

## 10 simple approaches to GCSE history teaching that make the most difference

1. Focus on **application** of knowledge, (not just acquiring it), transforming it into understanding.
2. **Practise**, practise, and practise answering the very restricted **range of question types**, but watch that students are actually improving.
3. Spend **little time note-making**. Create tight revision summaries, differentiated on coloured A5 sheets.
4. Build a **can do** culture and mentality. *This is easy; I know how to get you a good grade on this question.*
5. Produce **accounts for students to improve**, related to target grades so that they can see themselves scoring higher marks not always from scratch.
6. **Varied, practical tasks**, reworking the same information in order to answer different questions, sorting, sequencing, setting, classifying, linking, **prioritizing**.
7. **Flexible activities that can be differentiated**, supported, using sort card sorts, charts, backing up with evidence.
8. **Quick diagnostic tests. Pub quiz teams**
9. **Mark each others' work** using rewritten markschemes.
10. **Memorable activities:**
  - Big point/ little point
  - Living graphs
  - Spectrum/continuum
  - Evaluate the TV programme
  - Annotate and date