

History Revision for Junior Cert

Using the list of chapters given below number the chapters/sections rate your knowledge of this section – 10 being 'I know absolutely everything' to 1 'I know absolutely nothing'. Start your revision with the chapters with the lowest rating and work your way up to the chapters with the higher ratings. Third year work is the most important section of the course followed by second year work with first year work being the least important.

When revising a section.

- Find out first what the section is about, e.g. the Reformation - can you sum up in one or two sentences what this section is about?
- Look through the chapter headings.
- In each chapter look at the subheadings. This should give you an overall picture of what the chapter is all about.
- Read each chapter in the section.
- Mark any unknown terms (always written in *italics and bold*) and work out their meanings.
- Test your understanding by answering the questions at the end of each section; consult your old copybook(s) for answers. If you do not know the answer reread the section between the set of questions you are working on and the previous set of questions.

You must take an active interest in what you are reading. Try to remember the events as if they were a story. *When you have done all this make a quick note of the main events of the story in your own words either as a list or a spider diagram. These notes will be very useful in the days just before your exam.*

Exam questions

Always answer questions in full sentences, unless you are running out of time. In the case of where there is not enough time it is better to make an attempt than not at all. The questions carrying most marks deserve the most time. It is also important to know the order in which events happen so you can fit them into the proper place in history. For example do you know the order in which the following people in history occur - the Romans, the Normans, the Vikings?

The contents of your book

<i>First Year</i>			
<i>Section</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Rating</i>	<i>Done</i>
The work of Historians and Archaeologists	What does a historian do?		
	What does an archaeologist do?		
Early Ireland	Our roots in ancient civilisation		
	The Neolithic Period		
	The Bronze Age in Ireland		
	The Iron Age and the Celts		
	Early Christian Ireland		
Life in Ancient Rome	What was life like in ancient Rome?		
	How was the Roman Empire ruled?		

	What was it like to live in the Roman Empire		
	How have the Romans influenced our lives?		
The Middle Ages	Life in the Middle Ages		
	Life in the Medieval Village		
	Life in the Medieval Castle		
	Life in the Medieval Town		
	Religion in the Middle Ages		
	How the Normans changed Ireland		
The Renaissance	What was the Renaissance?		
	Renaissance Painting		
	Renaissance Sculpture and Architecture		
	The Invention of Printing		
	Science during the Renaissance		
	The impact of the Renaissance		
The Age of Exploration	Why did the age of exploration begin?		
	Explorers from Portugal		
	Explorers from Spain		
	The Consequences of the age of exploration		
The Reformation	Why did the reformation occur?		
	Martin Luther		
	Religious change in Switzerland and Scotland		
	The consequences of the Reformation		
Plantations	Ireland in the early 1500s		
	The beginning of the Plantations		
	King James I starts the Ulster Plantation		
	The Cromwellian Plantation		
	Did the Plantations change Ireland?		
Revolutions	The American War of Independence		
	Why was there a revolution in France in 1789		
	The 1798 Rebellion		
The Industrial Revolution	How did society change?		
	The Agricultural Revolution		
	The Industrialisation of Britain		
	The Transport Revolution		
	Living and working during the Industrial Revolution		
	Irish Society in the 19 th century		
Political development in Ireland 1900-1966	Ireland 1900-1914		
	The 1916 Rising		
	The First Dáil and the War of Independence 1919-1921		
	The Treaty and the Civil War 1920-1923		

	Cumann na nGaedhael in government 1922-1932		
	Fianna Fáil in government 1932-1939		
	The Emergency 1939-1945		
	Ireland 1950-1966		
	Northern Ireland 1920-1945		
	Northern Ireland 1945-1985		
International Relations 1900-1963	Europe after World War I		
	Mussolini's Italy 1922-1945		
	Nazi Germany 1933-1939		
	The Drift to War 1933-1939		
	World War II 1939-1945		
	The Rise of the Superpowers 1945-1963		
Ireland: Social History	Changes in Transport and Communications		
	Changes in rural Ireland		
	Changes in Urban Ireland		
	Changes in Work and Leisure		
	Changes in Women's Lives		

The Exam

How to time your exam

Ordinary level 90 minutes (1½ hours)

Question one	30 marks	15 minutes	
Question two	30 marks	15 minutes	
Question three	40 marks	20 minutes	
Question four	80 marks	40 minutes	(20 minutes for each biography)

Higher level 2.5 hours (2½ hours)

Question one	15 marks	12 minutes	
Question two	15 marks	12 minutes	
Question three	20 marks	16 minutes	
Question four	40 marks	32 minutes	(16 minutes for each biography)
Question five	30 marks	26 minutes	
Question six	60 marks	52 minutes	(26 minutes for each question)

Remember the following ...

- Always write your answers in full sentences
- Always number your answers carefully, they don't have to be done in order but they do have to be labelled.

Question One - Picture interpretation

You will be given three pictures, which can be taken from any part of the course. Pictures may be photographs of a historical scene, artefacts or cartoons.

How to revise

1. Look over pictures of artefacts in your book and exam papers (the Stone Age, the Bronze Age etc.) e.g. dolmen, jewellery, tombs, Celtic forts, manuscripts, spears, high crosses, chalices etc.,
2. Know the differences between the different architectural styles and art (Medieval and Renaissance) from different periods.
3. Study pictures of well known historical figures e.g. Stalin, Hitler, Mussolini, Lemass, Craig, Carson (Google images).
4. Study any cartoons or posters in your book and exam papers and try to understand the message they are trying to convey.

Question Two - Historical documents

This involves the study and interpretation of historical documents. The higher-level paper will be a little more demanding and may ask you to distinguish between biased and unbiased material (see the section on the work of the historian). You should read each document carefully as quite a number of answers will be available in them. Be careful not to re-write the text in your answer word for word but re-write the information in your own words.

How to revise:

1. Read documents in your textbook and exam papers; look up the meanings of any words you are unfamiliar with.
2. Learn how to distinguish between biased and unbiased comments and between fact and opinion.
3. Look for strong, unfounded personal opinion or exaggeration.
4. You should be able to tell the difference between primary and secondary sources of information.

Question three - Short questions

Here marks will be awarded for your best 10 answers. Always get to the point quickly and if you have extra time answer more than the requested 10 questions.

How to revise:

1. Practise writing short factual answers. Always get straight to the point.
2. Know about the contributions of important historical people.
3. Be familiar with the inventions of the revolutions in agriculture, industry and transport.
4. Be able to explain historical terms, these are the words that appear in **bold** in your book.
5. Practise by doing the short questions in your exam papers; these questions are sometimes repeated from one year to another.

Question four – People in History

Here you must be able to write descriptive passages on two of six biographies given. You should aim to give 20 facts about the people chosen.

How to revise:

1. Prepare time charts on well-known people or types of people from history

2. Review your project work from Second Year – Columbus, Luther, Washington, Robespierre, Wolfe Tone.
3. Look at your exam papers for examples of people who have been asked before.
4. Note higher-level students should be able to write about more than one explorer or reformer or artist.

Question Five - Documents and pictures (higher level only)

Here you will have to answer more difficult questions on documents, pictures and/or cartoons. Some questions may ask you to explain the consequences or results of an event or to explain the message contained in a picture or cartoon.

How to revise:

Study as many documents as you can in your book and exam papers. A good vocabulary is very important, get in the habit of looking up any word you do not understand in the dictionary. Learn the main aspects covered in second year history e.g. exploration, reformation, plantation, revolution etc.

Exploration and discovery

Here you should know the reasons for the interest in exploration, the instruments used, life on board ship as well as being able to write an account of the voyages of Magellan and Columbus

Reformation and Counter Reformation

You should know why the reformation and counter-reformation began, as well as being able to write about the life of two reformers such as Luther, Calvin or Loyola

Plantation in Ireland

You should know the reasons for plantations, the terms of the plantations and the results of each of the plantations.

Revolutions

You should be able to explain the reasons behind each revolution and be able to write an account of the leaders of each revolution.

The life of people in rural Ireland

You should be able to contrast the lives of people in rural Ireland with those living in Industrial England; pay particular attention to how they made their living and how they spent their leisure time.

Question Six – Long Questions

Higher level only

There are two questions out of four to be answered in this section. This is the most important section as it carries the most marks. Questions in this section have been based on the following areas in the past.

- Political developments in Ireland in the 19th and 20th century.
- International relations in the 20th century
- Social change in the 20th century

How to revise:

To prepare for questions on **political developments** you should focus on the main political figures (Carson, Craig, Cosgrave, de Valera, Lemass). Make a list of their achievements and their failures and be familiar with historical terms from this period.

Be able to write a paragraph on the following topics

1. The establishment of Northern Ireland
2. Ireland (north and south) during World War II
3. Terence O'Neill
4. The Civil Rights movement in Ireland
5. The Anglo-Irish agreement of 1985

International relations in the 20th century

1. Be able to write about the lives of **political dictators**, as well as their main actions at home and abroad
2. Study the main battles in Europe during World War II
3. For the **rise of superpowers** you should be able to describe the main events (e.g. the Berlin Blockade and Airlift, the Korean War or the Cuban Missile Crisis) as well as the outcome of those events.

Social change: here you should be able to chart the changes in people's lifestyles in the 20th century. Focus particularly on

- The role of women
- Work and leisure
- Urban and rural life
- Transport and communications
- Education

The best way to prepare for a question on social change in the 20th century is to make a list of the changes that took place in Ireland under the headings given above.