



Pearson Edexcel GCSE History: free support materials, with details and links

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The latest news on our History qualifications, plus contact details for our History subject advisor, Mark Battye. Email: teachinghistory@pearson.com.

Sign up to receive monthly subject advisor updates [here](#).

A hyperlink is provided for each piece of support. Some links are directly to specific files, some are to the webpages or dropdowns where the files are stored.

Support materials	Details
Specification and sample assessment materials	The starting point for information on content and assessment in GCSE (9–1) History. The current versions are Issue 5 (for 2025) and Issue 6 (for 2026).
Specimen papers	An extra set of practice papers to exemplify the GCSE (9–1) History assessment model. <i>(NB not updated for 2025–26 changes.)</i>
Past papers, mark schemes and examiner reports	For every series since 2018. The examiner reports include exemplar student answers with examiner comments. An Edexcel Online login is required to access files with a silver padlock – check with your exams officer if you can't open them.
Getting Started Guide	An overview of the specification, to help you get to grips with the content and assessment requirements. Updated June 2024 up to Issue 6 of the specification.
Summary guidance on changes for 2025 and 2026	Overview guidance on the changes being made for 2025 and 2026, including a table summarising the content changes for 2026.
Content changes for 2026: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topic guidance• FAQs	Guidance for each option on the changes being made to the content for Issue 6 of the specification (first assessment June 2026), and FAQs.



Support materials	Details
<p>Assessment changes for 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide • FAQs 	<p>Guidance on the changes being made to the assessment model for Issue 5 of the specification (first assessment June 2025), and FAQs. Plus a reminder about the 2024 stimulus points cap change and information on future potential changes.</p>
<p>Specification language changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track changes on • Rationale • FAQs 	<p>Guidance on the specification language changes made for Issue 4 of the specification (2023), showing the changes being made, the rationale behind the changes, and FAQs.</p>
Mapping documents	Mapping documents to help support teachers in moving to Edexcel GCSE History.
Paper 1 Guide	Teaching approaches and ideas for the thematic study and historic environment, with case studies from practising teachers.
Paper 2 Guide	Teaching approaches and ideas for the period study and British depth study, with case studies from practising teachers.
Paper 3 Guide	Teaching approaches and ideas for the modern depth study, with case studies from practising teachers.
Guidance on sources and interpretations	Guidance on AO3 sources and AO4 interpretations, looking at question types, common problems, and teaching approaches and ideas.
Topic booklets	<p>Topic booklets for every option on the specification. These include content guidance and exemplification, student timelines, and suggested resources for teachers and students.</p> <p><i>Update for 2025–26 changes to be released in September 2024.</i></p>
Schemes of work	<p>Sample outline schemes of work for each topic in the specification, in editable Word files.</p> <p>A digital interactive scheme of work is also available for both KS3 and GCSE.</p>
Exemplar student answers	<p>Exemplar student answers, including from the summer 2018, 2019 and 2022 series, with examiner commentaries and mark schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 thematic study exemplars June 2022 • Paper 2 British depth study exemplars June 2022 • Paper 2 Period study exemplars June 2022 • Paper 3 Modern depth study exemplars June 2022 <p>Two sets of exemplar answers are also available here for Migrants in Britain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration exemplars SAMs • Migration exemplars June 2022



Support materials	Details
Knowledge boosters	<p>Sets of quizzes to support AO1 knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1 Anglo-Saxon and Normans England • B4 Early Elizabethan England • P3 The American West • P4 Superpower relations and the Cold War • 31 Weimar and Nazi Germany • 11 Medicine in Britain • 10 Crime and Punishment (<i>late autumn 2024</i>) <p>An Edexcel Online login is required.</p>
Student walkthroughs	<p>A series of pre-recorded student walkthroughs, created in collaboration with Harris Federation.</p> <p>The recordings are designed to help your students prepare for this summer's exam series. There is one recording for each component; in them we remind students about the structure and focus of each paper, the specific questions and what they are assessing, along with some general revision tips.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 Section A Historic environment • Paper 1 Section B Thematic study • Paper 2 British depth study • Paper 2 Period study • Paper 3 Section A Modern depth study • Paper 3 Section B Modern depth study
Revision tips	Some useful revision tips for students for the Summer 2024 series.
Command words	A series of student-friendly files exploring each command word in turn, plus a summary document paper-by-paper.
New Migration thematic study	A webpage rounding up information and support materials to help you plan and deliver Migrants in Britain.
Using Our Migration Story	<p>Resources from the Our Migration Story website mapped to the new Migrants in Britain thematic study.</p> <p>Topic booklets also include information on resources on Our Migration Story that could be used for their respective options.</p>
Embedding Black British history – methods and mindsets	Guide produced in partnership with The Black Curriculum to build on the November 2021 training event.
Notting Hill teaching guide	Teaching guide produced in partnership with The Black Curriculum to support the Notting Hill historic environment.
Whitechapel historic environment teaching resource	Resources to help teachers incorporate the lives of the five victims of Jack the Ripper into their Whitechapel schemes of work.



Support materials	Details
Paper 2 American West guide	Guidance on amendments made to the American West period study for Issue 3 of the specification (2021).
Paper 3 Germany practice question 3	A practice question 3 enquiry package, which can be used in mocks alongside the June 2023 paper questions 1 and 2.
History topic of the month	Posters and worksheets for the History topic of the month series.
Case studies	Case studies on various aspects of teaching history, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licoricia of Winchester • Broadening the history of medicine • Women in the American West • Weaving Jewish history into KS3 • Switching to Migrants in Britain 1 and 2 • Teaching Conflict in the Middle East • Using Access to Scripts
Results Plus data	Results Plus data from past series is available under the Guide tab. This provides data on global cohort performance, overall and by each grade. An Edexcel Online login is required.
Exam Wizard topic checks	A guide on how to use Exam Wizard to create topic checks, with some examples included. An Edexcel Online login is required.
KS3 and KS4 baseline tests	Editable baseline tests to assess students at the start of each key stage and track progress from KS3 to KS4; developed as part of the Pearson Progression Service.

Training materials	Details
Recorded events	Recorded versions of past training sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content changes for 2026 • Improving the assessment model • New to Edexcel (to be updated autumn 2024) • Student walkthroughs (PDF with links to videos) • Summer 2023 feedback • Summer 2022 feedback • Period study • Paper 3 Question 3



Training materials	Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration getting ready to teach • American West amendments • Summer 2019 feedback
Past training content (packs from past training events)	<p><i>Broader packs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New to Edexcel (from 2018 but updated regularly) • Summer 2023 series feedback (autumn 2023) • Summer 2022 series feedback (autumn 2022) • Content changes for 2026 (spring 2024) • Improving the assessment model for 2025 (spring 2024) • Specification language changes (autumn 2023) • Supporting lower-attaining students (autumn 2019, updated spring 2024) • Supporting higher-attaining students (summer 2024) • Migration getting ready to teach (updated spring 2023) • Period study (autumn 2022) • Return to teaching four options (summer 2022) • American West Issue 3 updates (summer 2021) • Change and continuity, focus on Paper 1 (autumn 2021) • Paper 1 (spring 2020) • Paper 2 (autumn 2019) • Revision strategy (autumn 2021) <p><i>Question-specific packs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 3 Question 3 (spring 2021) • Sources and interpretations, Paper 1 and Paper 3 (updated spring 2020) • Explain why qu (autumn 2020) • Source utility qu (autumn 2020) • Judgement essay (autumn 2020) • Significance qu (autumn 2020)

[Mocks service](#)

The Pearson Edexcel Mocks Service provides schools and colleges with GCSE, International GCSE and A level exams for use in mocks.

The Moderation Service allows you to provide your students with their mock results whilst supporting your or your team's marking skills. By sending in a sample of your marked exam papers, our moderators can supply reports to help you better understand the mark scheme and provide reassurance that your marking is aligned with the Pearson Edexcel standard.



Diversity and inclusion in history

We believe that the History curriculum should be representative and inclusive of all learners, and reflect the ways that Britain has been shaped by its interactions with the wider world.

Recent and current events have highlighted that we need, and want, to do more to ensure our History curriculum fully reflects today's students, and is free from bias. While the journey to making this a reality may be complex and far reaching, a key step to realising this is working together with key stakeholders, schools, and young people to drive this change.

This set of webpages includes the following:

- Recordings of the panel discussion at the Migrants in Britain launch event, Migration Museum, October 2021
- Information on Migrants in Britain thematic and resources to support it
- Pearson and The Black Curriculum in partnership
- History topic of the month series
- Case studies on different aspects of diverse histories

Real historians

Studying history can lead to a wide variety of careers. In our Real Historians series, we feature some real-life historians who share their love of history, why history is important, and how their education led to an exciting and interesting career. (Part of the [Historians and geographers of the future](#) suite of webpages.)

Humanities matter

Downloadable posters showing the skills that studying humanities subjects can bring students.

Endorsed resources*

Endorsement means that a resource has been through our quality assurance process to confirm that it meets the teaching and learning requirements a specification is aimed at. Endorsement of a resource doesn't mean it's the only suitable material available, or that it is required to achieve the qualification.

- [Pearson](#) – Designed to help develop confident, articulate and successful historians.
- [Hodder Education](#) – The Hodder GCSE History for Edexcel students' book helps students achieve their full potential while ensuring pace, enjoyment and motivation.
- [Oxford University Press](#) – Oxford's Edexcel GCSE History student books help to develop young historians who have the confidence to succeed, with the most up-to-date exam practice and a tried-and-trusted, accessible approach.
- [Zigzag Education](#) – Photocopiable resources for learning, revision and exam practice.
- [Anglia Tours](#) – A range of fully-guided History tours which enhance both teaching and learning for the related Pearson qualification.

* You don't have to purchase any resources, including those from Pearson, to deliver our qualifications.



Facebook support groups

There are two Edexcel GCSE History teacher support groups on Facebook. Both groups are run by teachers, and both have over 6000 members.

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/445236298995592/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1063987217068101/>

Pearson Edexcel is not involved in administering the groups – our only involvement is when our subject advisor responds to teacher queries or posts important updates.

On both groups, teachers share resources and discuss strategies for delivering our GCSE History qualification.