- Hugh Brogan, *The Penguin History of the United States of America* (Penguin, 2001).

Films set in 18th-20th century America (establish context)

Watch at least two of the following films below.

The Road to Civil Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lincoln (2012)• Selma (2014)• 12 Years a Slave (2013)• To Kill A Mockingbird (1962)• The Help (2011)• Hairspray (2007)	Social and Racial Tensions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Searchers (1956)• Dances With Wolves (1990)• Mississippi Burning (1988)• A Bad Day at Black Rock (1955)• The Birth of a Nation (1915)
Conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good Morning Vietnam (1987)• M*A*S*H (1970)• Apocalypse Now (1979)	General Context <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hamilton• Little Women (1994)• Gangs of New York (2002)• Cold Mountain (2003)• Shaft (1971)• The Crowd (1928)• American Graffiti (1973)• The Deer Hunter (1978)

Write a summary about them in the box underneath concentrating on what you learned about AMERICAN HISTORY

Complete the following tasks in the booklet using independent research as well as information in this booklet.

The USA pre 1900

The History of the USA is relatively recent. Following their independence from Great Britain in 1783, Americans began to settle into their new continent with amazing speed. By the mid nineteenth century they had gained all land south of Canada and north of Mexico between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. This was achieved mainly through purchase and warfare.

The land mass was 3,022,000 square miles, in contrast with 94,525 square miles of the UK. It was settled so quickly that by 1890 the Census declared there was no longer any underdeveloped territory available for settlement.

The entire history of the USA until 1920 had happened in a space of 140 years. There was little time for development of tradition as there had been in Europe. The individual was thought to be of vast importance and the continent of America was there to be settled quickly. The fact that it was settled so quickly and the country developed so rapidly led many people to believe in the 'American Dream'; that with hard work and initiative one could achieve anything without expecting much support from the government.

The USA was a land rich in natural resources, fertile for crops and populated by an energetic, dynamic people who were mainly descended from immigrants. The 19C had seen the biggest migration in history with millions leaving the old world of Europe and Asia and headed to America to find work, land and freedom from persecution. The USA became a 'melting pot' made up of immigrants, some who had arrived not willingly but often forcibly as slaves from Africa. The Civil war had torn the union apart in the years 1861-5. It had ended slavery but not the persecution of African Americans. The North had grown increasingly wealthy from industrial development, while the south had remained predominantly rural. The West was populated in mythology by pioneers who had tamed a wilderness largely by their own efforts. It had developed as a region of fierce independence with little toleration of government interference.

The USA had an economic structure in which people were free to make money with very little government interference. Industries grew wealthy because of three main factors:

- The relative abundance and cheapness of natural resources
- The availability of cheap, often immigrant labour
- The overwhelming demand in a continent developing so quickly.

Huge industrial concerns grew up in the great cities; but small scale industry also thrived.

Task: True or false

Is the following information true or false? If false please correct it.

Information	True/false
America gained independence from Britain in 1873	
America was able to gain an empire quickly	
America was bigger than Great Britain	
By 1890 there was no land available for settlement	
American people did not expect or want government intervention	
The American dream was about hard work and initiative	
America was mainly made of immigrants	
The Civil War lasted from 1860-64	
The Civil War ended slavery in America and persecution of blacks	
Taxes were kept low to encourage industry	

Task: define the following key words.

Word	Meaning
Census	
Government intervention	
American Dream	
Civil War	
Slavery	
Immigrant	
Industrial	
Rural	
Persecution	

20th Century America: The American Constitution

In some ways the United States of America is not one country but 50: there are 50 States of the Union, each with its own government, courts and laws. However the powers of the state governments are limited compared with those of the Federal (national) government.

The United States is a **democracy**: more elections are held in America than in any other country in the world. There are elections for US President, Senators, Congressmen local politicians and mayors. In some states even judges and police chiefs are elected.

Elections for **President** are held every four years in November. The new President is sworn in the following January. A President can only serve two four-year terms in office. If a President dies or resigns, his **Vice-President** becomes President. The President is the most powerful man in America. Yet he cannot do exactly what he wants. All laws have to be agreed to by **Congress**. Congress is made up of two Houses: the **Senate** and the **House of Representatives** (a bit like the British House of Commons). Members of the House of Representatives are called **Congressman** and are elected for two years. The number of Congressmen from each state depends on the number of people living there. **Senators** are elected for six years and there are two from each state.

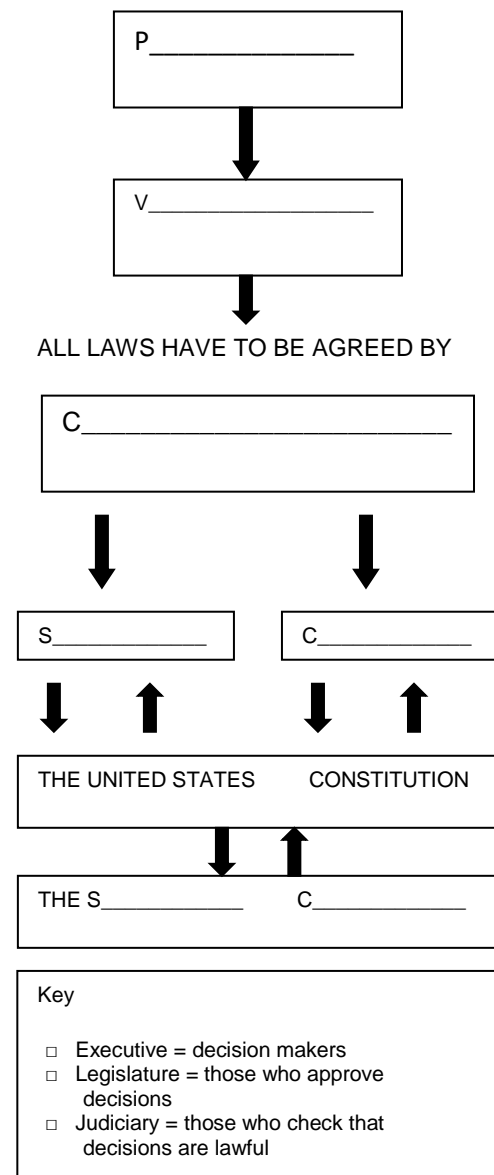
The most important rules of American government are laid down in the **United States Constitution**. Amendments to the Constitution can only be made with the agreement of the President, two-thirds of the members of Congress and three-quarters of the states. The rules of the US Constitution keep a careful check on the powers of Congress and the President.

The highest court in America is the **Supreme Court**. The Supreme Court has the power to declare a law 'unconstitutional' (against the Constitution). To get round such a declaration an amendment to the Constitution has to be passed.

There are two main political parties in the United States: the **Republicans** and the **Democrats**. Most Republicans tend to be conservative and most Democrats tend to be liberal. However in the South some Democrats are very conservative. To run for President a candidate has to get the nomination of one of these two parties. Often candidates campaign for their party's support for many months before the election. Election campaigns cost millions of dollars. So most of the candidates for President are very wealthy people.

The governments of most of the states are modelled on the national government. The head of each of the 50 states is the governor.

THE USA: THE GREAT D _____



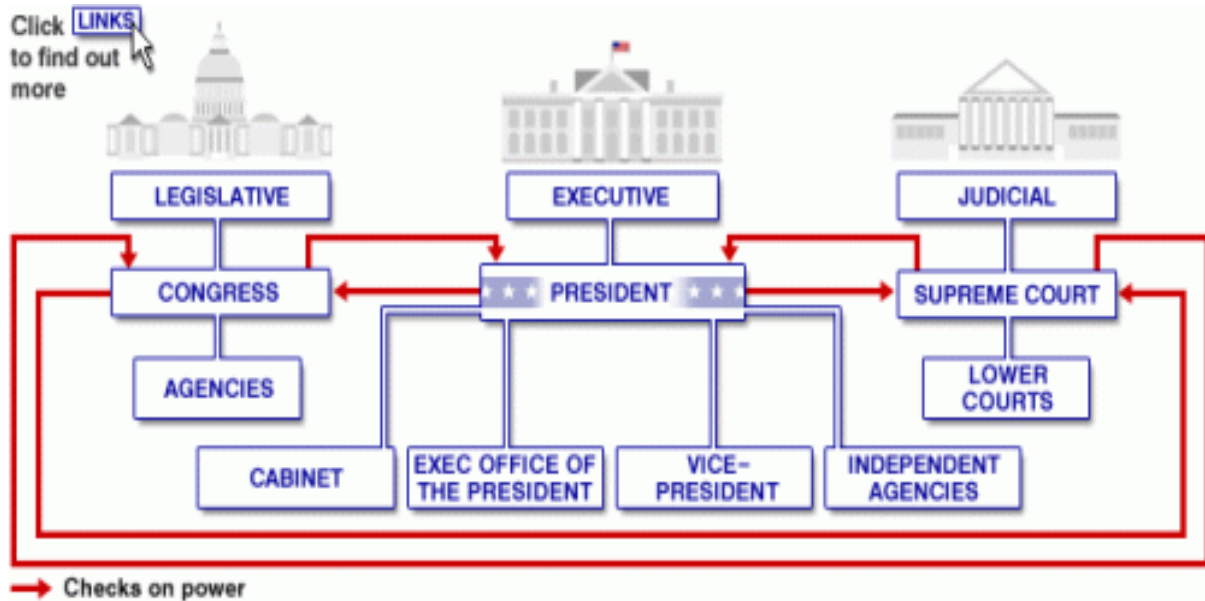
Who were the Founding Fathers?

The Founding Fathers (those that drew up the US Constitution) drew up the Constitution at the Constitutional Convention from May 25 to September 17, 1787, in the old Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Convention (1787) was convened to revise the United States' original plan of government, the Articles of Confederation. However, a consensus soon developed to create an entirely new plan. The

The Political System of the USA.

The government of the USA is split into three sections.

1. Legislature – The group of people that make the laws and change existing laws.
2. Executive - The branch in charge of enforcing the laws.
3. Supreme Court/Judiciary - Responsible for interpreting the laws and deciding if they are fair.



Please go to the following website address

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/americas/04/us_election/govt_system/html/introduction.stm

Use the above diagram on the BBC website. Click on the links for each section and answer the following questions.

1. Which sections of the US government come under the control of the legislative branch?

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2. What are the responsibilities of these two agencies?

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3. In addition to leading the Executive branch of government what other responsibilities does the President have?

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4. How many different sections does the President have direct control over?

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5. Define and give two examples of external agencies

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6. What is the Supreme Court? How is it organised?

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7. Why are there lower courts as well as the Supreme Court?

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Task: Complete the USA constitution diagram

Executive		Legislature	Judiciary
Name of office	The President		
Who can stand?		Senate – at least 30 years of age and have been a citizen for 9 years House – at least 25 years of age and have been a citizen for 7 years Both must live in the state they represent	No formal requirements
Number of years elected for	4 years	Senate – 6 years (one-third re-elected every 2 years) House – 2 years	Life
Elected by?		Senate – the people after 1913 House – the people	
Responsibility?	Executes the laws		Rules of whether the laws enacted and executed are constitutional

Glossary: Write definitions of the following key words. Once you have completed that put them into the correct spaces on the information on the following pages (you may not need all key terms).

Key term	Definition
Amendments	
Bicameral	
Bill of Rights	
Capitalism	
Communism	
Congress	
Constitution	
Democrat	
Federal Government	
Federalism	
House of Representative	
Judiciary	
Left Wing	
President/POTUS	
Republican	
Right wing	
Senate	
Socialism	
Supreme Court	

Trades Unions	
Veto	

This is one of the main political parties of the USA. This party was traditionally the more 'left wing' and 'liberal' of the two parties.

This is a fancy word to describe those who make the laws in a country. The Judges, the lawyers and the justice system.

This is the US equivalent of the British Parliament. They debate and approve new laws.

A country that has a federal system has power divided between government and the regions. For example, there would be one national government that makes laws for the entire country, and separate regional parliaments that make laws for the different regions.

This is a power held by the US President. The President can use this power to block any laws or proposals made by congress that he doesn't like. It is only used in exceptional circumstances though.

..... Wing

In politics you can be either left wing, right wing or in the middle. People on this 'wing' believe in greater equality. They think that people should pay high taxes so that money can be shared more equally, they think workers deserve good rights and fair treatment and they are usually (although not always) anti-war. They also believe that large industries (like electricity or the railways should be owned by the government). People on this wing who are moderate are called 'socialists'. People who believe very, very strongly in this wing are called 'Communists' or 'Marxists'.

This is the most important arm of the judiciary in the USA. The Court is made up of nine senior judges, appointed by the President, who serve for life. They have the power to decide whether or not laws are constitutional. If the court decides that a law is unconstitutional, then the law cannot be enacted.

This is a political ideology. It is currently the ideology that is in existence in the UK and the USA. It advocates that people should be free to make money, and that companies should be protected by the government and the rule of law. It gives people great freedom, but also, if unchecked, can lead to great inequality.

This is the belief in complete equality. People who hold this belief believe that rich people should have their money confiscated, that it should be illegal to own businesses or private property and that the working classes should be in charge of the country. This is an extreme left wing belief.

..... Wing

In politics you can be either left wing right wing or in the middle. People on this 'wing' believe in inequality. They think that people should be free to make lots of money and if people are unsuccessful then it is their own fault. For this reason they do not like high taxes. People on this wing are also very patriotic and believe in a strong country and army. They also hate communists and dislike socialists. People who are moderate on this wing are called 'nationalists'. People who believe in these things very, very strongly are called 'fascists'.

This one of the main political parties in the USA. This party was traditionally the party of big business and Western farmers. This party was the party of Abraham Lincoln, so was traditionally associated with anti-slavery and so most black people usually voted for this party. This changed between the 1930s and 1960s though as black people began supporting the Democratic party Southern whites supported the Republicans.

The United States to 1929

The USA

LEFT WING

CENTRE

RIGHT WING

- Traditionally the USA is isolationist, anti-communist/socialist and right wing conservative believing in 'rugged individualism', small, minimal (federal) government allowing people to pursue the 'American dream' of 'Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness', The USA is Christian, White, Anglo Saxon and Protestant.

*"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

This course is about the challenge to this established view and principles of the United States. We therefore, must consider the:

- Challenge to the established principles of the USA – **REBELLION**
and
- The American Response to this perceived rebellion = **REACTION**

Online museums

- <https://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/online>
- <http://www.fdrlibraryvirtualtour.org/index.asp>
- <https://www.nasa.gov>
- <https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/collection>
- <https://www.ushmm.org/information/exhibitions/online-exhibitions>
- <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/online-exhibits>

Paper 2 Route F1: The Road to Independence: India 1914-1948.



Welcome to your a-level History course paper 2, Topic India's road to independence. The aim of this booklet is to provide you with an overview of the India course and to prepare for a good start in September. You will find lots of information and further resources on India that you can obtain in order to enhance your learning and understanding. This booklet also provides the background knowledge prior to 1914 which is crucial for the understanding for the formation of the British Raj.

There are a few tasks within the booklet that need to be completed before your start date.

If you have any questions you can email me on paula.masters@coombesheadacademy.org.uk

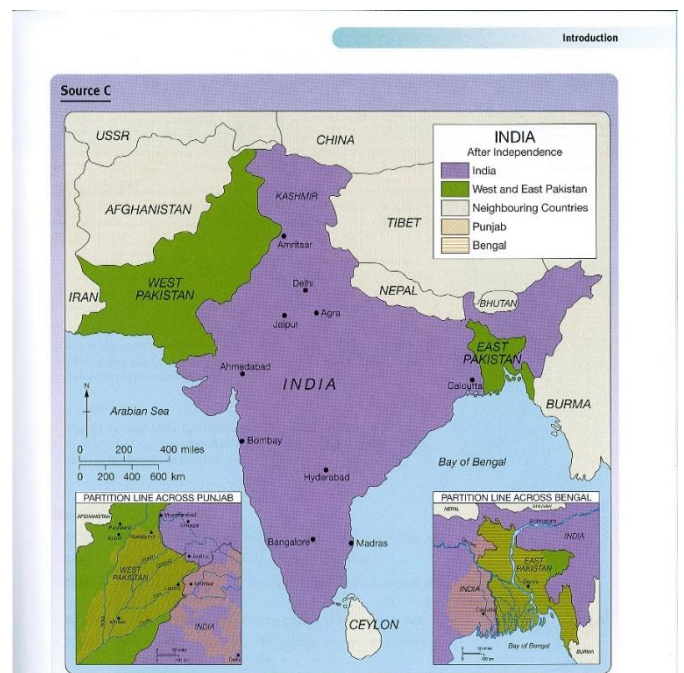
I hope you enjoy the course!! ☺

Topic Overview:

The twentieth century saw the expectations and aspirations of ordinary people increase tremendously. In particular, the experience of two world wars led people to question the political, social and economic environment around them. Alongside this, technological advancements and the development of mass communication provided the means to experience a better quality of life and to the rapid spread of political, social and cultural ideas. In some countries this would lead to communist-inspired revolution from below — as in Russia and China — although not necessarily ending in the equality and security originally envisaged. In others, existing political and social structures attempted to adapt to these desires. In the USA, and indeed in Britain, the quest for political, social and economic advancement saw reforms to existing structures. In those countries which had become subject to the rule of nineteenth-century European empires, people sought to overthrow political domination and discrimination, bringing an end to imperial rule in India. Route F focuses on the experiences of people fighting for rights and freedoms in the USA and India.

The options in Route F are linked by the common theme of a search for rights, freedoms and greater equality during the twentieth century. In the USA, the quest for political, social and economic advancement mainly looked to reform existing structures. In India, this quest led to more radical outcomes, bringing an end to imperial rule in India.

Studying two different countries allows students to develop a greater understanding of both similarities and differences in the search for greater rights, freedoms and equality in the twentieth-century world (although students will not be required to answer comparative questions that link the breadth and the chosen depth option).



There were five different religions within Indian at this time, please research each and make some notes on the key practices of each religion.

- Hindu:
- Muslim/Islam:
- Sikhism:
- Christianity:
- Jain:

Research the Indian Mutiny of 1857. Write up a summary below to explain the causes and consequences of this rebellion.

Research the Hindu Caste System, write a paragraph to explain it then draw a diagram below to illustrate this system.

Glossary: below are just some of the keywords you will come across in the India course. Please can you define the words below.

Define the keywords below:	
Satyagrahi	
Hartal	
Jihad	
Purna swaraj	
Federal	
Viceroy	
Sepoy	
Bagh	
Raj	
Anglo-Indian	
Jat	
Durbar	
Autonomy	
Swaraj	
Dyarchy	
Dominion Status	
Punjab	

Key Individuals: The people listed below are key characters of the course, obviously some are more important than others, however research the people below and make key notes about each one - make sure you include dates. You will develop your notes into factfiles on the most important characters during the process of the course.

Mohandas Gandhi 1869-1948

Jawaharlal Nehru 1889-1964

Muhammad Ali Jinnah 1876-1948

Lord Chelmsford

Edwin Montagu

Annie Beasant 1847-1933

Gopal Krishna Gokhale 1866-1915

Bal Gangadhar Tilak 1856-1920

Michael O'Dwyer 1864-1940	
Reginald 'Rex' Edward Harry Dyer 1864-1927	
Marcia Sherwood	
Lord Edward Frederick Wood Irwin	
General Archibald Wavell	
Subhas Chandra Bose	
Sir Stafford Cripps	
Lord Louis Mountbatten	
Sir Cyril Radcliffe	

Notes/questions: Write down questions you would like to ask about the course.

Paper 3: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors 1485-1603

This option comprises two parts: The Aspects in breadth focus on long-term changes and contextualise the Aspects in depth, which focus in detail on key episodes.

Together, the breadth and depth topics explore the nature of rebellion and disorder under the Tudors and the way the various challenges were met, the nature of change in government over the period and the changing relationship between the Crown and key sections of society. The option enables students to explore the way in which, despite a shaky start, the Tudors were able to establish their dynasty as one of the most powerful England has seen.

Task 1: Create a timeline of the key events that we will study during this course.


Your timeline should:

- Be in chronological order
- Have a title
- Date
- Brief description
- You could add a picture where appropriate

Firstly, you should mark on your timeline the reigns of the main Kings and Queens:

- Richard III
- Henry VII
- Henry VIII
- Edward VI
- Lady Jane Grey
- Mary I
- Elizabeth I

EXAMPLE Example...




King Richard III
1483 - 1485

Princes in the Tower
July 1482
Edward IV died in April 1483 and his eldest son became King, Edward V. His uncle, Richard, was named as protector. Edward and his brother were lodged on the tower for safety. They were declared illegitimate as their father had been married before marrying their mother. Richard was declared king and the two boys were never seen again.

Task 2: Colour-code your events:

- Government / politics
- Religion
- Social change / relations
- Rebellions against the monarch
- Foreign Relations

(Remember some events might be more than one colour AND put a key on your timeline.)



Secondly, events to find and add to your timeline: Remember these will ALL be between 1400-1600's. Be careful with your searches!

The Statue of Artificers	Lambert Simnel Rebellion
Battle of Bosworth Field	Dissolution of the smaller monasteries
(Tudor) Act for the Relief of the Poor	Princes in the Tower
Henry VIII's Great Matter / Break with Rome	Mary, Queen of Scots flees to England
Reform of the Privy Council	Act of Supremacy (Henry VIII)
Elizabethan Religious Settlement	Kett Rebellion
Rebellion of the Northern Earls	The Nine Year War (Ireland)
Lincolnshire Rising	Perkin Warbeck Rebellion
Law in Wales Acts	Fall of Thomas Cromwell
Battle of Yellow Ford	The Pilgrimage of Grace
Spanish Armada	Execution of Mary Queen of Scots
Battle of Kinsale	Hunne Case
Fall of Cardinal Wolsey	Battle of Curlew Pass
Eltham Ordinances	First Common Prayer Book

Task 2: Colour-code your events:

- Government / politics
- Religion
- Social change / relations
- Rebellions against the monarch
- Foreign Relations

(Remember some events might be more than one colour AND put a key on your timeline.)

Conclusion Questions...

1. **WARM Question** - What are the most significant problems that the Tudor monarchs faced?
2. **HOT Question** - How serious were the problems faced by the Tudors?
3. **SCORCHING Question** - To what extent were the problems faced by the Tudors of their own making?



Extension - How much change was there in the religion and power of the monarch between 1485 - 1603? Explain your reasoning supported with selected examples from your timeline.

Please email any questions to Rebecca.bailey@coombesheadacademy.org.uk