

GCSE History 2021: Information for parents

The purpose of this information sheet is to inform you of the key information relating to the GCSE History qualification examined in 2021. In September, Ofqual made the decision to reduce the required content of the GCSE History course by 25%. Therefore students are now only required to study three topics. The topics your daughter has studied is displayed below. There will still be two exams to take, however they will differ in length. Your daughter has completed a RAG rated self evaluation of the topics studied so far and she should use this as a starting point for revision. The exam board generates the exam questions by choosing five topic areas from a possible seven, with different skills tested in each question. We will soon complete the teaching of the course enabling us to devote more time than usual to in-class revision. However it is those students who revise conscientiously at home that achieve the best outcomes at GCSE. Therefore we would really appreciate the support you can give your daughter at home by testing, encouraging and reassuring her that hard work will pay off in history!

Exam Board: Eduqas
Website:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5xrx22k>

History Specification:
<https://tinyurl.com/y3zv2675>

THE ELIZABETHAN AGE, 1558-1603

1. **Elizabethan government:** How successful was the government of Elizabeth I?
2. **Lifestyles of rich and poor:** How did life differ for the rich and poor in Elizabethan times?
3. **Popular entertainment:** What were the most popular types of entertainment in Elizabethan times?
4. **The problem of religion:** How successfully did Elizabeth deal with the problem of religion?
5. **The Catholic threat:** Why were the Catholics such a serious threat to Elizabeth?
6. **The Spanish Armada:** How much of a threat was the Spanish Armada?
7. **The Puritan threat:** Why did the Puritans become an increasing threat during Elizabeth's reign?

THE USA: A NATION OF CONTRASTS, 1910-1929

1. **Immigration:** *Why did immigration become such a major issue in American society?*
2. **Religion and race:** *Was America a country of religious and racial intolerance during this period?*
3. **Crime and corruption:** *Was the 1920s a decade of organised crime and corruption?*
4. **Economic boom:** *What were the causes of the economic boom experienced in the 1920s?*
5. **The end of prosperity:** *What factors led to the end of prosperity in 1929?*
6. **Popular entertainment:** *How did popular entertainment develop during this period?*
7. **Role of women:** *How did the lifestyle and status of women change during this period?*

THE DEVELOPMENT OF GERMANY, 1919-1991

1. **Weimar Germany:** *How successful was the Weimar Government in dealing with Germany's problems between 1919 and 1933?*
2. **The Rise of the Nazi Party and its consolidation of power between 1933 and 1934:** *How did the Nazis take total control of Germany by 1934?*
3. **Life under the Nazis:** *How were the lives of the German people affected by Nazi rule between 1933 and 1939?*
4. **Life during the Second World War:** *Why did life change for the German people during the Second World War?*
5. **West and East Germany between 1949 and 1991:** *Why were conditions in West and East Germany different after 1949?*
6. **Cold War relations:** *How did relations between the two Germanies change between 1949 and 1991?*
7. **Co-operation and reconciliation:** *What factors led to the reunification of Germany in 1990?*

PAPER 1: 2 hours

PAPER 1 QUESTION TYPES

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| 1. Make inferences from two sources. (5marks) | 1. Analyse a source and describe a key feature (5 marks) |
| 2. Explain the accuracy of a source. (8 marks) | 2. Explain the purpose of a source. (8 marks) |
| 3. Explain why an event/person is significant? (12 marks) | 3. Evaluate how far two interpretations support a view. (10 marks) |
| 4. Explain the connections between two events. (10 marks) | 4. Explain which of two sources are more useful to a historian (11 marks) |
| 5. Explain how far you agree with an interpretation. (16 marks) | 5. Explain how far you agree with an interpretation. (16 marks + 3 SPaG) |

PAPER 2: 45 mins

PAPER 2 QUESTION TYPES

1. Describe a key event/issue. (5 marks)
2. Explain a change. (6 marks)
3. Arrange three groups/events in order of their significance and explain your choice. (9 marks)
4. Explain why something happened. (8 marks)
5. Explain how important a factor was in an event. (12 marks)

To support her revision and preparation, your daughter will receive lots of help and revision materials from the History Department. However, if you would like any materials or resources to help her revise, or have any questions about GCSE History please do not hesitate to get in touch, my email is s.herbert@penworthamgirls.lancs.sch.uk.