

History



This update contains information relevant to your subject and details of the support available to you.

We also publish updates on the new National Courses in the 'Updates and Announcements' section of the relevant [subject pages](#). I would encourage you to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents, answers to common questions, and links to other areas of interest. You can also sign up for 'My Alerts', SQA's e-mail update service, that notifies you whenever content you are interested in is added or updated on SQA's website. Visit www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts to register.

Hilary Rutherford (previous Qualifications Manager) has moved posts within SQA. As the new Qualifications Manager for History, I look forward to working with you in future. I hope you find the following update helpful, and please contact me if you have any questions.

Jillian Hendry
Qualifications Manager

The Qualifications Team

Jillian Hendry
Qualifications Manager

Duncan Cox
Qualifications Officer

Documents and assessment support materials

Assessment support materials are now available for the new National 1 to Advanced Higher qualifications, marking a significant milestone. It is important that you read the full suite of documents for your Course, as well as those relating to assessment. Further information on documents and assessment support materials can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments

Updates to documents

Advanced Higher documents

We are making planned updates to Advanced Higher documents. This follows the publication of Advanced Higher Specimen Question Papers, Coursework information and Unit assessment support packs. The updated Advanced Higher **Unit Specifications, Course Specifications** and **Course Assessment Specifications** are available now.

We will also update the Advanced Higher **Course and Unit Support Notes**, and finalise all packages of Advanced Higher **Unit assessment support** by the end of May 2015.

Specimen Question Paper

The Specimen Question Paper for Advanced Higher History was published in January 2015. Since then the final version of the Course Assessment Specification has been published, including the mandatory content which will form the basis of Course assessment.

In the Course Assessment Specification, the title of Field of Study 2 has been amended to 'Scotland, Independence and Kingship 1249-1334'. The Specimen Question Paper will be amended to include this new title.

A question in Field of Study 8 'South Africa, Race and Power 1902-1984' will be amended to correct a mismatch with the Marking Instructions and align with changes to italicised areas of the mandatory content. This amendment will involve the sources for the two-source question being replaced with the following two sources:

SOURCE A from *South Africa in the Twentieth Century* by James Barber (1999)
Milner set out to use his position to reconstruct the economy and society and to reshape South Africa in an imperial mould. For him, reconstruction was not an end in itself — it was the means to achieve a 'British' South Africa. His plans involved major social and economic

engineering, with the intention of creating a loyal dominion of the crown. Although his long-term aim was a self-governing community, Milner was in no hurry. He believed his job was to *govern*; that efficiency took precedence over representation. In practical terms, he believed that his aims could be achieved in three ways. The first was to increase the British population by a vigorous immigration policy. The second was to retain control in the hands of British officials while the changes were taking place. Milner's third route was through cultural imperialism; in particular the use of education to anglicise the Boers.

SOURCE B from *A History of South Africa* by Leonard Thompson (1995)

Africans in the former Boer republics had reason to expect that their lives would improve under British administration, since British propaganda had repeatedly criticised the republican governments for their treatment of Africans. These hopes quickly subsided. In the rural areas, where Africans had carried out a rebellion from below during the war, the Milner regime re-established Afrikaner landowners and made Africans' lives harsher than before the war. In the towns, too, Africans' conditions worsened, especially in the gold-mining industry. Milner tightened pass laws to restrict the mobility of African labourers, while the mining companies cut Africans' wages and stopped competing for their labour by combining to form a Witwatersrand native labour association (WNLA). When Africans failed to come to the mines in the required numbers, the government arranged for labourers to be imported from China. In combination, the government, the WNLA and the Chinese labourers made the gold-mining industry profitable to the investors and the state by undermining the bargaining power of Africans.

The revised Question Paper with these changes made will be published in September 2015.

Further details of changes to Advanced Higher documents are outlined in the January 2015 subject update. The Notification of Changes spreadsheets have been updated to reflect the latest changes to documents. You can view these spreadsheets at

www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges

National 3 to Higher documents

We are updating some published documents in April and May. Updated National 5 and Higher **Course Assessment Specifications** are available now.

N5 Course Assessment Specification

Changes have been made to the following to provide clarification and dates have been amended where appropriate.

- Section 1: Historical Study: Scottish Parts D and E
- Section 2: Historical Study: British Part D
- Section 3: Historical Study: European and World Parts C, G and H

Higher Course Assessment Specification

Changes have been made to the following to provide clarification and dates have been amended where appropriate.

- Section 2: Historical Study: British Parts A, B, E
 - Section 3: European and World: Parts B and E
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The updated Course Assessment Specifications are accompanied by comparison documents. The comparison documents clearly illustrate what changes have been made and will help you to quickly and easily identify the updates. Comparison documents are available from the **subject pages** and sit alongside the 'clean' versions of the updated documents. Where required, Course and Unit Support Notes will be updated to correspond with these changes. Updated Course and Unit Support Notes will be published by the end of May 2015.

The Notification of Changes spreadsheets have been updated to reflect the latest changes to documents. You can view these spreadsheets at **www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges**

Looking ahead to 2015/16

Understanding Standards

In June 2015, we will publish further Understanding Standards packs for National 1 to Higher, which will contain candidate evidence and commentaries for Unit assessment and internally assessed components of Course assessment.

The Understanding Standards programme will continue throughout session 2015/16, and will include Nominee training events, Course assessment events for National 5 and Higher, and Understanding Standards packs.

The Nominee training event for History will take place on the following date:

- Tuesday, 29 September 2015

Course assessment events for National 5 and Higher History will take place in the autumn.

For more information on Understanding Standards, visit **www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards**

CPD support

We will continue to offer subject-specific CPD support for new National Courses, where particular areas of concern are identified that are not already addressed by the Understanding Standards programme.

From August 2015, we will also offer subject-specific CPD support to assist teachers and lecturers with the implementation of the new Advanced Higher Courses.

Use of National 4 Added Value Units

From August 2015 onwards, you will have the option of developing your own National 4 Added Value Unit assessments for use with candidates. Please note that this is not a requirement and you can continue to use SQA-produced Added Value Unit assessments until further notice. Most SQA-produced Added Value Unit assessments already allow considerable flexibility in the choice of a context for the assessment, while some provide a context that you can change.

Further information can be found at **www.sqa.org.uk/unitassessment**

Advanced Higher Exemplar Question Papers

In December 2015, we will publish Exemplar Question Papers for all new Advanced Higher Courses that include a question paper as part of the Course assessment.

Further information on Exemplar Question Papers, and other available assessment support materials, can be found at www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments

Contact SQA

For centre enquiries, please contact our Customer Support Team:

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