

Welcome to the
Black History/
Level 2 Higher
Project
Qualification



Pearson



What makes a successful title?

- Your first task is to decide on the topic or area of interest that you want to explore.
- Make sure you choose something that is really interesting to you. That way you are likely to be more motivated to work on your Project.
- Once you have a topic, then you need to narrow this down into a Project Title.
- It is important that you really think about your title now as it is what will guide your Project work. It can change later if really necessary, but if you think and plan carefully now that won't be needed.



Narrowing down from a topic to a title

Remember, your Project is not being assessed only on its content, but on the skills you develop and demonstrate.

That means you need to select a title that:

- Gives you scope to research using different sources. Don't pick a subject where all the information is in one place, and make sure your title will mean you need to research beyond your own knowledge.
- Gives you space to develop your ideas. This often means a question that allows you to explore two sides of an argument works well.
- Has enough to write about and accessible resources.
- Isn't too broad to allow you to explore one area in depth.
- Allows you to consider alternative viewpoints or interpretations. Does your question give you scope to argue different sides of an idea?
- Gives you something to measure your end result against. So a title or question that you can decide whether you have answered in your evaluation works well.



Example – what topic to look at?

- Let's look at the example of a learner who is interested in the Windrush generation.
- They are interested in the topic because they have a relative who came over on the Windrush and settled in the UK.
- In their planning, they identify the topic they are interested in as **"The Windrush generation"**

Do you think that would be a good title for an essay?

Example - narrowing down

- The topic of “**The Windrush generation**” is a good *topic* because it’s interesting and there is lots of scope to use different sources **but** it’s not a good *title* because:
 - It’s too broad to explore properly in one essay
 - It doesn’t give a chance to evaluate the success of the essay. How will the learner decide if they have met their objectives?
 - It is more likely to lead the learner to just report facts rather than exploring their own ideas and opinions on a subject.
- So how to start narrowing down the topic to a title?
- The learner thinks about how their interest in the subject (their relative) is related to the topic. They come up with a new title of “**What was it like to be part of the Windrush generation?**”

Do you think that would be a good title for an essay?

Example - Narrowing down the topic

- The question **“What was it like to be part of the Windrush generation?”** is a better title – it is interesting, gives scope for research and using lots of sources, and allows the learner to explore their own ideas. However, it’s still not a great title because:
 - It’s still quite a broad question
 - It is still more likely to lead to reporting facts rather than exploring ideas and different sides of an argument. It doesn’t allow the learner to give a conclusion
- The learner knows that their relative was very happy that they moved to the UK but that many of their friends felt they made the wrong choice. Therefore they narrowed their title down further:

“Did the lives of migrants on the Windrush change for the better when they arrived in Britain?”

Do you think this is a good title for the essay?



Example – assessing your title

“Did the lives of migrants on the Windrush change for the better when they arrived in Britain?”

- This title could work well as an essay title because it allows the learner:
 - to explore both sides of the argument (they did change for the better OR they didn't) **and** research evidence for both viewpoints
 - to develop their own ideas
 - to use different types of sources – first hand accounts, newspaper articles, surveys of Windrush migrants, even interviews with their own relatives
 - has enough to write about but not so much that they can't come to a conclusion
 - allows the learner to evaluate their work at the end. They can consider if they answered the question, and what they might have done differently.



Questions to ask about your title

- Am I just going to be reporting facts or can I explore two sides of a question/argument?
- Does the title allow me to go beyond just descriptive writing and instead let me come to a conclusion?
- Do I already know lots about this subject or will I have a good reason to do good quality research?
- Am I going to have plenty to write about?
- Am I going to have access to the sources and information I need in the time I have?
- Am I going to need to do planning for the Project? If not, it's probably too simple.
- How am I going to evaluate this when I'm finished? A title that is a question means you can decide whether you answered the question or not.

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