



History Assignment (National 4)

SCQF: level 4 (6 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H20E 74

Unit outline

This is the Added Value Unit in the National 4 History Course. The general aim of this Unit is to enable the learner to provide evidence of added value for the National 4 History Course through the successful completion of a History assignment which will allow the learner to demonstrate challenge and application.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Research and use information relating to a historical theme or event

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National 4 History Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit Specification should be read in conjunction with the *Course Support Notes* which provide advice and guidance on delivery and assessment approaches. Exemplification of the assessment in this Unit is given in the *Unit Assessment Support*.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. It is recommended that the learner should be in the process of completing, or have completed, the following Units in the National 4 History Course:

- ◆ Historical Study: Scottish (National 4)
- ◆ Historical Study: British (National 4)
- ◆ Historical Study: European and World (National 4)

Equality and inclusion

This Unit Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information, please refer to the *Course Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and Assessment Standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

- 1 Research and use information relating to a historical theme or event by:**
 - 1.1 Choosing, with support, an appropriate historical theme or event for study
 - 1.2 Collecting relevant evidence from at least two sources of information
 - 1.3 Organising and using the information collected to address the historical theme or event
 - 1.4 Drawing on knowledge, understanding and skills to describe and briefly explain some key features of the historical theme or event
 - 1.5 Describing the causes or impact of the historical theme or event
 - 1.6 Presenting their findings in response to the historical theme or event

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

This Unit will be assessed through controlled assessment which meets the Evidence Requirements below.

The assessment method for this Unit will be an assignment in which the learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills, knowledge and understanding they have acquired during the Course. Learners will research and present findings on an appropriate historical theme or question. The assignment will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

The assignment is:

- ◆ set by centres within the SQA guidelines described below
- ◆ conducted under some supervision and control

Evidence will be internally marked by centre staff in line with SQA guidelines.

All assessment is subject to quality assurance by SQA.

Setting the assessment

The assignment will be set by centres.

All learners should be provided with a clear outline of the Outcome and Assessment Standards, including when and how they will be assessed.

Learners have flexibility in the form/method of presentation of assessment evidence.

Conducting the assessment

The assignment will be conducted under some supervision and control. While most work will be undertaken under supervision, opportunities may also be provided for learners to undertake independent learning.

The teacher/lecturer should support the learner by offering advice on an appropriate theme or question. The learner will contribute to this by offering some ideas and/or suggestions. It would be reasonable for the theme or question to be one where the teacher/lecturer has some expertise and has resources available to enable the learner to successfully meet the Assessment Standards. Teachers/lecturers can continue to offer advice and support to learners as they undertake the assignment. This may include providing questions/tasks/prompts which lead learners through the assignment in clear stages.

The assignment need not be seen as an end-of-Course activity. It can be prepared for, carried out and assessed at any point within the National 4 History Course. The History assignment is intended to provide challenge and opportunities to apply skills, knowledge and understanding. It also provides opportunities to generate the evidence required to meet the Assessment Standards. Centres have flexibility in how they use this time to best meet the needs of their learners. This time can also be used for activities which will enrich the learner's experience, consolidate learning, allow achievement beyond the minimum requirements and plan for next steps.

Teacher/lecturer guidance will be required to direct learners to appropriate source materials. These can be primary and/or secondary. Learners can have access to all appropriate resources while undertaking the assignment.

Centres must ensure that appropriate measures are in place to authenticate learners' evidence.

Judging the evidence

Evidence will be internally marked and verified by centre staff in line with SQA guidelines.

All assessment is subject to quality assurance by SQA.

Learners can present their findings in a variety of ways, eg a talk followed by questions, using digital media, a learning log or journal, a poster or a piece of writing.

However findings are presented, teachers/lecturers should ensure credit is given only to the skills, knowledge and understanding required within Assessment Standards, rather than other factors such as IT or communication skills.

Assessment evidence can be gathered in a holistic manner.

Evidence must be retained by centres for verification purposes.

Re-assessment

In relation to Unit assessment, SQA's guidance on re-assessment for Units applies.

Further information is provided in the exemplification of assessment in the *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

Please refer to the *Course Specification* for information about skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Further mandatory information on Course coverage for the National 4 History Course

The following gives details of mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the National 4 History Course. Assessment of this Added Value Unit will involve selecting appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding from those listed below, in line with the Evidence Requirements above. This list of skills, knowledge and understanding also provides the basis for the assessment of all the Units in the Course:

- ◆ developing and applying straightforward skills, knowledge and understanding skills in contexts from Scottish, British or European/world history
- ◆ commenting on the origin and content of historical sources in a straightforward way
- ◆ commenting on the impact of historical developments in a straightforward way
- ◆ commenting on the factors contributing towards historical developments, drawing straightforward conclusions
- ◆ with some guidance, researching and using information collected from a range of historical sources and presenting findings
- ◆ developing a straightforward factual knowledge and understanding of historical themes and events in Scottish, British, European and world contexts

Administrative information

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Superclass: DB

History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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