



A-Level History
Summer Transition Work
2025-2026

AQA breadth study 1D - Stuart Britain, 1603-1702

L.P. Hartley said, *'The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there.'*

The 17th century was a very different world from our own in the 21st century and you will need to explore and appreciate its people, ideas and culture. This unit will enable you to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence through the following key questions:

1. How far did the monarchy change?
2. To what extent and why was power more widely shared during this period?
3. Why and with what results were there disputes over religion?
4. How effective was opposition?
5. How important were ideas and ideology?
6. How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

Context of Elizabeth I's legacy

TASK 1

- Do research on Queen Elizabeth I's time as England's ruler. What was special or unique about that time (use the questions above to help you)? Come ready to have a discussion in class about this.

Early Stuart Years

TASK 2

- Do some research on King James I. Where did he come from? What was he like? Why was he a controversial king? Come ready to have a discussion in class about this.

TASK 3

- Find out about King Charles I. What was he like? Why was he a controversial king? What happened to him? Come ready to have a discussion in class about this.

AQA depth study - 2R Cold War 1945-1991

'The Cold War locked America and the Soviet Union in a deadly stalemate, dangerously close to nuclear catastrophe. It is a story of crisis talks and subterfuge, tyrants and power struggles – and of ordinary people changing the course of history across the globe.' Adapted from John Lewis Gaddis, 2005.

This unit provides for the study in depth of the evolving course of international relations during an era of tension between communist and capitalist powers which threatened nuclear Armageddon. You will explore concepts such as communism and anti-communism, aggression and détente and will encourage you to reflect on the power of modern military technology, what hastens confrontation and what forces promote peace in the modern world.

Long-term context of international relations

TASK 4

- How strong were the USA and the USSR by the outbreak of World War Two? Come ready to have a discussion in class about this.

TASK 5

- What are the differences between capitalism and communism? Come to class with thoughts on these, ready to share your ideas and discuss them with others.

TASK 6

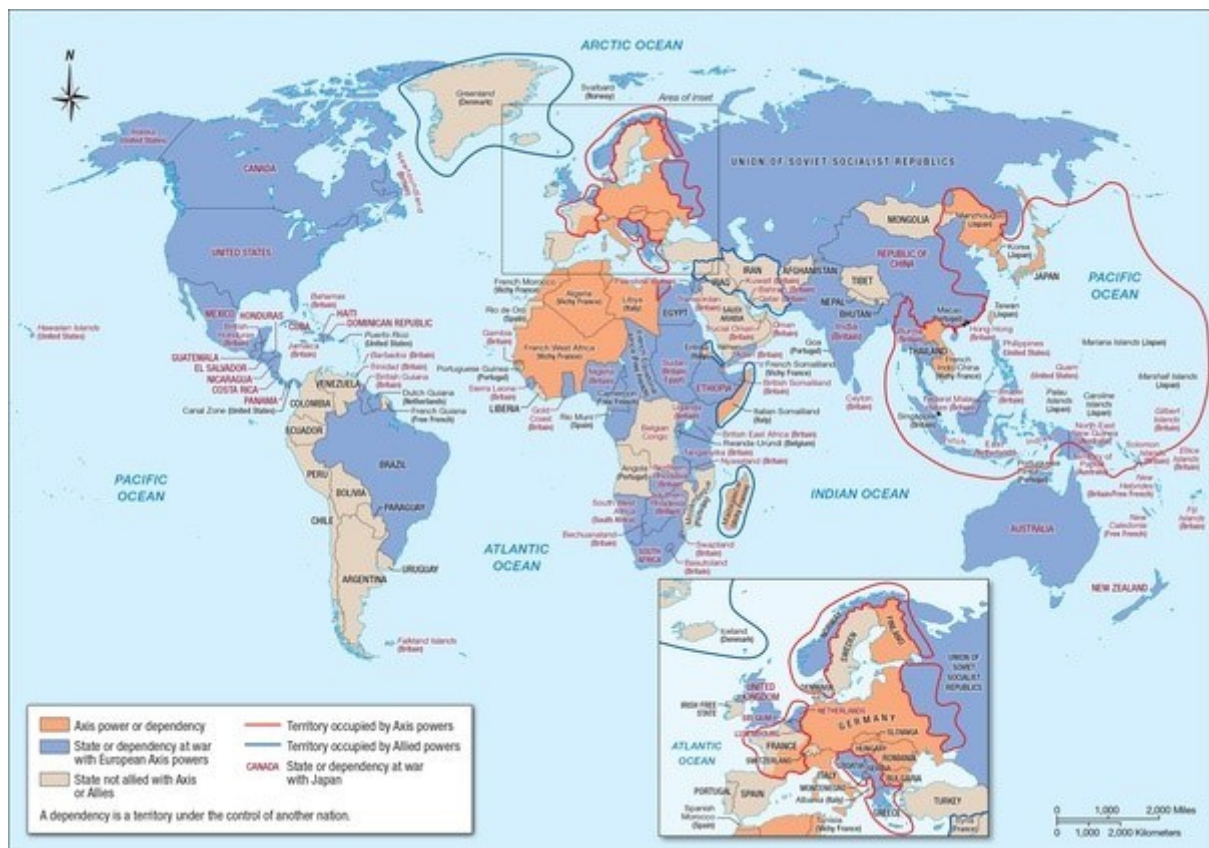
- Look at the map and cartoon on the third page. What do they tell you about the world in 1945 and the prospects for peace afterwards? Come to class ready to discuss.

Polite Notice:

If these kinds of questions excite and stimulate you, making you naturally want to explore, learn more, and discuss with others, then history is DEFINITELY for you...

If you enjoy writing, have good English vocabulary, and want to show off your skill and persuasiveness and knowledge – to try and win people over to your side, JOIN US!

If you are reading the above tasks, and looking at the map and poster below, and thinking 'meh, this is so dry ... I couldn't care less', then PLEASE choose something else; History will be difficult and painful and challenging for you all year. Don't put yourself through it...



The Odd Couple



Source: Bill Mauldin, *Chicago Sun-Times*, 1973 (adapted)