

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) in History

For IAL the total number of options have been reduced and new topics added in order to expand the geographical range on offer. The coursework unit has been replaced with an externally assessed unit but the assessment remains comparable to the GCE.

Unit /Title	Comparison with GCE 2008	Comparison with GCE 2015
1 IAS Depth study and interpretations	Content: Historical themes in Breadth Extensive chronological (793-2001) and geographical range Candidates choose 2 from 6 options with 7 sub-options in each Assessment: 25% AO1 Written Examination – 1h 20 Two essays (equal weighting) each from a choice of two questions	Content: Breadth Study with interpretations 8 options with chronological range 1095-1997 4 British, 1 USA, 1 Russia, 1 Germany, 1 International (crusades) Assessment: 20% AO1, 10% AO3 Written Examination – 2h 15 Candidates answer 3 questions-two essays from a choice and one compulsory interpretations based question
2 IAS Breadth study with source evaluation	Content: Depth Studies with source evaluation 5 double options covering the period 1509-c2000 but all British Assessment: 10% AO1, 8% AO2a, 7% AO2b Written Examination – 1h 20 Candidates required to answer two questions Question 1 – o choice-source evaluation a third of paper. Question 2 – one of a choice of two involving own knowledge and source interpretation -two thirds weighting	Content: Depth Study with source evaluation 8 double options ie 16 options c1050-1994 2 English, 2 USA, 2 Germany, France, Dutch Revolt, Italy, Spain, Russia, China, South Africa, India Assessment: 10% AO1, 10% AO2 Written Examination 1h 30 Candidates required to answer two questions Question 1 – no choice-source evaluation involving 2 sources Question 2 – one essay of a choice of two involving own knowledge
3 IA2 Thematic study	Content: Depth Studies and associated controversies 5 double units 1536-1990 4 British, 2 USA, 1 France, 1 Germany, 2 International Assessment: 20% AO1, 10% AO2b Written Examination 2h Candidates required to answer one essay question from choice of two (30m) and one question involving own knowledge and interpretation (2 or 3 extracts) from choice of two questions on nominated controversies (40m)	Content: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth 16 options: 8 British, 2 International, 1 USA, 1 China, 1 Russia, 1 Germany, 1 Spain, 1 Ireland/ British Assessment: 20% AO1, 10% AO2 Written Examination 2h 15 Compulsory source evaluation 1 essay from choice of 2 on aspects in depth and 1 essay from choice of 2 addressing breadth
4 IA2 Extract evaluation	Content: Historical Enquiry Free choice of topics but a large range with very wide chronological and geographical span of approved developed topics offered to centres Assessment: 15% AO1, 5% AO2a Coursework – two written pieces of 4000 words in total with source evaluation in part a	Content: Historical Enquiry Question set by centre Assessment: 5% AO1, 15% AO3 Coursework – single assignment