

Ref: H Hist Review 2008

4 June 2008

To: SQA Co-ordinator (secondary schools
and colleges of further education)
Directors of Education
SCIS
HM Inspectors of Schools

Action by Recipient
Response required
✓ Note and pass on
Note — update/information only

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Dear Colleague

National Qualifications update: Review of Higher History

Update

A Qualifications Design Team, with funding from the Scottish Government, met after the Consultation process was completed. It rationalised provision in paper 1 before examining and deciding on the content and structure of the new source-based Scottish paper. Two of these topics are developments of existing topics, while the other three are new developments.

The provisional content for both papers is summarised below along with a draft descriptor for *Paper 1 Britain 1851-1951* topic. Other descriptors will be on the same pattern.

Paper 1 — British & European and World topics

Candidates will be required to answer one essay question (worth 20 marks) from the topic of their choice in the British section and one from the European and World section. There will be a choice of essay questions within each topic. This paper will be worth 40% of the Higher Course.

Content summary — provisional titles

British History	European and World History
Church, State and Feudal Society	The Crusades 1071-1204
The Century of Revolutions 1603-1702	The American Revolution 1763-1787
The Atlantic Slave Trade	The French Revolution, to 1799
Britain 1851-1951	Germany 1815-1939
Britain and Ireland 1900-1985	Italy 1815-1939
	Russia from Tsarism to Bolshevism
	USA 1918-68
	Appeasement and the Road to War, to 1939
	The Cold War 1945-1989

Paper 2 — Mandatory Scottish Unit

This study of Scottish History will be assessed in a source-based paper. There will be a set of sources and questions on each of the five Scottish topics and candidates may answer on any one of the topics. This Unit will be worth 30% of the Higher Course.

Content summary — provisional titles

The Wars of Independence, 1286-1328
The Age of Reformation, 1542-1603
The Treaty of Union, 1689-1740
Migration and Empire, 1830-1939
The Impact of the Great War, 1914-1928

The extended essay

The extended essay will remain unchanged. The essay will be on a question of the candidate's choice drawn from the content of a context they have studied and be worth 30% of the Higher Course.

The revised Higher Course in History will be introduced for session 2010-11, with the first exam in May/June 2011. The last examination on the present Course will be in 2010.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this development. Questions on teaching resources should be directed to Esther Cairney at LTScotland (Tel: 0141 282 5106).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Cheyne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and 'C'.

Larry Cheyne
Qualifications Manager

Higher History Paper 1: Draft Descriptor

British History

Later Modern History – Britain 1851-1951

A study of the development of the United Kingdom into a modern democracy and the development of the role of the state in the welfare of its citizens, illustrating the themes of authority, ideology and rights.

Themes	Detailed Descriptors
An evaluation of the reasons why Britain became more democratic, 1851-1928.	The effects of industrialisation and urbanisation; popular attempts to gain the franchise; pressure groups; effects of other social reforms; examples of developments abroad; party advantage.
An assessment of how democratic Britain became, 1867-1928.	The widening of the franchise, 1867-1928; other measures relating to the distribution of seats, corruption and intimidation; widening membership of the House of Commons; the role of the House of Lords.
An evaluation of the reasons why women won greater political equality by 1928.	The women's suffrage campaigns; the militant Suffragette campaign up to 1914; the part played by women in the war effort, 1914-8; the example of other countries.
An evaluation of the reasons for the Liberal social welfare reforms, 1906-1914.	The social surveys of Booth and Rowntree; the failure of laissez-faire; municipal socialism; foreign examples; national efficiency; the rise of the New Liberalism; party advantage and the rise of Labour.
An assessment of the effectiveness of the Liberal social welfare reforms.	The aims of the Liberal Reforms; the extent to which the Liberal Reforms met these and the needs of the British people.
An assessment of the effectiveness of the Labour social welfare reforms, 1945-1951.	The aims of the Welfare State; the extent to which the Labour Reforms met these and the needs of the British people.