



LONDON ACADEMY
OF EXCELLENCE

TOTTENHAM

The Place for Academic Rigour



LAE
Tottenham
Preparatory
Tasks for
Offer
Holders

A Level History







The History A Level at LAET (AQA exam board) covers three components:

1. 'Challenge and Transformation'- British History 1851-1964
2. France in Revolution, 1774–1815
3. Coursework on Tsarist and Communist Russia 1853-1964

Reading is vital to success in A level history, and the following preparatory work is designed to prepare you for the academic rigour of A Level study as well as to provide you with useful context and background to components 1 and 2:

BRITISH HISTORY PREPARATORY TASK:

Choose 4 resources from the 6 listed and take notes on the following guide questions:

<p><i>Women Against the Vote</i> by Julia Bush</p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>19th Century electoral reform</i> by Philip Salmon</p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>The Great Stink of 1858</i> by Stephen Halliday</p> <p>Click here.</p> 
<p><i>Striking a Light</i> by Louise Raw</p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>Classifying occupations in British censuses (1841-1911)</i> by Edward Higgs.</p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>Workshop of the World</i> by Theo Barker</p> <p>Click here.</p> 







Guide questions:

1. What were the political problems of Victorian democracy and how and why were they improved?
2. Was Britain a fully-formed democracy by the end of the 19th century and why were some women opposed to the vote being extended to women?
3. Why was Britain known as the 'workshop of the world' and was it showing signs of decline by the end of the 19th century?
4. What was the state of public health in mid-Victorian London and why and how did it improve?
5. What did the census disclose about Victorian Britain and why did match girls have to go on strike in 1888?

6. Given the economic and international strength of Britain in the 19th century, what conclusions can you draw about why it experienced such difficult social, economic and political conditions?

FRENCH HISTORY PREPARATORY TASK:

Choose 4 resources from the 6 listed and take notes on the following guide questions:

<p><i>French Absolutism</i></p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>The Three Estates by William Clark</i></p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>The life and death of Marie Antoinette by Emily Brand</i></p> <p>Click here.</p> 
<p><i>Louis XVI and the French Revolution by John Hardman</i></p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>The Origins of the French Revolution by Marisa Linton.</i></p> <p>Click here.</p> 	<p><i>The Last Years of the Old Regime by Marisa Linton</i></p> <p>Click here.</p> 

Guide questions:

1. What is absolutism and *how did the French monarchy legitimise absolutism?*
2. What were the Three Estates and how did the Ancien Regime legitimise this socio-economic system?
3. How would you describe Louis XVI's character? Do you think Louis XVI possesses the qualities of a good king?
4. How would you describe Marie Antoinette's character? Do you think Marie Antoinette's 'abysmal reputation' was deserved?
5. Make a list of five factors that led to the outbreak of the French Revolution and put them in what you consider to be the order of importance.

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS:

- 1) Watch Andrew Marr's *History of the World* to gain further insight into the narrative of the French Revolution:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p012wk05>
- 2) Listen to Melvyn Bragg's *The French Revolution's Legacy*:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00547gg>
What kind of a watershed did the French Revolution mark in the tide of history?