

CONTENTS

Sections are arranged alphabetically, or chronologically, or have a detailed Table of Contents. The following summary is intended as a general guide for the reader.

- 1 Historical Events** **A I-42**
Arranged chronologically, including: Classical Greece (A3); Rome (A4); Byzantium and Islam (A5); Decline of the Middle Ages (A6); Renaissance (A7); French Revolution (A11); First World War (A14); Second World War (A15); The World since 1945 (A17).
- 2 Prominent People** **B I-66**
Arranged alphabetically to give glimpses of the famous people who have shaped the history of the world.
- 3 Background to World Affairs** **C I-62**
Arranged in three parts (1) British Political Scene 1990-2002 (C3); (2) The Changing World Scene (Europe, Middle East, Asia, Africa, USA, Canada, Latin America, Australasia) (C13); (3) Special Topics (C56).
- 4 Political Compendium** **D I-20**
Key facts and figures on modern British politics including: Elections (D3); Political Parties (D4); Parliament (D5); Government and Opposition (D6); Local Government; Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (D15); European Union (D15); Who's Who in British Politics (D16); Glossary (D18).
- 5 Money Matters** **E I-20**
An introduction to the problem of money and investment, including: savings (E5); banks (EX); insurance (E9); house-buying (E10); income tax (E12); other taxes (E15) national insurance (E18).
- 6 The World of Science** **F I-82**
Arranged in seven parts: (1) Astronomy and Cosmology (F3); (2) Physics, the Basic Science of Matter (F10); (3) The World of the Chemists (F23); (4) Biology (F29); (5) Anthropology (F49); (6) Scientific Tables (F64); (7) Special Topics of current scientific interest (F71).
- 7 Background to Economic Events** **G I-70**
Arranged in four parts: Central Problems of Economic Policy (G4); Survey of the British Economy (G6); The Less Developed Economies (G38); and Recent Developments in the British Economy (G47).
- 8 Biblical Glossary** **H I-26**
An alphabetically arranged guide to the people, places and events that have had so much influence on the course of history.
- 9 Myths and Legends** **I I-30**
Figures from the mythology of Greece and Rome, from Achilles to Zeus.

10 Ideas and Beliefs	J I-60
An alphabetical introduction to the Ideas and beliefs that have shaped religion and philosophy as well as past and present political ideologies.	
11 Gazetteer of the World	K I-182
A wide-ranging gazetteer of the place names of the world (which also acts as a guide to the colour maps) and a glossary of terms.	
12 General Information	L I-136
Over 3000 entries on a whole host of general knowledge matters. Arranged alphabetically, the sections range from historical and scientific terms to the animal kingdom and many contemporary issues.	
13 Literary Companion	M I-42
Old English Literature (M4); Chaucer (M5); Renaissance Literature (M6); Shakespeare (M7); Seventeenth-Century Literature (M9); Milton and Dryden (M11); The English Novel (M12-27).	
14 The World of Art	N I-10
An alphabetical introduction to key terms and movements in art history.	
15 The World of Music	P I-36
Historical narrative from the birth of early music (P3) to modern popular music (P24); Glossary of Terms (P28); Index to Composers (P33).	
16 The Cinema	Q I-30
Arranged in four sections: The Evolution of the Cinema (Q3); Famous Cinema Directors (Q6); Famous Screen Actors and Actresses (Q17); The Oscar Women (Q26).	
17 Sporting Companion	R I-24
Lists of winners from many sports, including Association Football (R2); Athletics (R5); Cricket (R10); Horse Racing (R14); Lawn Tennis (R16); Motor Racing (R17); Rugby Union (R19); Swimming (R21).	
18 The Environment	T I-20
A survey of one of the key issues of our time, including chronology of important dates; glossary of terms and current environmental debates.	
19 Dictionary of Computing	V I-16
Arranged alphabetically to include many of the terms, abbreviations and acronyms in the fast-changing world of computing.	
20 Medical Matters	Z I-66
A summary of medical knowledge for a wide variety of the most common illnesses.	
21 Atlas of the World	32 Plates
Index	