



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.

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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 version is Issue 6 (for first assessment 2026).
Specimen papers	An extra set of practice papers to exemplify the GCSE (9–1) History assessment model. NB specimen papers have not been updated for 2025–26 changes; individual questions are still valid.
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.
Mock papers (2024)	A set of secure mock papers created by adapting the summer 2024 papers to reflect the amended assessment model that comes into effect in summer 2025. An Edexcel Online login is required. Also available via the Mocks Service.
Getting Started Guide	An overview of the specification, to help you get to grips with the content and assessment requirements. Updated in June 2024 up to Issue 6 of the specification.



Support materials	Details
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.
Assessment changes for 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guide • FAQs 	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.
Specification language changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track changes on • Rationale • FAQs 	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.
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. All three guides updated for 2025–26 changes, Feb/March 2025.
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	Topic booklets for every option on the specification. These include content guidance and exemplification, student timelines, and suggested resources for teachers and students. Updated for 2025–26 changes, May 2025.
Schemes of work	Sample outline schemes of work for each topic in the specification, in editable Word files. Updated December 2025. A digital interactive scheme of work is also available for both KS3 and GCSE.



Support materials	Details
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 Migration exemplar answers are also available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration exemplars SAMs • Migration exemplars June 2022
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 • 33 The USA, 1954–75 <p>An Edexcel Online login is required. All KBs updated for 2025–26 changes.</p>
Student walkthroughs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 playlist • Paper 2B playlist • Paper 2P playlist • Paper 3 playlist • PDFs of presentations 	<p>A series of recorded student walkthroughs, created in collaboration with Harris Federation – updated for summer 2025 onwards.</p> <p>The recordings are designed to help your students prepare for their summer exam series. For each paper there are: a playlist; an overview recapping the structure and focus of each paper, along with revision tips; and separate recordings for each question on the paper, looking at what the question is assessing and features of strong answers.</p>
Revision tips	<p>Some useful revision tips for students. Updated for Summer 2025.</p>
Command words	<p>A series of student-friendly files exploring each command word in turn, plus a summary document paper-by-paper. Updated for 2025.</p>
Paper 1 Question 2(b) follow-up enquiry guidance	<p>Guidance on the follow-up enquiry source question: the rationale behind it, the four parts, and how the mark scheme operates.</p>
New Migration thematic study	<p>A webpage rounding up information and support materials to help you plan and deliver Migrants in Britain.</p>



Support materials	Details
Using Our Migration Story	Resources from the Our Migration Story website mapped to the new Migrants in Britain thematic study. Topic booklets also include information on resources on Our Migration Story that could be used for their respective options.
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.
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 for each 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
Pearson Professional Development Academy	Book a place on upcoming events, and access recordings of recent past training sessions (YouTube links below too).
Recorded events	Recorded versions of past training sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer 2025 insights • Teaching and assessing sources • Teaching and assessing interpretations • Paper 1 marking training • Paper 2 marking training • Paper 3 marking training • Summer 2024 insights • Content changes for 2026 • Improving the assessment model • New to Edexcel (updated autumn 2024) • Student walkthroughs (PDF with links to videos) • Summer 2023 feedback • Summer 2022 feedback • Period study • Paper 3 Question 3 • Migration getting ready to teach • American West amendments • Summer 2019 feedback
Past training content (packs from past training events)	<i>Broader packs</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New to Edexcel (from 2018 but updated regularly) • Paper 1 marking training (autumn 2024) • Paper 2 marking training (autumn 2024) • Paper 3 marking training (autumn 2024) • Summer 2025 insights (autumn 2025) • Summer 2024 insights (autumn 2024) • Summer 2023 series feedback (autumn 2023) • Summer 2022 series feedback (autumn 2022) • Future qualifications and reform (May 2025) • Content changes for 2026 (spring 2024) • Improving the assessment model for 2025 (spring 2024) • Teaching and assessing sources (spring 2025) • Teaching and assessing interpretations (spring 2025)



Training materials	Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specification language changes (autumn 2023)• Supporting lower-attaining students (updated summer 2025)• Supporting higher-attaining students (updated summer 2025)• 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)• Sources and interpretations, Paper 1 and Paper 3 (updated spring 2020)• 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)• Explain why qu (autumn 2020)• Source utility qu (autumn 2020)• Judgement essay (autumn 2020)• Significance qu (autumn 2020) <p><i>Other packs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SHP fringe session (summer 2025)• HA conference workshop (summer 2025)

[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.



[Project Qualification – Black history pilot](#)

Find out more about the Black history pathway in the Project Qualification, piloted by a group of Year 9 students at Samuel Whitbread Academy. Learners took a thematic approach to this pre-GCSE study of history, which is built around and assessed against the Higher Project Qualification assessment framework. Students expanded their knowledge of Black history by exploring a topic that is personal or local to the school.



On this webpage you'll find lesson resources and checklist. Students share what they learnt and teachers reflect on the value of the pilot, in this [YouTube playlist](#).

[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.



Facebook support groups

An official Pearson Edexcel History Teacher Facebook group was launched in October 2025, for teachers of our GCSE, A level and International History qualifications. This private group is for Edexcel teachers to share ideas and resources and to get support from colleagues as well as the Pearson History team.

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/edexcelhistory>

There are also two unofficial 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 these two 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.

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.
- [NST Tours](#) – Guided History tours to support teachers and students with GCSE History.

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

Transform History Teaching with Multimedia Resources from the Educational Recording Agency (ERA)

[The ERA Licence](#) provides seamless access to television and radio recordings, offering a single point of clearance for the rights needed to create and use authentic media resources in your classroom. With [ERA's free video streaming platform](#), licensed institutions can explore a rich library of curriculum-mapped TV and radio clips tailored to GCSE, AS, and A-level teaching.

Engage your learners with curated clips, full-length documentaries, and programmes that bring historical contexts to life. The platform also includes exclusive access to the **BBC Shakespeare and Literary Archives**, offering unique cross-curricular opportunities to enrich your lessons with impactful media—perfect for both homework and classroom activities.

To access this free resource [registration is required](#) – but is quick and simple. State schools in England are licensed under a central agreement with the DfE and the vast majority of independent schools also hold a current ERA Licence.