

INTERNATIONAL GCSE

History (9-1)

TOPIC BOOKLET:

The changing nature of warfare and international conflict,
1919-2011

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in History (4HI1)

For first teaching September 2017



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Overview

This option is a Breadth Study and in five Key Topics students learn about:

1. The changing nature of warfare, 1919-39
2. Changing methods of warfare by land, sea and air, 1939-45
3. New forms of conflict – nuclear and guerrilla warfare versus conventional warfare, 1945-75
4. Conventional warfare and the development of 'new' wars, 1976-2000
5. Changing methods of warfare at the beginning of the 21st century, 2000-10

Breadth Studies focus on a substantial and coherent longer time span of around 100 years and require students to understand the unfolding narrative of substantial developments and issues associated with the period. The content is divided into five **key topics** outlined above, which provide a framework for teaching and understanding the option. Although these clearly run in chronological

sequence, they should not be taken in isolation from each other – students should appreciate the narrative connections that run across the key topics. Through these key topics students trace developments in five **key themes** across the chronology. These are:

1. Land warfare
2. Sea warfare
3. Air warfare
4. Weaponry, technology and communications
5. Guerrilla warfare.

Outline – why students will engage with this period in history

Students study a period of huge significance in world history by examining a topic which has affected all continents and has shaped and continues to shape the world we inhabit today.

It is a study in which topic 1 begins after the end of the First World War and examines the nature of warfare at the beginning of this period and ways in which warfare continued to change and develop for the following twenty years. Students will look at the impact of technological developments and the tactics and strategies developed for future conflicts. Some of these tactics were employed in wars in Africa, Asia and Europe in the years to 1939. The use of the bomber in the Spanish Civil War and Sino-Japanese War during this period clearly indicated how civilians could be targeted in order to create panic and affect the morale of the non-combatants. Soviet military personnel also developed guerrilla warfare methods in the Spanish Civil War which were then taken further by groups during the Second World War.

Students will analyse aspects of warfare during the Second World War and will build a picture of rapidly changing methods of warfare in a global context.

It is a study that examines the land war in the west of Europe in 1940 and then considers changes in aerial warfare ranging from the Battle of Britain to the use of V weapons at the end of the conflict. In addition, aspects of the naval war will be examined by studying the Battle of the Atlantic which saw developments in submarine and anti-submarine warfare. Students study the importance of the aircraft carrier for the Pacific War. The study encompasses analyses of combined operations e.g. D-Day and Arnhem.

Moreover, this part of the topic allows students to look at civilian resistance in occupied territories during wartime for example in France and Yugoslavia.

Students will learn about the use of the atomic bombs in 1945 and the subsequent arms race between the two superpowers. The race not only covers the build-up of weaponry but also the development of the means of their delivery. Students will also study the proliferation of nuclear weapons as well as the development of other means of mass destruction. There is also an examination of the attempts to limit the number of nuclear weapons and the beginnings of attempts to reduce their number. It is a study that continues to analyse conventional warfare e.g. Arab-Israeli wars and then moves to an examination of asymmetric wars e.g. Vietnam.

Students will again see the relevance of the study in the final two sections when warfare in the late twentieth and early twenty first centuries is examined. The rapid changes from conventional war e.g. the first Gulf War to the so-called 'Star Wars' programme are analysed, as are terrorism, 'New Wars' and technological developments such as 'smart weapons', drones and unmanned vehicles.

1.1 Assessment

Students answer one question (called B6) for this breadth study. It is divided into three question types:

- B6 (a): this focuses on in what ways things changed (or stayed the same). Students respond by offering two ways.
- B6 (b): this focuses on causation, in which students write an account that explains two causes of an event.
- B6 (c): students select one from a choice of two for extended writing. Each focuses on the extent of change, or the relative responsibility of a factor for change. The question may select a factor and ask the student to discuss the relative significance of that factor, or it may invite a discussion on the significance of a change within the period or how far something changed over an extended period. The question may or may not cover the whole chronological period of the breadth study, but will normally draw upon two or more topics across the selected chronology. Further guidance on assessment approaches is provided in 'Getting Started'.

Content guidance¹

2.1 Summary of content

Although the first topic begins in 1919, background knowledge of developments in warfare during the First World War will help students to understand the context of changes during the period to 1939. Examination questions will not, however, call on material prior to 1919.

The first topic analyses the changing nature of warfare and looks at how technological developments brought change to how war was to be waged in the future on land, sea and in the air. This is exemplified by the military theorists such as Guderian. Moreover, conflicts such as the Sino-Japanese War, the Spanish Civil War and the Italo-Abyssinian War indicated the increased importance of aircraft. Students should learn about the role of the bomber in these wars and how it came to be seen as a weapon that could create chaos among the civilian population. They should also be aware of guerrilla tactics and the challenge these posed for conventional armies.

The second topic covers the period of the Second World War and all aspects of warfare. Students analyse the initial phases of the war and study the concept of Blitzkrieg in Poland, the Low Countries and France. Aerial warfare is examined with the use of the fighter in the Battle of Britain and the bomber in the *Blitz* and raids on German cities in the later part of the conflict. In addition, students will consider technological developments in aerial warfare e.g. radar, pilotless planes and rockets. Naval warfare will also be analysed, not only in the Battle of the Atlantic but also in the Pacific theatre. This entails an analysis of submarine and anti-submarine warfare as well as the use of aircraft carriers. The topic then moves to cover combined operations such as D-Day and Arnhem. In addition, students will examine a key development of warfare during this time, namely resistance movements e.g. in France and Yugoslavia.

The third key topic looks at the development of warfare in the thirty years after the end of the Second World War. The topic begins with the use of the atomic bomb and ends with the asymmetric conflict in Vietnam. In this topic, students should understand the arms race and the superpowers' acceptance of the MAD theory. At the same time, students must understand the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The topic then analyses conventional warfare by looking at the various Arab-Israeli conflicts but also examines the asymmetric war in Vietnam, a conflict that presages developments in warfare for the final thirty years of the study.

¹ This section is written to support teachers' planning and does not constitute additional specified material to be taught.

When examining the fourth topic, students will be able to appreciate the many developments of all aspects of warfare. The topic looks at conventional wars and students can see the impact of technology with the use of e.g. VTOL aircraft in the Falklands and laser weaponry in the first Gulf War. Students will also look at a further example of an asymmetric war – Afghanistan – and also consider further developments in nuclear warfare. The topic comes to a close when students examine the 'Star Wars' programme and how the nuclear arms race ended.

The fifth time period covers an age of terrorism and anti-terrorism. Students will consider terrorism and analyse 9/11 and how the approach to warfare changed after this. The concept of the 'New Wars' is studied together with high-tech warfare and the importance of 'surgical' air strikes in 21st-century wars in the Middle East. In addition, the rapid technological developments mean that students will analyse the use of such weapons as drones and unmanned land vehicles.

Terms and first-order concepts: What sorts of terms and first-order concepts will students need to be familiar with for this option?

- Students should understand the key substantive (first order) concepts intrinsic to this study: asymmetric warfare, *Blitz*, *Blitzkrieg*, drones, laser, MAD theory, proliferation, resistance movements, smart weapons, strategy, tactics, technology.
- They should also understand the key terms and second order concepts that will enable them to discuss change and consequence as the questions require.
- In order to discuss the extent and process of change, students should be familiar with continuity and change and therefore consequence and significance (of specified events in relation to changes and unfolding developments). Students will need to understand the terms impact, significance and consequence.

Impact: Impact means a [powerful effect](#) that something, [especially](#) some new change, has on a [situation](#) or [person](#).

E.g. The use of the atom bomb had a tremendous effect on the superpowers – the Soviet Union began to develop its own atomic weapons and as a result the arms race began.

Significance: Significance is the amount of influence or meaning that the impact of an event or change has. It can also be regarded as the importance of that impact.

E.g. *The significance of 9/11 was that the West had to take the threat of terror attacks more seriously and change the approach to dealing with Islamic fundamentalism.*

Continuity and Change: This is what, in broad terms, stayed the same over a longer period and what changed.

Combined operations in war, as seen during D Day and Arnhem in 1944 were still used as key techniques as in the Falkland War (1982) and the Gulf War (1990-91), despite the onset of asymmetric warfare as seen in Vietnam during the 1960s.

Consequence: A consequence means what happened because of an action, in other words, it is the result of an event or change.

E.g. *A consequence of the development of the inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM) was the acceleration in the build up of nuclear weapons by the superpowers. Each superpower feared the other's ability to deliver nuclear warheads and so raced to have as many ICBMs as possible.*

2.2 Content exemplification and mapping

This section provides additional guidance on the specification content. It should be remembered that the official specification is the only authoritative source of information and should always be referred to for definitive guidance. Any examples provided here do not constitute additional specification content, and other relevant material illustrating aspects of change within periods can be used.

Key topic one: The changing nature of warfare, 1919-39	Exemplification	Thematic Links	Resources
Changes in the nature of warfare	British use of gas in the Bolshevik Civil War and Mesopotamia. Development of tank tactics by strategists: Guderian, Liddell Hart, Fuller. Use of tanks and aircraft in the Spanish Civil War and the war between Japan and the Soviet Union in 1939.	Land, air warfare and weaponry, technology and communications (Themes 1,3 and 4)	The Encyclopedia of Warfare: From Earliest Times...to the Present Day A. Gilbert
Submarines and military aircraft	Continued development of the submarine. Development of monoplanes, role of aircraft in Spanish Civil War: bombing of Guernica and Barcelona. Japanese bombing of Manchuria (Shanghai).	Sea warfare and air warfare (Themes 2 and 3)	The Encyclopedia of Warfare: From Earliest Times...to the Present Day A. Gilbert Historylearningsite.co.uk Amnesty.org.uk Warhistoryonline.com
Guerrilla tactics in the Spanish Civil War	Soviet assistance to the Republicans; development of a partisan army against the	Guerrilla warfare (Theme 5)	Behind Fascist Lines: A First hand Account of Guerrilla Warfare During

	Nationalist forces, techniques and strategies.		<p>the Spanish Revolution Paperback – January 3, 1995. A Starinov</p> <p>Between Two Fires-Guerrilla war in the Spanish sierras D. Baird</p> <p>Both are written for the more able.</p>
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Key topic two: Changing methods of warfare by land, sea and air, 1939-45	Exemplification	Thematic Links	Resources
The war in the West	Technique of <i>Blitzkrieg</i> as used in the Netherlands, Belgium and France.	Land and air warfare (Themes 1 and 3)	<p>The World at War 1938-1945 S. Waugh and J. Wright</p> <p>The era of the Second World War J. Brooman</p> <p>The Second World War N DeMarco</p> <p>The Encyclopedia of Warfare: From Earliest Times...to the Present Day A. Gilbert</p>
	Use of fighter aeroplanes and radar in the Battle of Britain; the <i>Blitz</i> (London and other key cities) and the use of bombers against civilian	Air warfare and Weaponry, technology and communications (Themes 3 and 4)	The Encyclopedia of Warfare: From Earliest Times...to the Present Day A. Gilbert

	targets; advances in technology and V weapons; Allied bombing of German cities.		The era of the Second World War J. Brooman The World at War 1938-1945 S. Waugh and J. Wright
Warfare in the Atlantic	Use and tactics of German wolfpacks. Anti-submarine warfare: escort carriers, high frequency direction finding, airborne radar and searchlights, improved depth charges, homing torpedoes.	Sea and air warfare, weaponry and technology (Themes 2,3 and 4)	The Second World War N DeMarco bbc.co.uk/history The Battle of the Atlantic J. Dimpleby
Combined operations – amphibious, and paratrooper actions	D Day, Arnhem. Use of gliders, landing craft, commandos (special forces). US combined operations in 1945 – Iwo Jima and Okinawa.	Land, sea and air warfare (Themes 1,2,3 and 4)	The World at War 1938-1945 S. Waugh and J. Wright The Second World War N DeMarco history.com iwm.org.uk The Encyclopedia of Warfare: From Earliest Times...to the Present Day A. Gilbert
Resistance Movements	In France: the methods of the Resistance and the Maquis: sabotage, assistance to the Allies, active and passive resistance. Other countries e.g. Yugoslavia.	Guerrilla warfare. (Theme 5)	The Second World War N DeMarco historylearningsite.co.uk history.com
Aircraft carriers in the Pacific, 1941-45	Role of the aircraft carrier at Pearl Harbor, Coral Sea, Midway, Philippine Sea and Leyte Gulf	Sea and air warfare. Weaponry and technology	The World at War 1938-1945 S. Waugh and J. Wright

	Technological developments of aircraft for carrier use and of carriers themselves.	(Themes 2,3 and 4)	The Encyclopedia of Warfare: From Earliest Times...to the Present Day A. Gilbert ushistory.org Epic sea battles W Koenig
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Key topic three: New forms of conflict – nuclear and guerrilla warfare versus conventional warfare, 1945-75	Exemplification	Thematic Links	Resources
The use of the atomic bomb in 1945	US decision to use the atomic bombs: military problems US had faced, military-political debate over the use.	Weaponry and technology (Theme 4)	The World at War 1938-1945 S. Waugh and J. Wright The Second World War N. DeMarco The Second World War and the Americas 1933-45 J. Wright The Second World War and the Americas 1933-45 J Wright Hiroshima: Why America dropped the Atomic Bomb R. Takaki
The nuclear arms race, 1945-75 and nuclear proliferation	Superpower development of the atomic and hydrogen bombs; build-up of stockpiles in the 1950s and 1960s, development of delivery methods by means of aircraft,	Sea and air warfare. Weaponry and technology (Themes 2,3 and 4)	The Oxford History of Modern War by Charles Townshend

	submarines, rockets and missiles Development of chemical, radiological and biological weapons.		Soviet-American relations in the Nuclear Age J. Fitzgerald bbc.co.uk/bitesize historylearningsite.co.uk spartacus-educational.com history.com
Nuclear proliferation, arms limitation	Spread of possession of nuclear weaponry, MAD theory, Test Ban treaties, SALT 1.	Weaponry and technology (Theme 4)	Soviet-American relations in the Nuclear Age J. Fitzgerald nobelprize.org atomicarchive.com
Development of conventional warfare	Combined operations, mobile warfare – especially Middle East – use of aircraft, tanks, missiles.	Land and warfare Weaponry and technology (Themes 1, 3 and 4)	War and Peace in the Middle East M. Scott-Baumann
Superpowers and asymmetric guerrilla warfare	The US in Vietnam – conflict against the Vietcong (VC). Tactics and strategy employed by the VC.	Weaponry, technology and communications (Themes 1, 4 and 5)	Vietnam 1950-75 S. Waugh and J. Wright Vietnam 1960-75 S. May and R. Bircher historylearningsite.co.uk spartacus-educational.com The USA and Vietnam 1945-75 V. Sanders (Written for AS/A2 students)

Key topic four: Conventional warfare and the development of 'new' wars, 1976-2000	Exemplification	Thematic Links	Resources
Conventional warfare	Falklands War (1982), use of carriers, V/STOL aircraft. The Gulf War (1990-91) – aerial (including helicopters), naval and land operations. Stealth and smart weaponry. Use of submarines and tomahawk missiles.	Land, sea and air warfare (Themes 1,2 and 3)	naval-history.net/NAVAI1982falklands youtube (for the Harrier) foxnews.com nytimes.com historyofwar.com pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/gulf/weapons/tomahawk
Superpowers and guerrilla warfare	The Soviet Union in Afghanistan, tactics and strategy of the Mujahideen. Soviet Union and the guerrilla war in Chechnya.	Guerrilla warfare (Theme 5)	Coldwar.org Warfarehistorynetwork.com For Chechnya – Aljazeera.com
Nuclear Warfare, Star Wars, the end of the nuclear arms race	Continued development of weapons delivery in the 1970s, the neutron bomb, the 'Star Wars' (SDI) programme. The collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the	Weaponry and technology (Theme 4)	The Oxford History of Modern War by Charles Townshend International Relations: The Era of the Cold War 1943-1991 S. Waugh and J. Wright

	arms race – CFE Treaty and START Treaty.		Peace and War: International Relations 1900-91 R. Bunce, L. Gallagher, N. Kelly Coldwar.org Atomicarchive.com
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Key topic 5: Changing methods of warfare at the beginning of the 21st century, 2000-10	Exemplification	Thematic Links	Resources
The impact of terrorism	Analysis of 9/11: aims of Al Qaeda, methods, targets, results. The War on Terror – aims, methods and results. Madrid (2004) and London (2005). World security measures.	Land and air warfare Weaponry, technology and communications and guerrilla warfare. (Themes 1,3, 4 and 5.)	Independent.co.uk bbc.co.uk/history mirror.co.uk/ all-about /al-qaeda globalpolicy.org/war-on-terrorism globalissues.org bbc.co.uk (Investigating Al Qaeda)
New Wars and high-tech warfare	Definition of 'new' wars – war, criminality, breakdown of community, challenges to human rights: e.g. Bosnia.	Land warfare. Weaponry, technology and communications (Theme 4)	independent.co.uk bbc.co.uk /programmes/p00546qy

	Use of laser and GPS-guided bombs and missiles.		fas.org/man/dod-101/sys/smart/lgb.htm
Drone and unmanned warfare	Use of drones (UAVs) role in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq. Unmanned land vehicles (UGV) in Iraq and Afghanistan.	Land and air warfare Weaponry, technology and communications. (Themes 1,3 and 4)	dronewars.net/aboutdrone economist.com/node/21524876 iar-gwu.org/node/144 www.channel4.com/news/us-drones-tools-of-modern-warfare

Student timeline

The timeline below could be given to students, and could be further edited and added to by them. Inclusion of dates and events in this timeline should not be taken as an indication that these are prescribed: the official specification and associated assessment guidance materials are the only authoritative source of information and should always be referred to for definitive guidance

1931	Japanese invasion of Manchuria
1935	Italian invasion of Abyssinia
1936	Beginning of the Spanish Civil War
1937	Bombing of Guernica Bombing of Shanghai
1939	End of the Spanish Civil War Beginning of World War Two
1940	Blitzkrieg technique used against the Low Countries and France Battle of Britain Beginning of the Blitz
1941	German invasion of the Soviet Union
1942	Battle of the Coral Sea Battle of Midway
1943	Allied invasion of Italy Battle of Philippine Sea
1944	D Day Arnhem Battle of Leyte Gulf German use of V1 and V2 weapons
1945	US combined operations at Iwo Jima and Okinawa Atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki End of World War Two
1949	Soviet Union tested its first atom bomb
1950	Beginning of the Korean War
1952	USA tested its first hydrogen bomb
1953	Soviet Union tested its first hydrogen bomb

1963	Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
1964	
1965	First US combat troops in Vietnam
1967	Outer Space Treaty
1971	Sea-bed Treaty
1972	Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT 1) Biological Warfare Convention
1973	US withdrawal from Vietnam
1975	Helsinki Agreements
1979	Soviet invasion of Afghanistan Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT 2 - never ratified)
1982	Falklands War
1983	USA announced the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI)
1987	Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF)
1989	Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan completed
1990	Iraq invaded Kuwait. First Gulf War Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE)
1991	End of First Gulf War First use of Tomahawk cruise missiles Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty
1992	Beginning of the war in Bosnia
1995	End of the war in Bosnia
2001	9/11 attacks in the USA
2003	Beginning of the Second Gulf War
2004	Madrid bombing Beslan School hostage crisis
2005	London bombings

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