



# **Advanced Higher History**

**Approved list of dissertations**

**Session 2023–24**

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# Introduction

This list of suggested Advanced Higher History dissertation titles offers scope for considerable research into major issues in the fields. It focuses on areas where there is sufficient evidence and historiography to produce a successful dissertation.

Candidates are required to place their issue in its historical context; to use a range of appropriate sources, **both primary and secondary**; and to take account of historical interpretations. Candidates should also apply their analytical skills to the issue and evidence, as this is often the single most valuable characteristic of a good dissertation.

This list is neither final nor definitive and may be updated as further research and issues are available. In the meantime, centres who wish to present dissertations with titles which are not included on the list may submit the proposed title to SQA by 1 November. Further details are available from SQA co-ordinators.

**There is no need for centres to seek approval for titles which merely refine the issue in some way.**

# Northern Britain: from the Iron Age to 1034

To what extent was Iron Age society in Northern Britain shaped by warfare and warrior values?

How valid is the view that Iron Age settlements in Northern Britain were primarily built for defence in a warlike society?

'Religion, ritual and superstition played a crucial role in shaping Iron Age society in Northern Britain.' How valid is this view?

To what extent was agriculture the primary factor that shaped Iron Age society in Northern Britain?

To what extent were the Roman invasions of Northern Britain motivated by a desire for military glory?

Which Roman invasion of Northern Britain was the most successful in meeting its aims?

To what extent was military force the most successful method through which the Romans attempted to control Northern Britain?

To what extent were the Roman walls constructed to defend the Empire against invasion?

How valid is the view that the Roman walls were primarily symbols of power?

To what extent can it be argued that native resistance was the main reason for Rome's failure to complete the conquest of Northern Britain?

'Celts were still Celts in the north.' How valid is the view that the Roman presence failed to have a lasting impact on native society in Northern Britain?

How far can it be argued that native paganism was the greatest obstacle to the conversion of the peoples of Northern Britain to Christianity?

How valid is that view that St Columba played the most significant role in the conversion of Northern Britain to Christianity?

To what extent can it be argued that the conversion to Christianity marked a turning point in the history of Northern Britain?

To what extent can it be argued that there is a 'Problem of the Picts'?

To what extent do the Pictish symbol stones represent warrior values?

How distinctive was Pictish society compared to others in Northern Britain in the post-Roman period?

How significant was the contribution made by the Britons of southern Scotland to the development of the Scottish nation, up to AD 1034?

How significant was the contribution made by the Angles of southern Scotland to the development of the Scottish nation, up to AD 1034?

How valid is the view that the Scots of Dal Riata were immigrants from Ireland?

'Raiders or traders.' How valid is this view of the Vikings' motives in Northern Britain?

To what extent was the desire for land the main reason why the Vikings were attracted to Northern Britain?

To what extent can it be argued that the Viking impact on Northern Britain was primarily destructive?

To what extent did Viking settlers integrate with the native peoples of Northern Britain?

How valid is the view that the development of Alba during the ninth century was the result of a Scottish conquest of the Picts?

How valid is the view that Kenneth MacAlpin played a crucial role in the creation of Alba?

How far can it be argued that the emergence of Alba was the result of a peaceful process of cultural interaction and political assimilation?

'The decisive factor.' To what extent can it be argued that the Viking invasions played a crucial role in the development of Alba, up to AD 1034?

To what extent had the distinctions between the different peoples of Northern Britain disappeared by AD 1034?

To what extent can Scotland be considered to have been a united country by AD 1034?

## **Scotland: independence and kingship, 1249–1334**

How effectively did Alexander III consolidate royal authority across his majority rule, 1260–1286?

'An era of peace, stability and security.' How accurate is this description of the adult reign of Alexander III, 1260–1286?

How successfully did the Guardians govern and secure the interests of the Scottish kingdom between 1286 and 1292?

'The Guardians were politically astute and worked hard to secure Scottish independence and political liberties.' How valid is this view?

To what extent was the decision in the Great Cause the correct legal outcome for Scotland in 1292?

How far did Edward I's role as judge across the Great Cause (1291–92) reflect his desire to further his own rather than Scottish interests?

To what extent was King John's personality the most important reason for the downfall of his reign by 1296?

'King John tried to assert his power and govern effectively.' How valid is this view that John's failures have been exaggerated?

'But for England's war against France, John Balliol could have become a successful king of Scots.' How valid is this statement?

To what extent was the collapse of the English administration in Berwick in 1297 due to Edward I's humiliation of King John and his kingdom in 1296?

'Edward I underestimated the cohesion of the Scottish kingdom.' How far do you agree that this was the most important reason for the collapse of English authority in Scotland in 1297?

To what extent was William Wallace's political role his most important contribution to Scottish independence between 1297 and 1305?

'We must not allow William Wallace to overshadow the many other Scots who played their part between 1297 and 1305.' How valid is this view?

Why, despite their defeat at Falkirk, were the Scots able to maintain their resistance to Edward I until 1304?

To what extent was the collapse of Scottish resistance in 1304 due to war weariness?

'Lack of unity was the most significant reason for the Scots' inability to retain their independence, 1296–1305.' How valid is this view?

Was there any consistency in Robert Bruce's political manoeuvrings between 1296 and 1306?

'The Ordinance of Scotland (1305) failed to produce a lasting settlement in Scotland because it was too harsh.' How valid is this view?

'Robert Bruce's usurpation of the Scottish throne in 1306 was mainly due to his treatment by Edward I in 1305.' How valid is this view?

'Bruce was lucky — one of the key attributes of a successful leader.' How far can Robert I's military success between 1307 and 1309 be attributed to luck?

How important was King Robert's Scottish support to his military successes 1307–1309? **OR** 1310–1323?

How successful was King Robert in eliminating Scottish opposition to his kingship between 1306–1309? **OR** 1310–1323?

How far can it be claimed that Bannockburn ensured Scotland's war against England ended in stalemate in 1323?

To what extent was King Robert's governance of Scotland (1310–1320) driven by a desire to overcome his usurper status?

How important was propaganda in helping Robert I re-establish royal authority between 1310 and 1320?

How successful was Robert I at redefining Scottish identity and nationhood, 1310–1320?

To what extent was the failure to address the issue of the Disinherited the most important reason why the Treaty of Edinburgh–Northampton (1328) was short-lived?

How effective was the Scottish Church in the struggle to maintain the independence of the Scottish kingdom between 1296 and 1306?

How important was the part played by the Comyn family in the wars of independence 1286–1296? **OR** 1297–1306?

How important was the distraction of events in France in the ultimate failure of Edward I to conquer Scotland 1296–1305?

How far was Scottish society and identity changed by the wars of independence, 1286–1305? **OR** 1306–1320?

How significant was the impact of the wars of independence on women in Scotland, 1286–1305? **OR** 1306–1329?

To what extent were women able to influence the Scottish wars of independence, 1286–1305? **OR** 1306–1329?



# Scotland: from the Treaty of Union to the Enlightenment, 1707–1815

Did those Scots who supported the Jacobites after 1714 do so primarily for ideological reasons?

Were religious factors the main reason for the failure of Jacobitism?

How important was Highland support to the Jacobite cause?

How far was Jacobite success dependent on the circumstances in Europe?

Does Prince Charles Edward Stuart bear the chief responsibility for the failure of the '45?

How accurate is it to generalise about a 'clan system' in the Highlands in the first half of the eighteenth century?

How far were changes in the Highlands 1715–1800 chiefly due to long-term economic and social trends?

How far was economic growth in eighteenth-century Scotland the result of the union with England?

Does location alone explain why Glasgow was so successful in developing as a centre for the tobacco trade?

To what extent did the improvements in the farming methods used in Lowland Scotland during the eighteenth century come from the work of a few enthusiasts?

How far do changes in agriculture in eighteenth-century Scotland deserve to be called a revolution?

Was patronage the main reason why Henry Dundas was so successful in his management of Scottish politics, 1775–1800?

How corrupt were politics in eighteenth-century Scotland?

How serious a threat to the established order was the political protest that developed in the 1790s?

How far is it true to say that the Kirk's position weakened during the eighteenth century?

How successful was the Scottish educational system of the eighteenth century in meeting the needs of the time?

How important were the achievements of the Scottish Enlightenment?

## **USA: 'A House Divided', 1850–1865**

How sustainable are the findings of Fogel and Engerman on the condition of slaves before 1860?

To what extent were African-Americans able to forge an individual identity in the antebellum South?

How successful were the Abolitionists in influencing events between 1854 and 1865?

'An issue on which neither North nor South could afford to lose.' To what extent does this statement explain why territorial expansion was such a divisive issue in the 1850s?

How far was sectionalism the main reason for the breakdown of the two-party national political system by the mid-1850s?

To what extent was the emergence of the Republican Party due to resentment in the North of the political power of the South?

To what extent did the failings of others contribute to the emergence to political prominence of Abraham Lincoln?

How far can Abraham Lincoln be held responsible for the escalating crisis in 1860–1861?

How far can the outbreak of the American Civil War be attributed to a single cause?

How accurate is it to see the war as one between an industrialised North and an agricultural South?

How important were sectional differences between North and South in causing the outbreak of Civil War in 1861?

How far can the outbreak of the Civil War be attributed to a 'blundering generation'?

To what extent did the election of Abraham Lincoln as President in 1860 contribute to the outbreak of Civil War the following year?

To what extent was ideology the main reason people enlisted to fight during the American Civil War?

How important was sea power in determining the course of the Civil War?

To what extent did Jefferson Davis deal effectively with the challenges that emerged during the Civil War?

To what extent did Abraham Lincoln deal effectively with the challenges that emerged during the Civil War?

How far does Abraham Lincoln deserve to be remembered as a great war leader?

To what extent has criticism of the presidency of Jefferson Davis been justified?

To what extent was the Emancipation Proclamation the result of immediate practical considerations rather than fundamental principles?

How important was the contribution of African-American soldiers in the conflict of 1861–1865?

How far did the African-American contribution during the American Civil War change attitudes to them by 1865?

To what extent were Confederate attempts to gain foreign intervention in the American Civil War never likely to succeed?

How far does Robert E Lee deserve to be remembered as a great general?

How far does Ulysses S Grant deserve to be remembered as a great leader?

To what extent did the contribution of women sustain both sides during the American Civil War?

How far were the experiences of Northern and Southern women during the American Civil War fundamentally different?

To what extent does the concept of a 'turning point' help to explain the reasons for victory and defeat in the Civil War?

Was Northern victory primarily due to General Grant's leadership?

To what extent can it be argued that the Confederacy 'died of states' rights'?

'The army of Northern Virginia has been forced to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources.'  
How accurate is General Lee's explanation for Southern defeat in the American Civil War?

## **Japan: the modernisation of a nation, 1840–1920**

How far can late Tokugawa society be properly described as feudal?

How secure was the control of mid-nineteenth century Japan by the Tokugawa Bakufu?

How important were foreign pressures in causing the downfall of the Tokugawa Bakufu?

How important was the part played by Choshu activists in bringing about the fall of the Tokugawa Bakufu?

How far do the actions of a few charismatic individuals explain why the feudal class itself ended feudal power?

How crucial was the role of the Samurai in explaining the downfall of the Tokugawa Bakufu?

How far can it be argued that the nature of government and the political system really changed between 1840 and 1920 in Japan?

How valid is the view that the Emperor was a symbol of national unity rather than a possessor of real power between 1840 and 1912?

How far can it be argued that 1868 marked a turning point in the nature of government and the political system in Japan?

To what extent did religious and philosophical values change in Japan between 1840 and 1920?

To what extent were the reforms of the Meiji period the work of foreigners?

How popular were the reforms of the Meiji period?

How far were Meiji reforms copied from Western countries?

To what extent were the Meiji social, political and economic reforms successful in achieving their aims?

How far can it be argued that economic changes transformed Japanese society, 1868–1920?

How important were the Zaibatsu in the economic transformation of Japan between 1868 and 1920?

How valid is the view that the changes that took place in Japan between 1850 and 1920 improved life for ordinary people?

How far did the social, political and economic changes that took place between 1850 and 1920 alter women's lives?

To what extent was Japanese imperial expansion the result of long-term planning?

How important was Korea to Japanese foreign policy?

Was military and naval reform the main reason Japanese forces defeated Russia, 1904–05?

How far was military success the main reason Japan was able to rid itself of the Unequal Treaties?

How significant were the military victories over China and Russia in contributing to Japan's eventual overturning of the Unequal Treaties?

To what extent was Meiji Japan's political system influenced by Western examples?

How far was Japan 'Westernised' between 1868 and 1920?

How accurate is it to say that Japan remained a rigid 'vertical society' after the Tokugawa period?

Did Japan remain a 'samurai nation' during the Meiji period?

# Germany: from democracy to dictatorship, 1918–1939

'Revolution from above' or 'revolution from below'. Which better explains the causes of the German Revolution, 1918–19?

To what extent was there a revolution in Germany, 1918–23?

How significant were the consequences of military defeat for Germany's politics, 1918–33?

'The terms of the Versailles Treaty were too big a burden for the Weimar Republic.' How valid is this judgement of the impact of Versailles on the Weimar Republic, 1919–23?

How significant were the effects of the Treaty of Versailles on German political life, 1919–33?

To what extent did the Weimar Constitution enable the creation of a sound basis for democracy, 1919–33?

How far did Weimar democracy face a serious challenge from left-wing forces, 1919–23?

How significant was the impact of the Right on German political life, 1919–23?

To what extent did the effects of the economic crisis of 1923 undermine support for democracy and the Republic?

How soundly based was economic recovery in Germany, 1924–29?

'Weimar's Golden Years.' How accurate is this view of Germany's economic history, 1924–29?

How successful was Stresemann's foreign policy?

Gustav Stresemann: 'great European' or 'good German'?

How secure was democracy in Germany by 1928?

To what extent were cultural and artistic developments of the Weimar period welcomed by Germans?

How significant were economic factors in the collapse of Weimar democracy, 1928–33?

How far does economic collapse explain why the forces of radical extremism dominated German political life from 1928 to 1933?

How accurate is the description of Chancellor Heinrich Brüning as 'the last defender of Weimar democracy'?

How significant was the role of political intrigue in the collapse of the Weimar Republic, 1929–33?

How important was the use of propaganda as a factor enabling the Nazis to become Germany's largest political party, 1928–32?

How far does the collapse of the parties of the centre explain the failure of Weimar democracy, 1928–32?

Was the Nazi Party essentially a middle-class party or a Volkspartei (people's party)?

To what extent were the aims of those who helped lever Hitler into power, 1928–33, realistic?

Adolf Hitler: strong leader or weak dictator?

How significant were the SS and Gestapo in maintaining the Nazi hold on power, 1933–39?

How successful were Nazi economic policies, 1933–39?

How important was rearmament in the 'Nazi economic miracle', 1933–39?

How important was the contribution of Schacht to the Nazi government's economic policies before 1939?

How important was propaganda in maintaining the Nazi hold on power, 1933–39?

How far was culture in the Third Reich, 1933–39, a tool of Nazism?

How successful by 1939 were the Nazis' attempts to create a Volksgemeinschaft, a national community of all the people?

How far did policies towards women succeed in achieving the aims of the Nazis, 1933–39?

To what extent had the Christian Churches become tools of the Nazi regime by 1939?

How far were the Nazis' anti-semitic policies, 1933–39, supported by Germans?

How effective was the implementation of Nazi policies of social exclusion, 1933–39?

To what extent was racism the most important factor in determining the domestic policy of the Nazi government between 1933 and 1939?

To what extent has the importance of opposition and resistance to Nazism, 1933–39, been underestimated?

How far can German foreign policy between 1933 and 1939 be explained in terms of Hitler's obsessive racism?

How far did Adolf Hitler's foreign policy between 1933 and 1939 represent a continuation of, or a break with, the foreign policy of the late Weimar Republic (1929–33)?

How significant were economic factors in Germany's road to war, 1936–39?



## **South Africa: race and power, 1902–1984**

How significant was Afrikaner defeat in the Boer War in shaping Anglo–South African relations before 1924?

To what extent was the rapid extension of segregation before 1939 driven by the demands of the economy?

How significant were economic factors in the rapid extension of segregation before 1939?

How significant was organised resistance to segregation before 1948?

How significant were the achievements of organised resistance to segregation before 1948?

Does Jan Smuts deserve to be remembered as a great South African political leader?

To what extent was JBM Hertzog's dominant role in South African politics between 1918 and 1939 due to his appeal to working class voters?

How great were the differences between the policies of Smuts and Hertzog, 1910–39?

How important a contribution did the Broederbond make to the growth of Afrikaner nationalism between 1918 and 1948?

To what extent was the growth of Afrikaner nationalism between 1918 and 1948 due to the influence of the Dutch Reformed Church?

How important was the contribution of Dr DF Malan to the growth of Afrikaner nationalism?

How significant a part did South African involvement in the Second World War play in the defeat of the United Party in 1948?

How significant were economic factors in the development of Apartheid?

To what extent did Apartheid policies undergo a fundamental change from 1959?

How important was Verwoerd's contribution to the development of the Apartheid state?

How effective was White opposition to Apartheid?

Did the ANC achieve anything worthwhile between 1948 and 1964?

To what extent was the Sharpeville Massacre a turning point in the history of South Africa?

How important was the role of Oliver Tambo in the development of resistance to Apartheid?

To what extent has Nelson Mandela's contribution to the ANC before 1984 been exaggerated?

How significant was the Soweto uprising of 1976 in changing the direction of government policy?

How significant a contribution did the Black Consciousness Movement make to the revival of African resistance within South Africa?

To what extent was Apartheid dismantled by BW Vorster and PW Botha, 1975–84?

How seriously had National Party control over South Africa been undermined by 1984?

How great were the effects of pressures from foreign countries on Apartheid policies between 1960 and 1984?

How significant a part did the Cold War play in determining the responses of Western powers to Apartheid in South Africa until 1984?

# **Russia: from Tsarism to Stalinism, 1914–1945**

How spontaneous was the February Revolution?

Did the Provisional Government collapse or was it overthrown?

To what extent was the Provisional Government doomed from the start?

To what extent was the October Revolution due to policy mistakes made by the Provisional Government?

Why were the Bolsheviks able to seize power in October but not in February?

How surprising is the Bolshevik achievement in the 1917 October Revolution?

October 1917 — popular movement or Bolshevik coup d'état?

How far does White disunity explain why the Reds won the Civil War?

To what extent has Trotsky's contribution to the Red Army's victory in the Civil War been exaggerated?

To what extent was Trotsky's leadership during the Civil War the most important factor in the Red victory?

To what extent was Allied intervention the main reason for Red victory in the Civil War?

To what extent was the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, the key to the Bolshevik strategy for retaining power?

How far was War Communism a doctrine or an expedient?

How successful was the New Economic Policy?

What was the main factor which influenced the development of Soviet economic policy between 1917 and 1921?

To what extent had Lenin's aims in October 1917 been achieved by the time of his death?

Was the development of the Soviet state between 1917 and 1921 more the product of circumstance than ideology?

How far does the nature of Bolshevism itself explain the development of a one-party state, 1917–21?

How great was Trotsky's contribution to the establishment and consolidation of the Bolshevik state?

How significant was the Comintern in the development and motivation of Russian foreign policy between the wars?

To what extent was the conflict between Stalin and Trotsky one of ideology?

How far can Stalin's rise to supreme power be ascribed to opportunism?

How far can Stalin's rise to supreme power be ascribed to his position as Communist Party Secretary?

To what extent was Stalin's rise to supreme power mainly the result of mistakes made by Trotsky?

Did Bukharin provide a viable third way for the Communist party in the 1920s?

To what extent did Trotsky forge the weapons that destroyed his leadership ambitions?

To what extent did ideology bring about the Five Year Plans?

How successful was Stalin's policy of industrialisation?

How extensive was the social unrest that occurred as a result of industrialisation?

How justified was collectivisation?

To what extent did the benefits of the collectivisation of Soviet agriculture outweigh the costs?

To what extent were Stalin's economic policies determined by fear of invasion or the West?

'Socialism in one country.' To what extent does this define Stalinism?

To what extent were the Purges caused by Stalin's paranoia?

How significant were the effects of the Purges on Soviet society?

How significant was fear of invasion as a cause of the Purges?

How significant were the Purges in the creation of the totalitarian state?

To what extent was the Soviet Union under Stalin a totalitarian state?

Homo Sovieticus: to what extent did a distinctive human lifestyle emerge for the Russian people under Stalinism?

Was Stalin the true heir of Lenin?

To what extent was equality achieved in the Soviet Union under Stalinism?

To what extent did the role of women change in Stalin's or Lenin's Soviet Russia?

'The wonder is not that its influence was so reduced, but that it survived at all.' How far can this evaluation of the status of the Church in the Soviet Union to 1945 be sustained?

Socialist realism: how much more was there to cultural development in the Soviet Union under Stalin than pure propaganda?

How much influence did the secret police have in the Soviet Union under Lenin?

How much influence did the secret police have in the Soviet Union under Stalin?

What factors best explain Stalin's grip on power in the 1930s?

To what extent was fear the main reason for Stalin's effective control of the Soviet Union in the 1930s?

To what extent was Stalin's Russia built on fear?

How skilful was Soviet diplomacy in the Second World War?

'Stalin the Generalissimo': myth or fact?

How significant was Stalin's leadership in the Soviet victory in the Second World War?

To what extent was the Red Army's success at Stalingrad crucial to Soviet victory in the Second World War?

# **Spain: the Civil War — causes, conflict and consequences, 1923–1945**

To what extent were the reforms of the Dictadura successful?

To what extent was the fall of the Monarchy in 1931 due to Alfonso's incompetence?

Was the Agrarian Problem the most fundamental rift in Spanish society up to 1936?

How dominant a role did the Roman Catholic Church play in Spanish life from 1931 to 1939?

How significant a role did the army play in Spanish politics between 1931 and 1936?

Were the differences between Basque and Catalan nationalism greater than those things they had in common?

How far can it be argued that divisions within the Left were the main cause of political failure in Spain between 1931 and 1936?

How accurate is it to describe the actions of the CNT/FAI between 1931 and 1936 as a 'continuous insurrection' against the Republic?

Were the expectations of its supporters the main reason the reforms of the Republican government from 1931 to 1933 failed to bring peace to Spain?

How important in setting Spain on a road to civil war was the decision to invite the CEDA into the government in 1934?

How far did the election victory of the Popular Front in 1936 make civil war inevitable?

'War or Revolution?' To what extent did this debate affect strategy on the Republican side during the Civil War?

Was the unity of the Nationalist side reality or myth?

How far was terror used as an instrument of policy by the combatants during the Spanish Civil War?

To what extent was Franco's rise to leadership of the Nationalists due to good fortune?

How much effect did air power have on the course of the Spanish Civil War?

How great a role did the Communist Party play in the defence of the Republic between 1936 and 1939?

How far can it be argued that the role of Dolores Ibarruri (La Pasionaria) on the Republican side was merely symbolic?

'Despite the heroism of its soldiers, the Republican army was let down by its commanders.' How fair is this comment on the performance of the Republic's forces?

How important were the International Brigades to the Republic?

To what extent were the International Brigades motivated by a genuine desire to defend the Spanish Republic?

How important was the role of women in the Spanish Civil War?

How important was German and/or Italian aid to the Nationalists?

Was the attitude of the British Government to the Spanish Civil War neutral or pro-nationalist?

Was Soviet policy toward Republican Spain a 'help or hindrance' to the Republican side?

'Soviet aid to the Republic was calculated to prolong resistance; that given by the Axis to Franco was aimed at ensuring victory.' How valid is this analysis of the foreign aid sent to Spain?

Was the leadership of Franco the main reason that the Nationalists were able to turn a failed coup into a successful war?

Was oppression of the population the main consequence of Franco's victory in the Spanish Civil War?

## **Britain: at war and peace, 1938–1951**

To what extent was Britain on the eve of the Second World War characterised by social and economic inequality?

To what extent had Neville Chamberlain's Government prepared Britain for war by September 1939?

To what extent was Chamberlain's resignation in May 1940 due to his ineffectiveness as a war leader?

How important was Winston Churchill's leadership to Britain's success in the Second World War?

To what extent was Churchill's wartime diplomacy his most significant contribution to securing his reputation as an outstanding war leader?

'The RAF prevented invasion in 1940.' How accurate is this assessment of the failure of the planned German invasion?

'The use of radar was the main reason for Britain's success during the Battle of Britain.' How accurate is this view?

Was the British bombing offensive worth the costs in men and resources that were invested in it?

How effectively did the British Army fulfil its role during the Second World War?

How justified is criticism of the Royal Navy for taking so long to win the battle of the Atlantic?

'The British Empire and its dominions played a crucial role in the Second World War.' How valid is this view?

'The evacuation at Dunkirk in 1940 grasped victory from certain defeat.' How accurate is this view?

How effective were British civil defence measures in coping with the Nazi threat, 1939–45?

How justified is the assertion that the 'equality of sacrifice' brought about by the Second World War was no more than a myth?

How effective were the evacuation measures introduced by the British Government in coping with the Nazi threat, 1939–45?

How important was the part played by Labour ministers on the Home Front during the Second World War?

How justified was Britain's treatment of foreign nationals between 1939 and 1945?



How far did the Second World War lead to a reduction of social class divisions in Britain?

'Different classes experience different wars.' To what extent is this true of Britain during the Second World War?

'War is the locomotive of social change.' To what extent is this true of the Second World War in Britain?

To what extent were the apparent gains in status made by women during the Second World War lost by 1951?

To what extent was the Labour Party's victory at the 1945 General Election due to the shortcomings of the Conservative Party?

How effectively did the Labour Governments manage the economy between 1945 and 1951?

How effective was Clement Attlee as a Prime Minister between 1945 and 1951?

Does Ernest Bevin deserve to be remembered as a great Foreign Secretary?

To what extent was World War Two responsible for the decline of the British Empire?

'The promises made in the Labour Party's 1945 General Election Manifesto, Let Us Face the Future, were never fully realised.' How accurate is this view?

To what extent was the Conservative Party's victory at the 1951 General Election due to the shortcomings of the Labour Party?

To what extent did the Labour Party lose the 1951 General Election 'mainly in the queue at the butcher's or the grocer's'?