

A Level History



Specification

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in History (9HI0)

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Issue 3

Route E: Communist states in the twentieth century			Entry code
Paper 1 option	Paper 2 options	Paper 3 options	
1E: Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin	2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76 Or 2E.2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90	30: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509	E0
		31: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485–1603	E1
		32: The Golden Age of Spain, 1474–1598	Prohibited
		33: The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580–c1750	Prohibited
		34.1: Industrialisation and social change in Britain, 1759–1928: forging a new society	E4
		34.2: Poverty, public health and the state in Britain, c1780–1939	
		35.1: Britain: losing and gaining an empire, 1763–1914	E5
		35.2: The British experience of warfare, c1790–1918	
		36.1: Protest, agitation and parliamentary reform in Britain, c1780–1928	E6
		36.2: Ireland and the Union, c1774–1923	
		37.1: The changing nature of warfare, 1859–1991: perception and reality	Prohibited
		37.2: Germany, 1871–1990: united, divided and reunited	
38.1: The making of modern Russia, 1855–1991	Prohibited		
38.2: The making of modern China, 1860–1997			
39.1: Civil rights and race relations in the USA, 1850–2009	Prohibited		
39.2: Mass media and social change in Britain, 1882–2004			

THE UNITS STUDIED AT KESGRAVE HIGH SCHOOL ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW

Route E: Communist states in the twentieth century

Overview

Students taking Route E will study:

- *Paper 1, Option 1E: Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin* and **either:**

- *Paper 2, Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76*

or:

- *Paper 2, Option 2E.2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90.*

The options in Route E are linked by the theme of communism, one of the most significant ideologies of the twentieth century. Communism directly affected the lives of millions of people who lived under communist rule, but it also had indirect effects on countless others around the world.

Studying two different countries allows students to develop a greater understanding of the nature of communist rule and the similarities and contrasts between them (although students will not be required to answer comparative questions that link the breadth and the chosen depth option).

Paper 1, Option 1E: Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin

Overview

This option comprises a study in breadth, in which students will learn about the key political, social and economic features of communist rule in Russia during the twentieth century, an era that saw its authority and influence rise to the status of a superpower, only to diminish and decline later in the century.

The focus of study is on developments and changes over a broad timescale, and so the content is presented as themes spanning a significant duration: 1917–85. This option also contains a study in depth of historical interpretations on a broad question, which is contextualised by, and runs on from, the themes: reasons for the fall of the USSR, c1985–91.

Themes	Content
1 Communist government in the USSR, 1917–85	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing Communist Party control, 1917–24: the creation of a one-party state and the party congress of 1921; the nature of government under Lenin; the growing centralisation of power.• Stalin in power, 1928–53: the elimination of opponents in government and party; the purges of the 1930s; Stalin’s power over party and state.• Government, 1953–85: changes in leaders’ control of the state across the period; Khrushchev’s attempts to reform government including de-Stalinisation; the return to stability under Brezhnev, 1964–82; growing political stagnation, 1982–85.
2 Industrial and agricultural change, 1917–85	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Towards a command economy, 1917–28: the nationalisation of industry; War Communism and the New Economic Policy; state control of industry and agriculture.• Industry and agriculture in the Stalin era: the Five-Year Plans and industrial change; agricultural collectivisation and its impact; recovery from war after 1945.• Changes in industry and agriculture, 1953–85, including: the promotion of light industry, chemicals and consumer goods; investment in agriculture and the Virgin Lands Scheme; the limited attempts at reform after 1964; economic decline.

Themes	Content
3 Control of the people, 1917–85	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media, propaganda and religion: state control of mass media and propaganda; attacks on religious beliefs and practices. The personality cults of Stalin, Khrushchev and Brezhnev. • The secret police: attacks on opponents of the government; the roles of Yagoda, Yezhov and Beria; Andropov's suppression of dissidents, 1967–82; the continued monitoring of popular discontent, 1982–85. • The state and cultural change: <i>Proletkult</i>, <i>avant-garde</i> and Socialist Realism, 1917–53; nonconformity from the 1950s; clashes between artists and the government to 1985.
4 Social developments, 1917–85	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social security: full employment, housing and social benefits, 1917–53. Khrushchev, Brezhnev and the promotion of a stable society, 1953–85. • Women and the family: the changing status of different groups of women in towns and countryside; changing government attitudes towards the family as a social unit. • Education and young people: the growth of primary, secondary and higher education; the reduction of illiteracy; state control of the curriculum.

Historical interpretations	Content
What explains the fall of the USSR, c1985–91?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of the economic weaknesses of the USSR and the failure of reform. • The effects of Gorbachev's failure to reform the Communist Party and the Soviet government. • The impact of the nationalist resurgence in the late 1980s in the Soviet republics and in the communist states of Eastern Europe. • How far Gorbachev and Yeltsin can be seen as responsible for the collapse of the USSR in 1991.

Paper 2, Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76

Overview

This option comprises a study in depth of the transformation of communist China in the years 1949–76. The aftershocks of these changes are still being felt today as China emerges as a great economic and political power on the world stage.

Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the nature and extent of change in this period, the effects of Mao Zedong's policies on the lives of the Chinese people, and Mao's role in driving dramatic political, social and economic changes.

Key topics	Content
1 Establishing communist rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> China in 1949: the aftermath of the civil war of 1946–49; the state of China's industry, agriculture and national infrastructure. The new power structure; the different roles of the CCP, the government, the bureaucracy and the People's Liberation Army (PLA); Mao's dominant position within government; the growth of democratic centralism. Defeating the CCP's opponents: the 'three antis' and 'five antis' movements; the use of terror against opponents of Communist rule; the reunification campaigns in Tibet, Xinjiang and Guangdong; the development of the Laogai system. The Hundred Flowers campaign 1957 and aftermath to 1965. China and the Korean War: its role in enhancing CCP control, suppressing opposition, and promoting national unity; the human and financial costs of intervention in Korea; China's enhanced international prestige.
2 Agriculture and industry, 1949–65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early changes in agriculture, 1949–57: attacks on landlordism; the redistribution of land; moves towards agricultural cooperation; the change from voluntary to enforced collectivisation. The communes and their organisation; communal living; the abolition of private farming; Lysenkoism; the Great Famine of 1958–62; the restoration of private farming by Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping. The First Five-Year Plan, 1952–56: the USSR's financial and technical support; the plan's targets, successes and failures. The Second Five-Year Plan (the Great Leap Forward), 1958–62: Mao's reasons for launching it; state-owned enterprises; the successes and failures of the second Plan. The Lushan Conference 1959. Liu, Deng and economic reform, 1962–65.

Key topics	Content
3 The Cultural Revolution and its aftermath, 1966–76	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mao's reasons for launching the Cultural Revolution: divisions within the CCP between ideologues and pragmatists; the quest for permanent revolution; attacks on the bureaucracy; the divisions within the CCP between supporters and opponents of Mao's policies. • The Red Guards and Red Terror: Mao's hold on young people; the mass rallies of 1966; Red Guard attacks on the 'four olds' (culture, customs, habits, ideas); the growth of anarchy and the use of terror; cultural destruction. • Attacks on Mao's political and class enemies: Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping; Lin Biao; the purging of the CCP membership; 'capitalist roaders' and foreigners living in China. • Winding down the Cultural Revolution, 1968–76: restoration of order by the PLA; 'up to the mountains and down to the villages' campaign; the return to power of Deng Xiaoping and Zhou Enlai; reining in the Gang of Four. The death of Mao.
4 Social and cultural changes, 1949–76	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The changing status of women: foot binding; the Marriage Law 1950; the impact of collectivisation and the communes on women's lives; women and the family; the nature and extent of change; the problem of changing traditional views, especially in the countryside. • Education and health provision: the growth of literacy; Pinyin; the collapse of education after 1966; the barefoot doctors; successes and failures of healthcare reform. • Cultural change: attacks on traditional culture in towns and countryside; the role of Jiang Qing; the imposition of revolutionary art and culture. • Religion: attacks on Buddhism, Confucianism, Christianity, Islam and ancestor worship.

Paper 3, Option 30: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509

Overview

This option comprises two parts: the *Aspects in breadth* focus on long-term changes and contextualise the *Aspects in depth*, which focus in detail on key episodes.

Together, the breadth and depth topics explore the dramatic developments in late medieval England that centred around the personalities and political skills of a series of kings, queens and their powerful subjects, and the impact of these developments on the kingdom. Within the primarily political focus on the nature of kingship and authority in England, this option also explores the wider social and economic contexts of political struggle.

Aspects in breadth: 'The Divinity which doth hedge a King': changes in royal authority, 1399–1509	
Themes	Content
1 Changing relationships between crown and the nobility: 'over-mighty subjects'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major landowners and their role in governing the kingdom, 1399–1509: lands, offices of state and church patronage; necessary props to the crown but potential rivals (key developments: the crushing of the conspiracy against Henry V in 1415, the execution of Warwick in 1499). The importance of retaining, 1399–1509: livery and maintenance; the concept of 'bastard feudalism' (key developments: statutes in 1468 and 1504 against retaining). Coping with challenge – disorder and local rivalries, 1399–1509, including Neville versus Percy in the north, Bonville versus Courteney in the south west, the experience of the Pastons in East Anglia (key developments: the readeption of Henry VI in 1470 and the return of Edward IV in 1471; increased control of the localities in the 1470s).
2 Changes in the sinews of power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal income, 1399–1509: land, custom duties, feudal rights, profits of justice, taxation; the roles of the Exchequer and the Chamber. The role of parliament, 1399–1509: prop or curb to royal power? (key development: the Parliament of 1406). War and diplomacy, 1399–1509: benefits and cost to the crown (key developments: the losses in France in 1453, the Treaty of Picquigny 1475, the Spanish Marriage 1499).

Aspects in depth: kings challenged and kings triumphant

Key topics	Content
1 The crises of 1399–1405	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The crisis of 1399: reasons for Bolingbroke's seizure of the crown from Richard II. 'Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown' – Henry IV and the problems arising from his behaviour in 1399: the first stirrings of revolt and the death of Richard in 1400. Surviving rebellion, 1403–05: the challenges from the Percys and Owain Glyndwr and reasons for Henry IV's survival; the influence of relations with Scotland and France.
2 Henry V and the conquest of France, 1413–21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The significance of renewing the war with France and the campaign of 1415. The significance of the challenge from Lollardy and the royal response. The importance of the Burgundian Alliance 1419; the significance of the conquest of Normandy and the Treaty of Troyes, 1417–20: the basis, impact and cost of success.
3 Renewed crises and challenges, c1449–61	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The personalities of Henry VI and Margaret of Anjou and the effects on the governing of England, 1449–61; downfall of the Duke of Suffolk in 1450. The reasons for, events, and significance of, Cade's rebellion 1450. The importance of the Duke of York's protectorate and his growing ambitions, 1454–60; the Battle of Towton and the reasons for the triumph of Edward IV 1461: the importance of the Earl of Warwick.
4 The Yorkists divided, 1478–85	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reasons for the attainder and murder of George, Duke of Clarence in 1478; tensions in the Yorkist camp and the impact of Edward's early death 1483. The challenges faced by Richard III: the significance of his seizure of the throne 1483; the disappearance of the princes in the Tower; the Duke of Buckingham's rebellion; his relative failures compared with Edward IV. Henry Tudor and the reasons for his success at the Battle of Bosworth Field: foreign aid and the role of the Stanleys.
5 Henry VII: seizing the throne and trying to keep it, 1485–97	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claiming the throne and the significance of the marriage to Elizabeth of York; living in fear and striving for security: the use spies and bonds. Challengers and their supporters: Lambert Simnel and the Earl of Lincoln; Perkin Warbeck and Sir William Stanley; the importance of Margaret of Burgundy. Resistance to taxation: causes, events and impact of the Yorkshire Rebellion 1489 and the Cornish Rebellion 1497.

Coursework

Overview

The purpose of this coursework is to enable students to develop skills in the analysis and evaluation of interpretations of history in a chosen question, problem or issue as part of an independently researched assignment.

The focus is on understanding the nature and purpose of the work of the historian. Students will be required to form a critical view based on relevant reading on the question, problem or issue. They will also be specifically required to analyse, explain and evaluate the interpretations of three historians.

The coursework will be assessed using a centre-set assignment. Assignments must meet the requirements detailed below. An assignment framework is provided to support the development of individual assignments.