

History GCSE

Y11 Revision Guide January – May 2026

Exam Specification and Exam Board	Edexcel - 1HI0 FR
Past Paper Questions	Link
Useful Revision Websites	BBC Bitesize Youtube History Playlists
Exam Info	<p>Paper 1 (Medicine through time): Friday 15th May (am) 1hr 20mins</p> <p>Paper 2 (Cold War and Elizabeth): Thursday 4th June (am) 1hr 50mins</p> <p>Paper 3 (Germany): Tuesday 9th June (pm) 1hr 30mins</p>

History GCSE

Week	Activity 1	Activity 2
1 05.01.25	<p>Cold War</p> <p>Link</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When did the USA develop their nuclear bomb? What conference was taking place at the time? Why did Truman keeping the bomb a secret from Stalin make relations worse between the two countries? When did the Soviets develop their first nuclear bomb? What is meant by MAD (mutually assured destruction)? 	<p>Elizabeth</p> <p>Watch the video linked here: Link</p> <p>Make a mind-map of the key details. Use the headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religion Government Mary, Queen of Scots Poverty Exploration The Spanish Armada Her personality/style of rule
2 12.01.25	<p>Cold War</p> <p>Use this link to help: Link</p> <p>Make a timeline of the events in Berlin from 1958-1963.</p> <p>You should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The refugee problem Khrushchev's Berlin Ultimatum The 4 summit meetings The building of the wall Kennedy's visit in 1963. <p>Make sure you are clear about when the US leaders change from Eisenhower to Kennedy.</p>	<p>Elizabeth</p> <p>Link Use this link to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Draw pictures to show how Elizabeth's government was divided up. Add key words to your images. <p>Rank Elizabeth's problems from most serious (1) to least serious (6). What advice would you give her if you were in her Privy Council?</p>
3 19.01.25	<p>Cold War</p> <p>Link Use the link to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Create a table to compare the plan for the Bay of Pigs invasion and the reasons why it failed. Why did Cuba become closer to the Soviet Union after the Bay of Pigs 	<p>Elizabeth</p> <p>Link Use the link to answer these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What religion was Mary, Queen of Scots? What was her claim to the throne? Which plots was she involved in?

History GCSE

	3. Create a series of images to help you remember the events of the whole crisis.	4. What are the top 3 reasons why she was executed? Why did Elizabeth keep her imprisoned for so long before executing her?
4 26.01.25	<p>Paper 1- Medieval and Renaissance causes Watch the video linked here Link</p> <p>Use it to make a mind-map about the beliefs of causes of disease. Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of the 4 Humours • Religion • Astrology • Miasma 	<p>Cold War Link</p> <p>Use the link to help you answer these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the Prague Spring? 2. What did Brezhnev do to end the Prague Spring? 3. What was the Brezhnev Doctrine? 4. What happened to Czechoslovakia after the invasion? 5. How would ordinary Czechoslovakians have felt about the Brezhnev Doctrine?
5 02.02.25	<p>Elizabeth Link</p> <p>Use the link to help you to write down:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 long-term causes of the Spanish Armada (before 1787) • 2 short-causes of the Armada (1787-1788) • 2 examples of Spanish weakness/failure • 2 examples of English strength/success • 2 leaders linked with the Spanish navy. • 2 leaders linked with the English navy. • 2 consequences of the Armada. 	<p>Paper 1- Medieval and Renaissance treatments and preventions Write definitions for treatment and prevention. Be clear about the difference. Compare Medieval and Renaissance ideas about treatment and prevention. Use the information linked here: Link and Link</p> <p>Create a table with 2 columns- one for change and one for continuity (what has stayed the same). Colour code it to show treatments and preventions.</p>
6 09.02.25	<p>Cold War Link</p>	<p>Elizabeth Link</p>

History GCSE

	<p>Watch this video (search for ‘simple history end of cold war’ and it’s the second option). Answer these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Define Perestroika and Glasnost (Gorbachev’s new ideas)2. What problems was he trying to solve?3. What were the consequences of his new ideas (include at least 2- one in the USSR and one about relations with the USSR) <p>Why was Gorbachev blamed for the end of the USSR?</p>	<p>Use the link to help you complete the activities:</p> <table><tr><th>Problems of the poor</th><th>Actions taken</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Complete a table like the one above. Aim for at least 4 details on each side. <p>Choose 5 words to summarise the attitudes towards the poor in Elizabethan England. Why have you chosen them?</p>	Problems of the poor	Actions taken		
Problems of the poor	Actions taken					
February Half Term	<p>Paper 1- Medieval and Renaissance Surgery</p> <p>Explain why there was little change in the care provided by hospitals in the period c1250-1500.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ideas of the church• herbal remedies <p>[12 marks]</p>	<p>Cold War</p> <p>Make a set of flashcards for the events you’ve revised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arms Race• Potsdam conference• Berlin Crisis• Cuban Missile Crisis• Czechoslovakian Crisis• Gorbachev and the end of the Cold War <p>On each flashcard add the leaders of the USA and the USSR at the time, 2 key details and 2 key consequences.</p> <p>Take the revision quizzes on the Cold War: Link</p>				
7 23.02.25	<p>Elizabeth</p> <p>Return to the mind-map you made in the first week. Add extra details to it based on the revision you’ve now completed.</p> <p>Create a flashcard for each of the headings of the mind-map.</p> <p>Take the revision quizzes on Elizabeth I: Link</p>	<p>Paper 3- Weimar challenges</p> <p>Use the revision website Link to create a timeline of Weimar Germany from 1918 to 1929.</p> <p>Colour code it to show:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creation (include the end of WW1 and the constitution here)• Threats• Successes				

History GCSE

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Failures/weaknesses <p>Create a poster to celebrate the cultural achievements of Weimar Germany.</p> <p>Use this site Link (you don't need to sign up) to make a list of Gustav Stresemann's 5 biggest achievements.</p>								
8 02.03.25	<p>Paper 1- Renaissance Case Studies: William Harvey and the Great Plague, 1665</p> <p>Watch these video links to remind yourself of the big changes in this time period: Link and Link</p> <p>Now make a mindmap to cover the key information.</p> <p>In a different colour add explanation about the significance and impact that the case studies had on England.</p>	<p>Paper 3- rise of the Nazis</p> <p>Tell someone at home how the Nazis were able to get voted into power in 1933. Ask them to check for the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Failure of Munich PutschReorganisationMein KampfGreat DepressionPropagandaFear <p>These clips will be helpful: Link Link 2</p> <p>Explain 3 reasons why the German people were willing to vote for the Nazis in 1933, but not in 1923.</p>								
9 09.03.25	<p>Paper 2- Elizabeth-exploration and leisure</p> <p>Use the revision website linked here: Link</p> <p>Make flashcards for each of the key terms.</p> <p>Get a piece of plain A4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cover it with everything you can remember about life in Elizabethan England.Check the knowledge organiser and add details.Fold it in half. Now write down 5 key terms, 4 laws, 3 places, 2 names, 1 activity. These	<p>Paper 2- Cold War</p> <p>Complete this table for the big conferences/summits in the course:</p> <table><tr><th>Event and date</th><th>Leaders</th><th>Agreements</th><th>Dis-agreements</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Events to include: Tehran, Yalta, Potsdam Geneva, Camp David, Paris, Vienna SALT 1, Helsinki Accords, SALT 2</p>	Event and date	Leaders	Agreements	Dis-agreements				
Event and date	Leaders	Agreements	Dis-agreements							

History GCSE

	<p>should all relate to life in Elizabethan England.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fold it in half again. Draw three images to represent life in Elizabethan England. 	<p>Geneva, Reykjavik, Washington, Moscow, Malta</p> <p>Watch this video Link and create a storyboard of the events of the Hungarian uprising. Make sure you know the causes, main events and consequences of this event. The rest of her videos are also very helpful!</p>
<p>10 16.03.25</p>	<p>Paper 2- Elizabeth exam questions</p> <p>Test your knowledge of Elizabethan England by planning your answers to these 'Describe two features of...' questions:</p> <p>Describe two features of:[2 + 2 marks]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Elizabethan Religious Settlement, 1559. the Revolt of the Northern Earls, 1569. the Ridolfi Plot, 1571. the Babington Plot, 1586. the plots against Elizabeth I in the years 1571-86. Drake's attacks on Spanish shipping and trade. the attempts to colonise Virginia in the 1580s. the naval battle off Gravelines in 1588. the English navy sent against the Spanish Armada. Drake's circumnavigation of the world, 1577-80. Elizabethan theatre. sports and pastimes for the wealthy. the Elizabethan system of poor relief. 	<p>Paper 3- Nazi control</p> <p>Use the revision website for these activities: Link</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Make flashcards for each of the key terms Come up with a rhyme/mnemonic to help you remember the 3 parts of the Police State and the differences between them (SS, SD and Gestapo) Write down 3-5 ways that the Nazis controlled information and used propaganda Why did the Nazis want to control the church, especially the Catholic Church? Which religious individuals opposed the actions of the Nazis?

History GCSE

<p>11 23.03.25</p>	<p>Paper 1- Medieval Case Study: The Black Death Watch this video to remind yourself of the big changes in this time period: Link Now make a mindmap to cover the key information. In a different colour add explanation about the significance and impact that the Black Death had on England.</p>	<p>Paper 3- Life in Nazi Germany Use the revision website for these activities Link</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draw a poster showing the Nazis ideal women. Label it with the reasons why they'd want them to be that way and the ways that they persuaded women to support Nazi policies. 2. Use the information about young people to create a series of social media posts describing their lives. Include: education, free time and how they might oppose the Nazis. Do 2 versions- one male and one female. 3. Draw a table. On one side list the positive changes for workers. On the other, list the negative changes. Did the positive outweigh the negative? 4. Use the timeline of Nazi persecution to plan an answer to this 12 marker: Explain why the Nazis persecuted minorities.
<p>Easter Break</p>	<p>Paper 2 exam question Use this sheet Link to plan narrative account answers on the three Cold War Crises (Berlin, Cuba and Czechoslovakia). Remember they need to be chronological and reach an outcome. These video links will help with key content: Berlin: Berlin CMC: CMC Czechoslovakia: Czechoslovakia</p>	<p>Paper 3- exam practise Plan the following explain why questions. Be clear what your three paragraphs would be for each question. And remember to focus on explaining why, not describing how.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why the police state was so successful. • Explain why propaganda indoctrinated Germans. • Explain why women were controlled by the Nazis.

History GCSE

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explain why unemployment reduced under the Nazis.Explain why the Nazis faced opposition by youth groups. <p>Write one of them in timed conditions (about 15 minutes)</p>								
12 13.04.25	<p>Paper 1- 18th and 19th centuries</p> <p>Watch this video to remind yourself of the big changes in this time period: Link</p> <p>Create a flow diagram to show how the smallpox vaccine was created. What impact did this have on preventions?</p> <p>Watch this video: Clip</p> <p>Make a mind-map with the following branches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Spontaneous generationPasteur and germ theoryKoch and bacteriologyWarVaccinationsFurther research	<p>Paper 1- 18th and 19th centuries</p> <p>Case Studies: John Snow and Cholera</p> <p>Watch this video to remind yourself of the big changes in this time period: Link</p> <p>Now make a mindmap to cover the key information.</p> <p>In a different colour add explanation about the significance and impact that Koch had on moving forward medicine</p>								
13 20.04.25	<p>Paper 1- 20th century</p> <p>Use page 4 of this knowledge organiser Link</p> <p>Categorise the information into the following factors (some may fit into more than one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">IndividualsScience and TechnologyInstitution: the governmentWarAttitudes: Seeking improvementEducationTeamworkCommunicationChance	<p>Paper 1</p> <p>Revisit your case studies:</p> <table><tr><th>Medieval</th><th>Renaissance</th><th>1700-1900</th><th>Twentieth Century</th></tr><tr><td>Black Death, 1348</td><td>The Great Plague, 1665 William Harvey and the circulatory system</td><td>Edward Jenner and Vaccinations Cholera and John Snow</td><td>Lung Cancer Development of Penicillin</td></tr></table> <p>Make a poster/mind-map/table for each one to demonstrate how it links to ideas about causes, preventions and treatments for disease in each time period.</p>	Medieval	Renaissance	1700-1900	Twentieth Century	Black Death, 1348	The Great Plague, 1665 William Harvey and the circulatory system	Edward Jenner and Vaccinations Cholera and John Snow	Lung Cancer Development of Penicillin
Medieval	Renaissance	1700-1900	Twentieth Century							
Black Death, 1348	The Great Plague, 1665 William Harvey and the circulatory system	Edward Jenner and Vaccinations Cholera and John Snow	Lung Cancer Development of Penicillin							

History GCSE

	Use this to choose and explain your top three reasons for medical progress in the twentieth century.	
14 27.04.25	<p>Paper 1- Western Front medical conditions</p> <p>Use the pages scanned in here Link</p> <p>Design an information poster to show the groups of people that might help an injured soldier. Include the RAMC, nurses, VAD and FANY.</p> <p>Draw pictures to show the main medical developments during the First World War. Tell someone at home why each development was needed in WW1 and the impact that it had on the soldiers.</p> <p>Write definitions for the following key terms: aseptic?compound. fracture?blood.transfusion?plastic. surgery</p> <p>Add a picture/symbol to help you remember what each word means.</p>	<p>Paper 3- exam practise</p> <p>Explain why there was opposition in Germany to the Treaty of Versailles (1919).</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • military terms • territorial terms. <p>You must also use information of your own. (12)</p>
15 04.05.25	<p>Paper 1 source question and 'follow up' practise</p> <p>Complete the exam questions linked here Link</p> <p>When analysing the sources, remember you must apply your own knowledge to the sources. You should also use NOP (nature, origin and purpose) to help you decide how useful they are.</p> <p>Some questions to consider: Does anything in the source surprise you? What can it tell us about attitudes at the time?</p>	<p>Paper 2: Elizabethan England - exam practise</p> <p>'The threat of invasion was Elizabeth's main problem when she became queen in 1558.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France • Elizabeth's legitimacy <p>You must also use information of your own. (16)</p>

History GCSE

	<p>Where has the source come from (its provenance)? Does that make it trustworthy?</p> <p>How can it still be useful, even if it isn't very reliable?</p>	
<p>16 11.05.25</p>	<p>Exam practise</p> <p>Plan these 3 16-mark 'how far do you agree' questions:</p> <p>'Technology has been the most important factor in medical progress.'</p> <p>You may use: keyhole surgery, Louis Pasteur</p> <p>'The most important factor in the development of Germ Theory was the work of individuals.'</p> <p>You may use: Robert Koch, Franco-Prussian War</p> <p>'There was little change in the understanding of what caused illness between c1250 and c1700.'</p> <p>You may use: Theory of the Four Humours, Andreus Vesalius</p>	
<p>17 18.05.25</p>	<p>Paper 2: Cold War - exam practise</p> <p>Pick one of these narrative account questions to answer:</p> <p>Write a narrative account analysing:</p> <p>[8 marks]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the key events in the Cold War in the years 1953-56. (The Warsaw Pact 1955 The Soviet invasion of Hungary 1956) the key events of the 'Berlin Crisis' in the years 1958-61. (The Berlin Ultimatum 1958 the construction of the Berlin Wall) the key events of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, 1968. (The Prague Spring The Soviet Union re-establishes control) 	<p>Paper 3- exam practise</p> <p>Explain why the Nazis controlled the lives of young people tightly.</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hitler Youth school subjects. <p>You must also use information of your own. (12)</p>

History GCSE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the main developments in the collapse of the Berlin Wall during 1989. <p>(Gorbachev's 'new thinking' Developments in East Germany)</p>	
May Half Term	<p>Complete a whole paper 2 or 3.</p> <p>Your teacher will give you this in the week before the half term holidays.</p> <p>REFLECTION: Where have you made improvements? What do you need to prioritise between now and your exams?</p>	