



AS PE Summer Work 2016

This summer work will prepare you for the complexities of your A Level PE studies which you will begin in September.

Sport & Society

The specification asks you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how the following social and cultural factors shaped the characteristics of sports and pastimes in pre-industrial Britain:

- Social class
- Gender
- Law and order
- Education and literacy
- Availability of time and money
- The type and availability of transport

You should also understand how the above social and cultural factors, as well as the influence of public schools, shaped the characteristics of sport in post 1850 industrial Britain. You should also know how social factors shaped the characteristics of participation in sport in twentieth-century Britain.

Task

Research the above factors linked to society and culture in pre-industrial Britain and explain the impact they had upon the development of sport and the limitations placed upon certain classes within society.

Background

Historically, sport has had a major influence on our society. It has helped by preparing the populace for war, to hunt for food or to improve their fitness to work.

In Medieval times, the peasants had little time or energy to be involved in activities that were nothing to do with working on the land. There were some opportunities, however for activities like mob football, which brought together the whole village on holy days and festivals.

Task

Research mob football and cock fighting and explain how the sports were particularly focused on suiting a certain class. Where did the sports originate and what were the rules?

Background

In pre-industrial Britain, work and leisure were very closely combined and were difficult to separate. Any time spent on leisure was largely dictated by the amount of work needed to be done on the land and the seasons and weather. The industrialisation of Britain - called the industrial revolution –

changed the way people lived and worked and there was much more distinction between work and leisure.

Task

Research the above factors again e.g. social class, gender etc. linked to society and culture in post-industrial Britain and explain the impact they had upon the development of sport and the limitations placed upon certain classes within society.

Background – Influence of public schools

The middle classes were very important in developing sport – many went to public schools and were influential in developing rules and governing bodies of sports activities.

Task

Explain the influence public schools had on the development of sport, specifically Dr Thomas Arnold, headmaster at Rugby School.