



IGCSE HISTORY

EXAM PAPER 1 GUIDE

Outline for IGCSE Paper 1's (40% of total grade)

You must answer three questions (a, b & c x 3) in total. Answer two questions (a, b & c x 2) from the core content. These can come from ANY of the 'core' content we will study, starting with 19C Japan and ending with the collapse of Soviet control in Easter Europe.

You must also answer one question (a, b & c x 1) from your depth studies (refer Paper 4 guide).

Answer in the correct pattern. If not you will lose marks

We will use a series of Paper 1 type questions in summary tests. For these you will generally only need to answer one question (a, b & c x 1). Check your syllabus for further details.

Each question will be preceded by a source - extract, drawing/cartoon or picture that will give some context to the question. Make sure to study this before starting your answer. Refer to, or quote, the source in your answer – but only if applicable.

Use your time well. You should use just over 1.5 minutes for every mark a question is worth. As an example, you should spend about 11-12 minutes on each (a) question (worth 7 marks)

(a) **FAD What/Describe/Explain**

Level 1 General answer 1-2

Level 2 Describes / Explains 2-5

This question requires a full and accurate description. Should have 4-5 solid points with at least a substantial paragraph

(b) **MC Why...?**

Level 1 General answer 1

Level 2 Identifies why 2-4

Level 3 Explains why 4-7

This question is multi-casual. Should also have 4-5 solid points, but in greater depth without any irrelevant background or discussion and at least two quality paragraphs.

(c) **BSA To what extent/How far/Do you agree?**

Level 1 Unsupported assertions 1

Level 2 Identifies ways 2-3

Level 3 Explains agreement OR disagreement 3-5

Level 4 Explains agreement AND disagreement 5-7

Level 5 Explains with evaluation of, how far? / agreement / success, etc. 8

This question requires you to consider both sides of the argument. You should never totally agree or disagree – always only to a certain extent. There should be 2 or 3 solid points both for and against and these should take up around about a page of writing. A focus on the requirements of the question should always be displayed. Make sure to answer 'how far?'