

Exam board details: GCSE History

Which exam board do you use? **Edexcel** [GCSE \(9-1\) History Specification](#) | [Pearson qualifications](#)

How many History exams will my child sit in the summer of 2025? **Three.**

How many topics does my child need to revise? **Four** (note the two separate topics covered in Paper 2).

Exam paper & option code and percentage of overall GCSE marks.	Paper 1 (Option 11) 30%	Paper 2 (Option B4 & P4) 40%	Paper 3 (Option 31) 30%
Topics included and % of overall GCSE mark?	A)The British Sector of the Western Front: injuries, treatment and the trenches [10%] B) Medicine in Britain, c1250-present [20%]	Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91 [20%] Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88 [20%]	Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-1939 [30%]
Length of exam?	1 hour and 20 minutes	1 hour and 50 minutes	1 hour and 30 minutes
How many marks are on offer in this exam?	52 marks in total Medicine: 36 marks WW1: 16 marks	64 marks in total Cold War: 32 marks Elizabeth: 32 marks	52 marks in total

What topics are covered in the first wave of Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)? **Paper 1 and Paper 3**

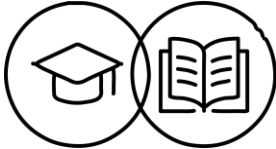


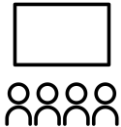
What topics are covered in the second wave of Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)? **Paper 2**

Will my child complete full exam papers in the PPEs? **Yes.**

If you have further questions, please contact Dr Taylor (or your child’s class teacher via your child’s Google Classroom). Please also refer to additional guidance for supporting your child through their GCSE History course.

Dr Taylor
 Teacher-in-Charge, History
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Expectations & Information about how you can support your child

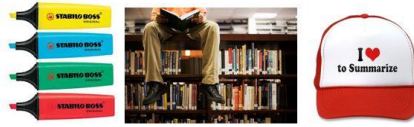
<p>Help your child with their History homework</p> 	<p>Your child will be asked to complete regular homework tasks. These may consist of doing Seneca tasks, writing essay questions, creating revision materials and revising for upcoming test questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can help ensure that all homework is completed and handed in on time by regularly checking their check due dates and homework tasks on their Google Classroom and reminding them of what is due and when. • You can ask to read their homework and ask them questions about the content. • You can encourage your child to contact their teacher (via the Google Classroom) if they are struggling with a task.
<p>Help your child to get organised and know where to look for help</p> 	<p>Your child will be issued with knowledge organisers and learning lists and they should use them to identify strengths and gaps in their knowledge. They will also be invited to join Revision Google Classrooms for all four topics where they will find a wealth of revision materials, links to videos and podcasts, exam guidance and more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to actively use the learning lists with them and remind them to use resources in the revision classrooms. • Consider purchasing a revision guide to support revision. Please see below for suggestions.
<p>Encourage your child to check their knowledge using Seneca</p> 	<p>Seneca quizzes are directly aligned to the exam boards we use. Teachers will often set Seneca tasks and ask students to repeat quizzes. They keep track of your child's scores and use them to identify strengths and weaknesses.</p> <p>*Encourage your child to take these quizzes seriously and repeat them when asked. Ask them how they did and which questions were harder and why. *Challenge: Encourage your child to use Seneca for extra revision, even if they haven't been set specific tasks.</p>
<p>Encourage attendance at revision/booster sessions</p> 	<p>The History Department will be offering regular after school revision sessions and we really value your support in encouraging and rewarding attendance at them.</p> <p>The sessions will usually cover topic content combined with the important exam skills that are essential to succeed in their History exams. The sessions are smaller than regular lessons and so your child will have the opportunity to receive personalised feedback and support. No homework will be set for these sessions.</p>

How do we revise for history?



Three common revision techniques that are **LEAST** effective in helping you revise are:

- Highlighting texts
- Re-reading
- Summarising text



Whilst these methods may feel like you are revising, there are many better methods to help you revise.



Flashcards

Simply create with questions on side and answers on the other side. You can colour code for specific topics and quiz yourself or others.



Post its can be also useful for key words and timelines

Using Flashcards

Using the Leitner Method, using the video below <https://youtu.be/C20EvKtdJwQ>

You can also create excellent flashcards online or on your phone using Quizlet which also had an app.

How to use in history

There are a variety of ways to use flashcards in revision for the skills you need

Key Terms

Create for key words and terms



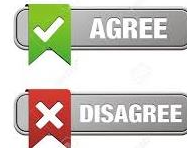
Causation

Create for the causes of events or progress



Judgments

Create an agree or disagree argument against a quote



Narrative

Create to show a narrative of events in order



Retrieval Practice

Testing what you know is a powerful tool in revision, the effort to remember something really strengthens your memory

Apps such as Memrise and Quizlet allow you to use or create your own quizzes based on topics.

Create them, test yourself or get someone to test you, it's works!

How to use in history

Spaced

Test on old and new topics mixed up

Knowledge Organisers

Use to create 'must know' quizzes for a topic

Factors/Causes/Consequences

To identify 2-3 factors, causes of an event/person e.g. The rising against Tostig

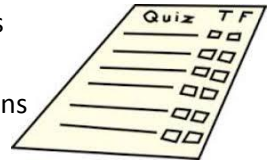
Examples

'Give two examples of.....'

Types

There are a number of types you can create:

- Multiple Choice Questions
- True or False
- Short Explanation Questions
- Odd One Out
- If this is the answer then what is the question



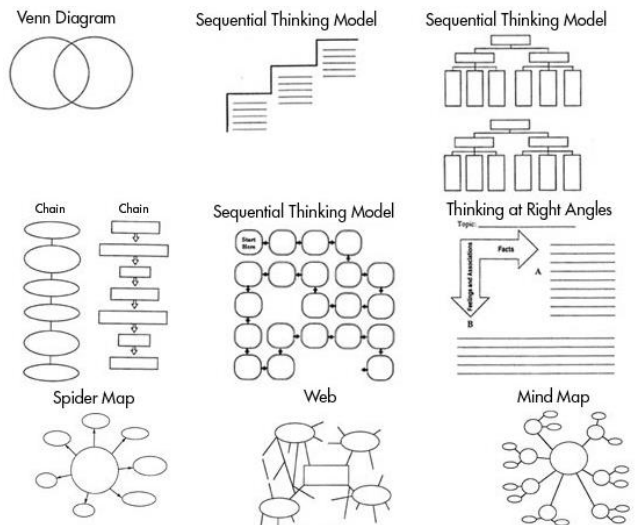
Transform It

Graphic organisers are a great way of 'transforming' your notes/information into visual revision topics.

They can be used to create links, show a narrative, identify the causes/consequences and importance of something.

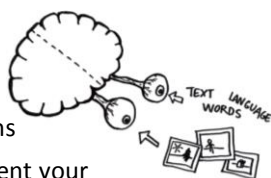
How to use in history

1. **Causation** – Create a visual flow diagram of the chronological events in a time period e.g. American West
2. **Change and Continuity** – Create a Venn diagram to show what changed and did not in medical time period
3. **Concept Mapping**– At the end of a week, mind map all you can remember about a topic and link area together. Then add to your mind map using a different colour using notes



How to:

1. Use simple drawings with matching simple descriptions
2. The drawing should represent your understanding of the topic
3. Try to draw links between images



Dual Coding

Dual coding' is the method of putting your knowledge into visual form alongside words. It increases the chances of you remembering it.



An example activity you can do its creating a comic strip to represent the events of the Battle of Hastings

How do we revise for history?

Deliberate Practice

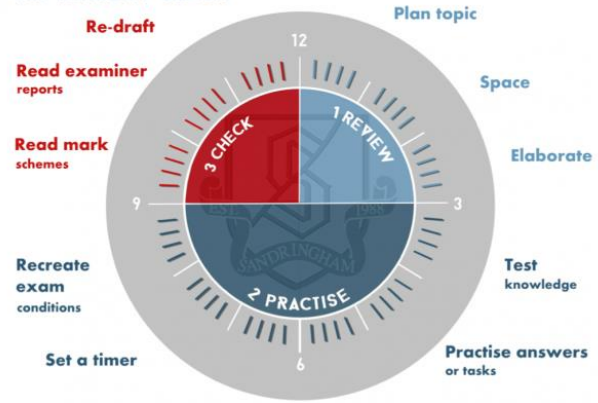
Set aside time to practice improving your knowledge or historical skills. Choose what you need to do, it must be tough enough to challenge you, and practice, practice, practice!

You should focus on something that you are *almost* able to do but *not just yet!*

How to use in history

1. Use a model answer from the teacher, pull it apart and identify the key parts. Then answer a similar question and try to replicate
2. Study material, complete practice questions in timed conditions. Then use your notes to correct / improve your answer. A week later, redo a similar question. Repeat as necessary.

THE MEMORY CLOCK



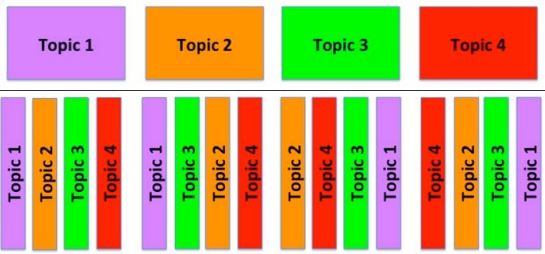
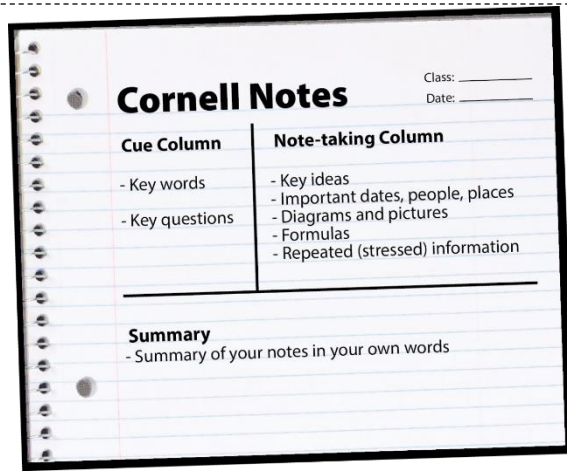
The Cornell Method

This method can be used in your revision books as a great method to get you to 'think' about your revision. Simply split your page into 3 sections as shown on the diagram on the left:

- Note Taking
- Cues
- Summary

How to use in history

- Use it to summarise a whole topic or theme, for example
- How did medical treatment change or continue over time?
 - Methods used by William to control England
 - How Hitler became Dictator by 1934



Interleaving and Spacing

Don't revise your all topics in one go (cramming), you should revise 'chunks' of a topic for small amounts of time (15 minutes) and then move onto another 'chunk' from a different topic. This will improve your memory!

e.g. 15 minutes on Medicine, then Germany then American West

How to use in history

1. Create a revision plan to cover topics you need to cover (least confident first!) and then go back over them again later. Spread out your learning in small sections, 5 hours to 5 x 1 hour
2. Use your flashcards to self test yourself on old and new topics, self testing across these



The Big Picture

The best way to aid your understanding of history is to make sure you are confident with the big 'overview' story before you begin revising individual topics.

How to use in history

1. Create a timeline to identify the key events in a topic and colour code the themes. E.g. Westward Settlement and Indian Conflict in the American West
2. Mapping out what you can remember about a topic before you start, e.g. The treatment of disease through time or the Weimar Republic 1919-1929



The basics

Simply, make sure you eat, sleep and take time out!



Limit distractions



Find a nice space to revise in



The more you put in the more you get out!



Create and use a revision planner



Set an alarm and start early!



Revise, Repeat, Remember