

## Guidance on the use of past paper questions for Advanced Higher Modern Studies

The Curriculum for Excellence Advanced Higher Courses draw on the strengths of popular areas of study from existing Advanced Higher with the introduction of some new content. The purpose of this support document is to help centres and departments to identify suitable past paper questions/items that could be used, or possibly amended, to support learners in their preparation for sitting question papers (exams) as part of the Advanced Higher Course assessment. The advice in this document reflects questions selected from **or 2012 to 2014** [past papers](#).

When utilising any past paper questions, you need to take into account the following:

- ◆ You must select questions that provide the learners with the same level of challenge as those in the Advanced Higher Specimen Question Paper.
- ◆ You may be able to use questions as published or with amendments as suggested in the columns below.
- ◆ You must use questions that adhere to the Advanced Higher General Marking Principles and reflect the form of Detailed Marking Instructions as published in the Advanced Higher Specimen Question Paper.

If any change to a question/items is necessary, you must ensure that:

- ◆ The style and structure matches the Specimen Question Paper for Advanced Higher.
- ◆ Marking of the learner's response to the question adheres to the General Marking Principles in the Advanced Higher Specimen Question Paper.
- ◆ Marking Instructions are amended to reflect the style of the Advanced Higher Detailed Marking Instructions.

The details below should be read in conjunction with the relevant:

Mandatory documentation:

- ◆ Course Specification
- ◆ Unit Specifications
- ◆ Course Assessment Specification

Advice and guidance:

- ◆ Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment:

- ◆ Question Paper Component:
  - general assessment information
  - general marking principles and detailed marking instructions

Related Information as provided in the relevant N5-Advanced Higher Course Comparison Document.

### Key for the section below:

- C — amend context as required
- S — amend source as required
- St — amend question style
- Str — amend structure of the question

Not all topic/areas of study will appear every year due to the sampling techniques used in producing question papers.

<p><b>Information from the Course Assessment Specification</b></p> <p>The purpose of the question paper is to demonstrate depth of knowledge and understanding and application of skills.</p> <p>The question paper will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ analysing, synthesising and evaluating in order to structure and sustain lines of argument</li> <li>◆ making international comparisons</li> <li>◆ evaluating a range of social science research and research methods</li> <li>◆ applying knowledge and understanding of complex political or social issues</li> </ul> <p>The question paper will be marked out of 90. The question paper has three optional Sections, of 90 marks each:</p> <p>Learners will answer questions from <b>one</b> of the following Sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Political Issues and Research Methods</li> <li>◆ Social Issues, Law and Order, and Research Methods</li> <li>◆ Social Issues, Social Inequality, and Research Methods</li> </ul>	<p><b>The columns below identify additional support questions from Advanced Higher Past Papers 2012 to 2014</b></p>		
	<p><b>Advanced Higher</b></p>		
	<p>Use question as published</p>	<p>Amend question context/source</p>	<p>Amend question style/structure</p>
<p><b>Political Issues and Research Methods</b></p>			
<p>Power and Influence</p>		<p><a href="#">2014 Q2</a>, – C</p>	<p><a href="#">2014 Q1 – St/Str</a>, <a href="#">Q4 – C/St/Str</a>  <a href="#">2013 Q1, Q2, Q4 – St/Str</a>  <a href="#">2012 Q1, Q2, Q4 – St/Str</a></p> <p>Questions now require responses to include wider international comparison.</p>
<p>Living Political Ideas</p>	<p>New topic; no past coverage.</p>		
<p>Political structures</p>			<p><a href="#">2014 Q3 - Str</a>, <a href="#">Q4 – St/Str</a>  <a href="#">2013 Q3 – C/St/Str</a>  <a href="#">2012 Q3 – St/Str</a></p> <p>Questions now require responses to include wider international comparison.</p>

Research Methods			<a href="#">2014 Q5a – St/Str, Q6a – St/Str</a> <a href="#">2013 Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a> <a href="#">2012 Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a>
<b>Social Issues, Law and Order, and Research Methods</b>			
Understanding the criminal justice system	<a href="#">2013 Q1</a> <a href="#">2012 Q1</a> Questions now require responses to include international comparison.		<a href="#">2014 Q1 – St/Str</a> Questions now require responses to include international comparison.
Understanding criminal behaviour			<a href="#">2014 Q2 – St/Str</a> <a href="#">2013 Q2 – St/Str</a> <a href="#">2012 Q2 – St/Str</a> Questions now require responses to include international comparison.
Responses by society to crime	<a href="#">2014 Q3, Q4</a> <a href="#">2012 Q3</a> Questions now require responses to include international comparison.		<a href="#">2013 Q3, Q4</a> <a href="#">2012 Q4</a> Questions now require responses to include international comparison.
Research methods			<a href="#">2014 Q5a – St/Str, Q6a – St/Str</a> <a href="#">2013 Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a> <a href="#">2012 Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a>
<b>Social Issues, Social Inequality, and Research Methods</b>			
Understanding social inequality	This is a new topic.		
Impact of inequality	This is a new topic.		
Responses to social inequality	This is a new topic.		
Research methods			<a href="#">2014 Q5a – C/St/Str, Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a> <a href="#">2013 Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a> <a href="#">2012 Q6a – C/S/St/Str</a>

## Resources

SQA past papers

[www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm](http://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm)

Additional assessment support material is available here:

Education Scotland

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/)

Glow

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/usingglowandict/](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/usingglowandict/)

Glow Log-in

<https://secure.glowscotland.org.uk/login/login.htm>