

Grace Roberts

I chose A Level history because I didn't take it as a GCSE which I regret very much. When I spoke to John on one of the college induction days about the subject, he reassured me that it was possible for me to take it as an A Level without having the GCSE. When talking to John last summer he explained the topics we would be studying which include America, England and Russia which sounded so interesting to me.

I chose geography and history to start with in September but I knew after a couple lessons of each that straight away I found history so much more interesting and I preferred John's way of teaching massively.

I've enjoyed every aspect with regards to history, with what John gives us to record our notes in which make it so much easier and convenient to study things I'd never heard of prior to the lessons. However, one of my favourite topics we have studied has to be studying African Americans and Slaves as I've always had a keen interest in this topic and how they were treated differently just because they were a different race. Another topic which I'm enjoying which we're doing at the moment is Britain between 1954 and 1970. I find this interesting because it involves politics and the government.

Our tutor uses Powerpoint and you can see high amounts of effort put in each and every slide which makes it easier to comprehend and understand and the resources he gives us to find key information and record notes helps us to keep everything neat and tidy which is a big part as to why I seem to be so organised in only this subject. I also like how in-depth John goes with his teaching.

John's teaching is magnificent. Not only does he go through each topic and section multiple times to make sure we understand it, but he also asks us questions afterwards to double check so it allows us to retrieve the information from our brains and put it into our own words which helps when doing exams. Also when you start the course John gives you every single booklet you could think of, one with high amounts of detailed information, one with a summary of each section and sometimes includes pictures and then a workbook to condense the information and put it into our own words. This helps so much when doing homework essay tasks and looking back to remember facts to link dates together.

I've developed a better skill in using more formal language when writing essays. Switching simple words from 'can't' to 'can not' help to formalise a piece of work and make it sound so much more mature and sophisticated to hit the top grade boundaries. I've also learnt how to write essays in a clear and understanding way with writing an introduction. I've also learnt that organising your work in simple booklets makes it so much easier to remember facts and having it there all in one book makes it so much more convenient.

I'm still not sure what I want to do after A Levels however what I do know is that history will help me massively with understanding what the world was like before I was born and how advanced the world, especially Britain and America has become. Also if I need to write formal essays or documents in the future then I have a developed skill which will hopefully get me jobs that I want in the future.