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History

National Qualifications

2026

Scottish History

Thursday, 14 May

Instructions to Candidates

Candidates should enter their surname, forename(s), date of birth, Scottish candidate number and the name and level of the subject at the top of their first answer sheet.

Total marks – 36

[Braille page 2] Attempt ALL questions in the section you have chosen.

[Only Part D. Migration and empire, 1830 to 1939 has been supplied.]

You must clearly identify the question number you are attempting on your answer sheet.

Marks are shown in square brackets at the end of each question or part question.

An owl in the margin indicates a new question.

[Braille page 3] SCOTTISH HISTORY — 36 marks

PART D — Migration and empire, 1830 to 1939

Study the sources below and attempt the following four questions.

Source A from W. W. Knox, *A History of the Scottish People, 1840 to 1940* (2013).

Keeping in touch with the land was not a consideration for the urban emigrant from the Scottish Lowlands. They had different problems to deal with from their fellow Scots in the Highlands. Indeed, emigration from urban areas was seen by **[Braille page 4]** trade unions as a practical solution to the increasing numbers of unemployed. Urban Scots chose to leave their birthplace due to poor houses, which were often cramped, disease-ridden, and overcrowded. The high points in emigration occurred in the late 1840s and 1850s, the mid-1880s, and the period 1906 to 1914. During the economic depression of the 1920s, emigration exceeded the natural increase in population due to a post-war decline in traditional industries, such as textiles, iron, steel and shipbuilding, that had boomed during the Great War.

[Braille page 5] Source B from Eric Richards, *The Highland Clearances* (2000).

After the great re-organisations of the early 19th century, there was some consolidation on Highland estates as managers and owners hoped the crofting population would settle into their new situations and employment, principally in fishing and the production of kelp. However, in spite of the improvers' predictions of economic stability, the kelp industry went into decline which deepened the poverty of small tenants. A serious warning came between 1836 and 1837 when a potato blight **[Braille page 6]** hit the region, to be followed in 1846 to 1848 with an even more serious subsistence crisis, recognised by contemporaries as the Great Highland Potato Famine. Many Highland landowners were bankrupted leading to the eviction of the poorest class of tenants, many of whom chose to leave Scotland. However, other landowners saw the crisis as an opportunity to re-organise their estates along more profitable lines.

Source C from Graham Redding, *The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand: A Brief History* (2012).

[Braille page 7] Most of the Scots that arrived in New Zealand were of the Presbyterian Free Church of Scotland. The hub of the Free Church, Dunedin, was founded in 1848 by Scottish settlers, the Reverend Thomas Burns and William Cargill, as a Free Church settlement — the only one in the world to become a city. Scottish Presbyterians' influence on the Otago-Southland settlement was very strong. The establishment of the first university in New Zealand at Dunedin in 1869, with the Reverend Thomas Burns from Ayrshire as its first Chancellor, was an indication of the Presbyterian emphasis **[Braille page 8]** on learning. Scottish Presbyterian settlers became prominent in politics, such as architect Sir George Troup, an elder in the Presbyterian Church, who became Mayor of Wellington. Troup was also the first official architect of the New Zealand Railway stations and was also

known as 'Gingerbread George' because of his famous design of the Dunedin railway station in the Flemish Renaissance style.

Source D from an article by a journalist in a Catholic newspaper, published April 1928.

The Irish in Scotland

[Braille page 9] In stating the case of the Irish in Scotland, I write as a Scotsman, but, I trust, not as a prejudiced one. In industrial Scotland, unemployment has been of a very serious nature for a number of years. Yet, many Irish have got jobs by being prepared to work cheaper, much to the benefit of the pockets of Scottish employers. Even with increasing numbers, the Irish are still being openly encouraged to come, particularly by the farming community, simply owing to the seasonal nature of their labour, with many coming to Ayrshire during potato season. A cause of financial uneasiness is that under the **[Braille page 10]** Education Act of 1918 large sums of money need to be found for the purchase and lease of Roman Catholic schools, a thing unthought of prior to the Irish population increase. Scotland cannot have it both ways, to desire them, and once they have them, object to their presence.

Attempt ALL of the following questions.

ow 13. How much do Sources A and B reveal about differing interpretations of the push factors which contributed to the emigration of Scots, 1830 to 1939? [10 marks]

Use the sources and recalled knowledge.

[Braille page 11] ow 14. Explain the reasons why immigrants in Scotland had varied experiences. [8 marks]

ow 15. How fully does Source C explain the impact of Scots emigrants on the empire? [10 marks]

Use the source and recalled knowledge.

ow 16. Evaluate the usefulness of Source D as evidence of the contribution of immigrants to the Scottish economy, to 1939. [8 marks]

In reaching a conclusion you should refer to:

- [Braille page 12]** • the origin and possible purpose of the source
- the content of the source
 - recalled knowledge.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]