

Medicine in Britain c1250 to present

Topics you need to know

1250-1500: Medicine in Medieval England

Ideas about the causes of disease:

- ◇ Supernatural and religious explanations of disease: The Theory of the 4 Humours; miasma theory; influence of Hippocrates and Galen.

Prevention and treatment:

- ◇ Religious actions, bloodletting, purging, purifying the air and the use of traditional remedies.
- ◇ Hospital care in the 13th century. The role of the physician, apothecary and barber surgeon, alongside care provided within the community and in hospitals.

Case study:

- ◇ Dealing with the Black Death 1348-49 treatments and attempts to prevent its spread.

1500-1700: Medical Renaissance in England

Ideas about the causes of disease:

- ◇ Continuity and change in explanations.
- ◇ A scientific approach - Thomas Sydenham and improvements in diagnosis.
- ◇ The printing press and Royal Society help the spread of ideas.

Prevention and treatment:

- ◇ Continuity in prevention and treatment and care in the community and in hospitals.
- ◇ Change in care and treatment: improvements in training and the influence of Vesalius.

Case studies:

- ◇ Key individual: William Harvey and the circulation of the blood.
- ◇ Dealing with the Great Plague of 1665 – treatments and attempts to prevent its spread.

1700-1900: Medicine in 18th and 19th century Britain

Ideas about the causes of disease:

- ◇ Continuity and change in explanations.
- ◇ Pasteur's Germ Theory and Koch's work on microbes.

Prevention and treatment:

- ◇ Extent of change in care and treatment: Improvements in hospital care and the influence of Florence Nightingale.
- ◇ The impact of anaesthetics and antiseptics on surgery.
- ◇ New approaches to prevention: the development and use of vaccinations and the Public Health Act of 1875

Case studies:

- ◇ Key individual: Edward Jenner and the development of vaccination
- ◇ Fighting cholera in London, 1854; attempts to prevent its spread; John Snow and the Broad Street Pump

1900-present: Medicine in modern Britain

Ideas about the causes of disease:

- ◇ Advances in understanding the causes of disease: the influence of genetic and lifestyle factors on health.
- ◇ Improvements in diagnosis: the impact of blood tests, scans and monitors

Prevention and treatment:

- ◇ Impact of the NHS, science and technology and improved access to care
- ◇ Advances in medicines, including magic bullets and antibiotics
- ◇ High-tech medical and surgical treatment in hospitals
- ◇ New methods of prevention: mass vaccination and government lifestyle campaigns

Case studies:

- ◇ Key individuals: Fleming, Florey and Chain's development of penicillin
- ◇ The fight against lung cancer in the 21st century – science & technology vs. government action

The British sector of the Western Front 1914–18: Injuries, treatments and the trenches

The context of the British sector of the Front and the theatre of war in Flanders and northern France

- The Ypres salient, the Somme, Arras and Cambrai
- The trench system – organisation, including frontline and support trenches
- Significance for medical treatment of the nature of the terrain and problems of the transport and communications infrastructure

Conditions requiring medical treatment on the Western Front

- Problems of ill health arising from the trench environment
- Nature of wounds from rifles and explosives
- Problem of shrapnel, wound infection and increased numbers of head injuries
- The effects of gas attacks

Medical treatment on the Western Front

- Transport in the chain of evacuation; stretcher bearers, horse and motor ambulances
- The work of the RAMC and nurses
- Stages of treatment areas in the chain of evacuation: aid post and field ambulance, dressing station, casualty clearing station and base hospital.
- The underground hospital at Arras.

The significance of the Western Front for experiments in surgery and medicine

- New techniques in the treatment of wounds and infection
- The Thomas splint
- The use of mobile x-rays
- Creation of a blood bank for the Battle of Cambrai

The historical context of medicine in the early 20th century

- The understanding of infection and moves towards aseptic surgery
- The development of x-rays
- Blood transfusions and developments in the storage of blood

Knowledge selection and the use of sources for historical enquiries

- Knowledge of national sources relevant to the period and issue, e.g. army records, national newspapers, government reports, medical articles
- Knowledge of local sources relevant to the period and issue, e.g. personal accounts, photographs, hospital records, army statistics
- Recognition of the strengths and weaknesses of different types of source for specific enquiries
- Framing of questions for a specific enquiry
- Selection of appropriate sources for specific investigations

Early Elizabethan England, 1558 - 88

Topics you need to know

Queen, government and religion, 1558-69

The situation on Elizabeth's accession:

- Elizabethan England in 1558: society and government
- The Virgin Queen: the problem of her legitimacy, gender, marriage. Her character and strengths.
- Challenges at home and from abroad: financial weaknesses, religious divisions, the French threat.

The "settlement" of religion:

- Elizabeth's religious settlement (1559): its features and impact.
- The Church of England: its role in society.

Challenge to the religious settlement:

- The Puritan challenge: nature and extent
- The Catholic challenge: the role of the nobility, Papacy and foreign powers.

The problem of Mary, Queen of Scots:

- Mary, Queen of Scots: her claim to the English throne.
- Relations between Elizabeth and Mary, 1568-69.

Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad, 1569-88

Plots and revolts at home:

- The reasons for, and significance of, the Revolt of the Northern Earls, 1569-70.
- The Ridolfi, Throckmorton and Babington plots. Walsingham and the use of spies.
- The reasons for, and significance of, Mary Queen of Scots' execution in 1587.

Relations with Spain:

- Political, religious and commercial rivalry.
- The significance of privateering and the activities of Drake.

Outbreak of war with Spain, 1585-88:

- Reasons for deteriorating relations with Spain: English direct involvement in the Netherlands and the actions of Robert Dudley.
- Drake and the raid on Cadiz: 'Singeing the King of Spain's beard'.

The Armada:

- Spanish invasion plans. Key events of the Spanish Armada.
- The reasons for the English victory.

Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration, 1558-88

Education and leisure:

- Education in the home and schools.
- Sport, pastimes and the theatre.

The 'problem' of the poor:

- The reasons for the increase in poverty and vagabondage during these years.
- The changing attitudes and policies towards the poor.

Exploration and voyages of discovery:

- Factors prompting exploration, including the impact of new technology, ship design and trade.
- The reasons for, and significance of, Drake's circumnavigation of the globe.

Raleigh and Virginia:

- Reasons for the attempted colonisation of Virginia, including the significance of Raleigh.
- Reasons for the failure of the first settlement in Virginia.

The American West, c1835-c1895

Topics you need to know

The early settlement of the West, c1835-c1862

The Indigenous peoples of the Plains: their beliefs and ways of life

- Social and tribal structures, ways of life and means of survival on the Plains.
- Beliefs about land and nature and attitudes to war and property.

Migration and early settlement

- The factors encouraging migration, including the Oregon Trail from 1836, the belief in Manifest Destiny, and the California Gold Rush of 1849.
- Early migration to c1850, including the experiences of the Donner Party and the Mormon migration, 1846–47.
- The development and problems of early settlement.

Conflict and tension

- Reasons for tension with Indigenous peoples of the Plains, including US government policy and the 'Permanent Indian Frontier'. The significance of the first Fort Laramie Treaty (1851). The Indian Appropriations Act (1851).
- Lawlessness in early towns and settlements, including attempts to tackle lawlessness.

Development of the Plains, c1862-c1876

The development of settlement in the West

- The significance of the railroads; the Pacific Railroad Act (1862) and the completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad (1869) and the spread of the railroad network.
- The impact of the Homestead Act (1862). Attempts at solutions to problems faced by homesteaders: the use of new methods and new technology; the impact of the Timber Culture Act (1873).
- Introducing law and order in settlements, including the roles of law officers and increases in federal government influence.

Ranching and the cattle industry

- The cattle industry and factors in its growth, including the roles of Iliff, McCoy and Goodnight, the significance of Abilene and of the increasing use of the railroad network.
- The changing role of the cowboy, including changes in ranching. Relations between ranchers and homesteaders.

Changes in the ways of life of the Indigenous peoples of the Plains

- The impact of railroads, the cattle industry and gold prospecting on the Indigenous peoples.
- The impact of US government policy towards the Indigenous peoples, including the continued use of reservations and the Second Fort Laramie Treaty, 1868.
- Conflict on the Plains: Little Crow's War (1862) and the Sand Creek Massacre (1864), the significance of Red Cloud's War (1866–68).

Later developments in the West, c1876-c1895

Changes in farming, the cattle industry and settlement

- Changes in farming: the impact of new technology and new farming methods.
- Changes in the cattle industry, including the impact of the winter of 1886–87. The significance of changes in the nature of ranching. The end of the open range.
- Continued settlement: the Exoduster movement and Kansas (1879), the Oklahoma Land Rush of 1893. The closure of the 'Indian Frontier'.

Conflict and tension

- Dealing with law and order, including sheriffs and marshals, including the significance of Billy the Kid, Wyatt Earp, the OK Corral (1881).
- The range wars, including the Johnson County War of 1892.
- Conflict on the Plains: the Battle of the Little Bighorn, 1876 and its impact; the Wounded Knee Massacre 1890.

Indigenous peoples of the Plains: the destruction of their ways of life

- The hunting and extermination of the buffalo.
- The Indigenous peoples' lives on the reservations.
- The significance of changing government attitudes to the Indigenous peoples, including the Dawes Act 1887.

Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39

Topics you need to know

Key topic 1: The Weimar Republic 1918–29

1 The origins of the Republic, 1918–19

- The situation in Germany at the end of the War: political unrest, abdication of the Kaiser, armistice and new republic.
- The strengths and weaknesses of the new Weimar Constitution.

2 The early challenges to the Weimar Republic, 1919–23

- Reasons for the early unpopularity of the Republic, including the 'stab in the back' theory and the key terms of the Treaty of Versailles.
- Challenges to the Republic from Left and Right: Spartacists, Freikorps, the Kapp Putsch.
- The challenges of 1923: hyperinflation; the reasons for, and effects of, the French occupation of the Ruhr.

3 The 'Golden Years': recovery of the Republic, 1924–29

- Reasons for economic recovery, including the work of Stresemann, the Rentenmark, the Dawes and Young Plans and American loans and investment.
- Stresemann's achievements in gaining international acceptance of Germany

4 Changes in society, 1924–29

- Changes in the standard of living.
- Changes in the position of women in work, politics and leisure.
- Cultural changes: developments in architecture, art and the cinema.

Key topic 2: Hitler's rise to power, 1919–33

1 Early development of the Nazi Party, 1920–22

- Hitler's early career: joining the German Workers' Party and setting up the Nazi Party, 1919–20.
- The Twenty-Five Point Programme. The role of the SA.

2 The Munich Putsch and the Nazi Party, 1923–28

- The reasons for, events and consequences of the Munich Putsch; Mein Kampf.
- Reasons for limited support for the Nazi Party, 1924–28. Party reorganisation, including the Bamberg Conference of 1926.

3 The growth in support for the Nazis, 1929–32

- The growth of unemployment – its causes and impact. The growth of support for the Communist Party.
- Reasons for the growth in support for the Nazi Party, including the appeal of Hitler and the Nazis, the effects of propaganda and the work of the SA.

4 How Hitler became Chancellor, 1932–33

- The Presidential and Reichstag elections of 1932; reasons for Hitler becoming Chancellor in 1933, including the roles of Hindenburg and von Papen.

Key topic 3: Nazi control and dictatorship, 1933–39

1 The creation of a dictatorship, 1933–34

- The Reichstag Fire. The Enabling Act and the banning of other parties and trade unions.
- The threat from Röhm and the SA, the Night of the Long Knives. The death of Hindenburg. Hitler becomes Führer, the army oath of allegiance.

2 The police state

- The role of the Gestapo, the SS and concentration camps.
- Nazi control of the legal system.

3 Controlling and influencing attitudes

- Goebbels and the Ministry of Propaganda: censorship, Nazi use of media, rallies and sport, including the Berlin Olympics (1936).
- Nazi control of culture and the arts, including art, architecture, literature and film.
- Nazi attempts to control the Catholic and Protestant Churches: the Concordat and the Reich Church.

4 Opposition, resistance and conformity

- The extent of support for the Nazi regime.
- Opposition from the Churches, including the role of Pastor Niemöller.
- Opposition from the young, including the Swing Youth and the Edelweiss Pirates.

Key topic 4: Life in Nazi Germany, 1933–39

1 Nazi policies towards women

- Nazi views on women and the family.
- Nazi policies towards women, including marriage and family, employment and appearance.

2 Nazi policies towards the young

- Nazi aims and policies towards the young. The Hitler Youth and the League of German Maidens.
- Nazi control of the young through education, including the curriculum and teachers.

3 Employment and living standards

- Nazi policies to reduce unemployment: labour service, autobahns, rearmament and invisible unemployment.
- Changes in the standard of living, especially of German workers. The Labour Front, Strength Through Joy, Beauty of Labour.

4 The persecution of minorities

- Nazi racial beliefs and policies and the treatment of minority groups: Slavs, Roma and Sinti, homosexuals, and people with disabilities.
- The persecution of Jewish people, including the boycott of Jewish shops and businesses (1933), the Nuremberg Laws and 'Kristallnacht'.