

AQA GCSE History: 8145

GCSE History: Subject Content

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. GCSE History students must take assessments in both of the following papers in the same series:

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

The GCSE History content comprises the following elements:

- one period study
- one thematic study
- one wider world depth study
- one British depth study including the historic environment.

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

Section A: Period studies

Options to be declared at point of entry.

Choose one of the following options:

- 1A America, 1840–1895: Expansion and consolidation
- 1B Germany, 1890–1945: Democracy and dictatorship
- 1C Russia, 1894–1945: Tsardom and communism
- 1D America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and inequality

Section B: Wider world depth studies

Options to be included in assessment.

Choose one of the following options:

- Conflict and tension, 1894–1918
- Conflict and tension, 1918–1939
- Conflict and tension between East and West, 1945–1972
- Conflict and tension in Asia, 1950–1975
- Conflict and tension, 1990–2009

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

Section A: Thematic studies

Options to be declared at point of entry.

Choose one of the following options:

- 2A Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day
- 2B Britain: Power and the people: c1170 to the present day
- 2C Britain: Migration, empires and the people: c790 to the present day

Section B: British depth studies including the historic environment

Options to be included in assessment.

Choose one of the following options:

- Norman England, c1066–c1100
- Medieval England: the reign of Edward I, 1272–1307
- Elizabethan England, c1568–1603
- Restoration England, 1660–1685

GCSE History: How it's assessed

What's assessed?

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world

How it's assessed

In Section A there is a choice of four period studies, each with a focus on two key developments in a country's history over at least a 50 year period.

In Section B there is a choice of five wider world depth studies. These focus on international conflict and tension.

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

- Section A – six compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Plus 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar

What's assessed?

Paper 2: Shaping the nation

How it's assessed

In Section A there is a choice of three thematic studies, which look at key developments in Britain over a long period.

In Section B there is a choice of four British depth studies incorporating the study of a specific historic environment.

- Written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 84 marks (including 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar)
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

- Section A – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Section B – four compulsory questions (40 marks)
- Plus 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar