



Get off to a 'Flying Start' in

History - AS/A Level

Welcome to Flying Start with North Devon College.

We hope that you are excited to join us at North Devon College. We want to help you to focus on your skills for your course with us and so below you will find questions to consider, tasks to complete and some background research to undertake before enrolment.

Please read the instructions and have a go at the activities.

If you get stuck, please see the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section at the end of this document for help.

A quick hello and introduction to the course!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xvssVtcNIM8op6Mda8pAClWr6TVIofVM/view?usp=sharing>

The AS/A level History course will give you a chance to explore topics that you wouldn't have had a chance to cover at school. In this pathway we focus on Germany (1918-1989), Italian Fascism (1911-1946), in the first year, and Wars of the Roses (1399-1509) in the second year. The Flying Start activities will introduce you to some of the key individuals from our course and help to place the time period we are looking at into context.

To get you started...

Task 1:

Look up the terms 'nationalism' and 'fascism' and define them in one line each:

Nationalism is:

.....

Fascism is:

.....

Task 2 (This piece of writing should be no longer than one side of A4 for both the 8-mark and 12-mark questions)

Source Analysis:

Source A

"The Wall will protect our socialist state from the influence of the West and guarantee peace and stability for our citizens."

(East German government statement, 1961)

Question

1. How useful is Source A for an historian studying the Berlin Wall? (8 marks)

Interpretations analysis:

Historian A argues:

"The most important turning point in German history between 1918 and 1989 was Hitler's rise to power in 1933."

Historian B argues:

"The division of Germany in 1949 had a greater impact on ordinary Germans."

Question:

Which interpretation do you agree with more? Use your own knowledge to support your answer. (12 marks)

Task 3 (complete the 8-mark question and then the table)

Source Evaluation:

Source B

"The Duce has restored pride, order and discipline to Italy. The nation is stronger than ever before."

(Italian newspaper, 1936)

Question:

1. How useful is Source B for understanding Fascist Italy? (8 marks)

Key Events Timeline

Event	Political Impact in Italy
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Italian invasion of Libya (1911)	
Entry into First World War (1915)	
March on Rome (1922)	

Textbooks:

- [Edexcel AS/A Level History, Paper 1&2: Nationalism, dictatorship and democracy in 20th century Europe Student Book + ActiveBook \(Edexcel GCE History 2015\): Amazon.co.uk: Hall, Katie, Brown, David, Williams, Ben: 9781447985303: Books](#)
- [Edexcel A Level History, Paper 3: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII 1399-1509 Student Book + ActiveBook \(Edexcel GCE History 2015\): Amazon.co.uk: Carrel, Helen: 9781447985396: Books](#)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Will this work be marked and when is it due?

A: This work may not be formally marked but will be essential for your first classes with us in September. Bring along what you have completed to your first timetabled sessions.

Q: I am not sure if I have the answers right, what should I do?

A: Don't worry, just have a go at getting something down and bring it along to the lesson where we can talk it through. There is no need to get anxious about the tasks, we are not expecting you to know everything before you arrive but are interested in your ideas and what you have found easy or difficult as it helps us support you right from the beginning.

Q: Do I have to do it?



A: Flying Start is not compulsory, but many students find it useful for getting them used to thinking about subjects at the next level. Early classroom sessions will also reflect on some of the Flying Start activities.