



A Level History - Paper 2H updates to exam content 2022

Guidance from AQA / your History Teachers

- Questions on the exam will be focus on the areas of study highlighted below, and not those struck through.
- AQA states you can either rely only on info from that section, or additionally wider knowledge of the course.

However:

- As you will see below, a lack of knowledge of content that has been struck through would in some cases make it much harder to write a good essay in this exam, so think in terms of **prioritising** certain areas over others, and not in terms of choosing not to revise or resit some content whatsoever.
- The 2 exceptions to this are pre-1789 and the domestic History of Directory 1795 – 1799, where you won't need to revise much unless it effects your understanding of other parts of the course - I would still recommend getting familiar with Napoleon's military campaigns during the Directory.
- I will put together a list of likely essay questions based on this update, but remember this is just my best guess no one can predict an exam accurately, so cover your bases by revising all the big debates and preparing as many essay plans as possible.

Part one: the end of Absolutism and the French Revolution, 1774–1795

The origins of the French Revolution, 1774–1789

The experiment in constitutional monarchy, 1789–1792

- Sans-culottes and the collapse of the constitutional experiment; the September massacres and elections to the national Convention

The emergence and spread of the Terror, September 1792–1795

- The establishment of a Republic: problems and policies; debate leading to the execution of the King
- The spread of the Terror: executions; the influence of Robespierre and the sans culottes; the role of the CPS; Robespierre's fall and the collapse of the Terror

Part two: the rise of Napoleon and his impact on France and Europe, 1795–1815 (A-level only)

The Directory and Napoleon's rise to power, 1795–1799 (A-level only)

The impact of Napoleon's rule on France, 1799–1815 (A-level only)

- Political change: Napoleon's consolidation of power and establishment of Emperor status; constitutional developments
- Social change: class distinctions and titles; education and attitude to women; censorship and propaganda; the position of the Church; the Concordat and its aftermath
- Legal and administrative change: the Napoleonic codes; the prefects, police and control
- Financial and economic policies and problems: taxation; the central economy; the impact of war and the Continental System; degree of economic change



The impact of Napoleon's rule on Europe, 1799–1815 (A-level only)

- The collapse of the Empire: the first Peace of Paris; the 100 days; Napoleon's abdication and second Peace of Paris; treatment of France by the Vienna settlement; the condition of France in 1815; Napoleon's reputation and legacy