

## **READING LIST FOR HISTORY A-LEVEL PAPER TWO BRITAIN 1951 – 2007**

For AQA Unit 2S, The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007, a comprehensive reading list should cover key political, social, economic, and foreign policy developments during this period. Key topics include the post-war consensus, the rise and fall of Thatcherism, and the era of New Labour. Relevant books include those by Sally Waller, as well as resources focused on specific periods like the 1950s, the 1960s, and the Thatcher years.

General Overviews & Textbooks:

- **"AQA A Level History: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007" by Sally Waller (Oxford University Press):** This is a core textbook for the course, covering the entire time period.
- **"The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007" (Cambridge University Press):** Another textbook option providing a comprehensive overview of the period.

Specific Period Focus:

- **The Affluent Society (1951-1964):**

Consider books that analyse the post-war economic boom, social changes, and the rise of consumerism.

- **The 1960s:**

Explore the social and cultural transformations of the decade, including the changing role of women, youth culture, and the decline of deference.

- **The End of the Post-War Consensus (1970-1979):**

Focus on the economic crises, industrial unrest, and political instability of the 1970s.

- **Thatcherism (1979-1990):**

Examine the impact of Margaret Thatcher's policies on the economy, society, and British identity.

- **Towards a New Consensus (1987-1997):**

Analyse the shift away from Thatcherism and the rise of John Major's Conservative government.

- **The Era of New Labour (1997-2007):**

Explore Tony Blair's "Third Way" politics, social and economic policies, and the impact of globalization.

Other Useful Resources:

- **Documentaries and films:**

Explore documentaries and films that offer visual and contextual insights into the period. Examples include documentaries about the Thatcher era, the miners' strike, or the rise of New Labour.

- **Historical articles and academic journals:**

Search for scholarly articles that delve deeper into specific aspects of the period.

- **Online resources:**

Utilize websites like the BBC iPlayer or YouTube for historical footage, news reports, and interviews with key figures.

- **Primary source analysis:**

Familiarize yourself with primary sources like government documents, political speeches, newspaper articles, and personal accounts to develop a deeper understanding of the period.

- **Podcasts:**

Consider listening to podcasts that focus on British history, such as "History of the BBC" or "The Rest is History."