

# Year11 Pre A level History work

## Summer 2025

*Dear Y11 student,*

*The 2 units you will study in the first year of A level History are:*

- 1) The Later Tudors 1547 to 1603 – Edward VI, Lady Jane Grey, Mary Tudor and Elizabeth I*
- 2) The Cold War in Europe 1941 to 1995*

*Between now and the start of Sixth Form in Sept, you should watch the **2 documentaries** and complete the questions attached. You can do the questions in small batches or 1 episode at a time. Spread the work over the holidays rather than try and do everything all at once*

*This will help you feel much more confident in starting A levels in Sept 2024*

*All the best*

*Mr Furlong*

## The Later Tudors 1547 to 1603: Edward VI Documentary by David Starkey

**Introduction - Episode 1** (47minutes) – search YouTube - Edward VI and David Starkey.

**Edward VI 1547 to 1553** - [King Edward VI of England - Tudor Documentary - David Starkey - YouTube](#)

The following 22 questions are designed for you to get the most useful and important information about **Edward VI's reign 1547 to 1553**, as preparation for the big issues you will be covering on the A level course. You can watch the video in sections and do a few questions at a time or watch the whole video through and then do the questions. The *timings* I have provided are simply approximates to help guide you. You may need to use a dictionary or google from time to time for unfamiliar words.

1. When was Edward VI crowned King and at what age?
2. Why was his birth of such importance to England?
3. What does the picture 'Family of Henry VIII', painted in 1544, tell you about the Royal Tudor family?
4. What does the term 'bastard' mean in relation to Edward VI sisters, Mary and Elizabeth and their claim to the throne of England?
5. Why did Henry VIII Act of Parliament sow seeds of discontent for the next 10 years?
6. From aged 6, Edward started his formal education at Hampton Court. How did this education shape Edward?
7. When did Henry VIII die and what instructions did he leave for his heir? What actually happened?
8. What was so controversial about Edwards coronation as King in Westminster Abbey?
9. Despite Henry VIII break from Rome 1532-1534, making him Supreme Head of the Church and not the Pope, very little else changed in the day to day experiences of ordinary people. Describe what religious services in England were like under Henry VIII reign, which Edward VI inherited.
10. What did some radical religious areas of England, in particular London, start to do to Churches shortly after Edward became King and what opinion did he have of them?
11. Why was the real power in the hands of the Duke of Somerset during the first 2 years of Edwards reign?
12. Why did Somerset's power start to come to an end in the summer of 1549?
13. How do historians know so much about Edwards view of events in 1549?
14. What 'rash and desperate' act did Somerset take in Oct 1549 and what was the outcome?
15. Why did Edward VI turn so decisively on his uncle and what does this tell you about his character?
16. By 1550, what characteristics was Edward now showing as a 13 year old, to enable him to take more of a direct role in the governing of England? Why was he increasingly concerned about his half-sister Mary Tudor?
17. How do Edwards religious reforms after 1550, change the face of English Christianity beyond all recognition?
18. How did Mary Tudor respond to her half-brothers religious reforms and with what success?
19. How did Edward and Marys relationship deteriorate?
20. How much more radically protestant was Edwards 2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Common Prayer in 1552 compared to his 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Common Prayer in 1549?
21. Why, and how, did Edward VI decide to change the plan for succession in May 1553 for his own Devise for Succession? Why was he able to get the new Devise for succession passed by the Privy Council and Parliament?
22. When did Edward VI die and why was his death kept a secret?

# The Cold War 1941 to 1945

by Jeremy Isaacs and Taylor Downing

## What were the origins of the Cold War 1940 to 1949?

Search You Tube for CNN Cold war series by Jeremy Isaacs and Taylor Downing to watch Episode 1 – Comrades - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22KIQ1QNhE>

As you watch the Comrades episode, try to answer the following questions.

1. Why did Lenin's Communist revolution in Russia, in Nov 1917, lead to a 'clash of ideologies' with the USA and the West?
2. Why did the West decide to send troops to USSR in 1918 and what effect did this decision have on relations with the Communist government?
3. Why did USA and USSR pay little attention to each other during the 1920's? To what extent did their relations improve in the 1930's?
4. Germany began to rearm from 1934. What policy did USA and GB adopt towards this?
5. Why did Stalin and Hitler's Nazi Soviet Pact in August 1939, alarm the West?
6. Why did President Roosevelt denounce Stalin in 1940?
7. Why did USA, USSR and GB form the Grand Alliance by the end of Dec 1941?
8. What type of help did USA give USSR after they had formed the Grand Alliance at the end of 1941?
9. In January 1942, Stalin asked Britain and USA to launch a Second Front in Western Europe. What is a 'Second Front' and why did Stalin want it?
10. Why do you think the Second Front did not happen until June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944? Why do you think Stalin was suspicious about this delay? Did he have good reason to be suspicious?
11. What war crime did the Nazis claim took place in Katyn Forest in Western Russia? How did GB and USA respond to this claim and why? What does this response tell you about the importance of the relationship between USSR and the West during WWII?
12. Who were the 'Big 3' that met at the Tehran Conference in Nov 1943? Why did they meet and what did they agree to do?
13. What covert operation did the Soviets carry out at the Tehran Conference? What does this tell you about the relationship between the 'Big 3'?
14. How significant was the 'percentages agreement' of October 1944?
15. Describe two agreements reached at the Yalta Conference, February 1945
16. Describe two ways that tensions had grown between the Allies since Yalta.
17. Why was there less pressure to appease the Soviet Union at Potsdam?