

# Starting with confidence >>

## History

The following are some activities you may like to do during your summer holidays, in preparation for studying A level History.

If you have chosen **Authority, Ideology and Conflict (Modern Focus) course** you will be studying the **Cold War**. There is a wide range of television and film resources on the topic including the recent film, 'The Bridge of Spies', set in Berlin and the older film 'Thirteen Days' about the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Whilst not always historically accurate, they can convey a good 'historical feel' for the period. Why not take a look?

You will also be studying the **British Empire** and below are some resources which manage to create a sense of period. They are not necessarily academic works, but could provide a good way into some of the issues you will be exploring.

There is no need to go to the expense of buying them either, as your local library should have copies, or films and documentaries may be available on YouTube.

### Novels

- *A Passage to India* E M Forster (also a film)
- *The Siege of Krishnapur* JG Farrell

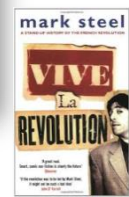
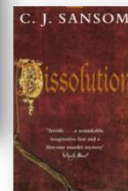
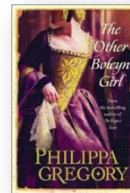
### Documentaries

- *Empire* Jeremy Paxman (also a book)
- *Empire: How Britain Made the Modern World* Niall Ferguson (also a book)

# Starting with confidence >>

If you have chosen the ***The Struggle for Supremacy and Equality (Early Modern Focus)*** course you may be interested in the following novels set in **Tudor England**:

- *The Constant Princess* Philippa Gregory
- *The Other Boleyn Girl* Philippa Gregory
- *The Boleyn Inheritance* Philippa Gregory
- *Dissolution* C.J. Sansom
- *Dark Fire* C.J. Sansom
- *Sovereign* C.J. Sansom
- *Revelation* C.J. Sansom
- *The Man on a Donkey* H.F.M. Prescott
- *Wolf Hall* Hilary Mantel
- *Bring up the Bodies* Hilary Mantel (sequel to *Wolf Hall*)



If you wanted a little more of an academic or intellectual focus as preparation for the course, you can view any of the following websites:

- [www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/history](http://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/history)
- [www.schoolhistory.co.uk/alevel/earlymodern\\_british.shtml](http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk/alevel/earlymodern_british.shtml)
- [www.tudors.org](http://www.tudors.org)

The first two contain information and activities for AS/A2 and the third provides a range of articles and resources for A Level and undergraduate history by an eminent Tudor Historian.

To get a light-hearted overview of the **French Revolution** you might enjoy 'Vive La Revolution' by Mark Steel. Or if you enjoy historical novels you could have a go at 'A Tale of Two Cities' by Charles Dickens.