

Exam questions

Questions	old	new	AO	difficulty
AQA				
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Describe how the Plains Indians were suited to life in the Plains 4				
Which of the following groups did more to settle the West: Mormons, Homesteaders Answer the question with reference to the two groups 16				
Study source A: what are the strengths and weaknesses of the source in understanding Anglo German rivalry before WW1? 6				
Study Sources B and C. Which source is more useful for understanding Austria's reaction to the assassination of Franz Ferdinand? Explain your answer using Sources B and C and your contextual knowledge. 10				
Explain the consequences of the Moroccan Crisis of 1905 8				
'The war at sea was the main reason for Germany's defeat in the First World War.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. 16 marks				
Study Sources A and B . What different attitudes to vaccination do these two sources show? [4 marks]				
Why do these two sources show different attitudes to vaccination? Explain your answer using the sources and your contextual knowledge. [4 marks]				
Explain the significance of anaesthetics in the history of medicine. [6 marks]				
Which of the epidemics below had the greater impact on Britain: • Black Death in the Middle Ages • Cholera epidemics in the 19 th century? Explain your answer with reference to both epidemics. 10				
Has religion been the main factor in the development of medicine in Britain? Explain your answer with reference to religion and other factors. 16				
How does a study of Pickering Castle help you to understand how the Normans controlled England? Explain your answer. You should refer to Pickering Castle and your contextual knowledge. 10				
Explain why the death of Edward the Confessor was important for England in 1066. 8				
'The changes to the feudal system were the greatest change the Normans made after the Conquest.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. 16				
Edexcel				
Describe two features of accommodation for the poorer people in the Whitechapel area. 4				
Study Sources A and B in the Sources Booklet. How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into the effectiveness of the police in Whitechapel in 1888? Explain your answer, using Sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context. 8				
Study Source A. How could you follow up Source A to find out more about the effectiveness of the police in Whitechapel in 1888? In your answer, you must give the question you would ask and the type of source you could use. Complete the table below. (4)				

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<p>Detail in Source A that I would follow up:..</p> <p>Question I would ask:..</p> <p>What type of source I could use...</p> <p>How this might help my answer...</p>				
<p>Explain one way in which smuggling in Britain during the eighteenth century was similar to smuggling during the twentieth century. 4</p>				
<p>Explain why there were changes in the prison system in the period c1700–c1900. 12</p> <p>You may use: John Howard and Hard Labour in your answer. You must also use information of your own.</p>				
<p>‘The role of local communities was the most important factor affecting law enforcement during the Middle Ages.’</p> <p>How far do you agree? Explain your answer. 16</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tithings • trial by ordeal <p>You must also use information of your own.</p>				
<p>OR ‘The main purpose of punishment during the period c1000–c1700 was to deter people from committing crimes.’ How far do you agree? Explain your answer. 16</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • corporal punishment • the introduction of transportation <p>You must also use information of your own.</p>				
<p>Explain two consequences of the Fort Laramie Treaty (1851). 8</p>				
<p>Write a narrative account analysing the ways in which the cattle industry grew in the years 1865–74. You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Goodnight-Loving Trail (1866) • the introduction of barbed wire (1874) <p>You must also use information of your own. 8</p>				
<p>Explain two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of the opening of the First Transcontinental Railroad (1869) for the settlement of the West. • The importance of the winter of 1886–87 for the cattle industry. • The importance of the Dawes Act (1887) for the way of life of the Plains Indians. 16 				
<p>(a) Describe two features of the attempts to colonise Virginia in the 1580s. 4</p>				
<p>Explain why the Throckmorton Plot (1583) was a threat to Queen Elizabeth. You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary, Queen of Scots • foreign threat <p>You must also use information of your own. 12</p>				
<p>(c) (i) ‘The threat of invasion was Elizabeth’s main problem when she became queen in 1558.’</p> <p>How far do you agree? Explain your answer. 16</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France • Elizabeth’s legitimacy <p>You must also use information of your own.</p>				
<p>Or (ii) ‘Religion was the main cause of the Revolt of the Northern Earls in 1569–70.’</p> <p>How far do you agree? Explain your answer. 16</p> <p>You may use the following in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic grievances • the Earls of Northumberland and Westmorland <p>You must also use information of your own</p>				

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Give two things you can infer from Source A about Hitler's leadership of the Nazi Party in the 1920s. Complete the table below to explain your answer..... 4				
Explain why there was opposition in Germany to the Treaty of Versailles (1919). You may use the following in your answer: • military terms • territorial terms You must also use information of your own. 12				
Study Sources B and C. How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into the attitudes of young people towards the Hitler Youth movement? Explain your answer, using Sources B and C and your knowledge of the historical context. 8				
OCR A				
Outline the actions of the USSR in Eastern Europe from 1945 to 1948. 5				
How successful were attempts at international co-operation in the 1920s? Explain your answer. 10				
Describe one example of Nazi policies in the 1920s. 2				
Explain how the Reichstag Fire helped the Nazis to secure control of Germany in 1933. 10				
Study Source A. Explain how this source is useful to a historian studying Nazi Germany. 5				
Study Source B. Explain why this source was published in Germany at this time. 5				
'The Nazi regime in Germany in the 1930s faced relatively little opposition because most Germans were afraid of it'. How far do you agree with this statement? 18				
Describe two of the measures taken by the authorities to control migrant groups between c.1000 and 1603. 4				
Explain the part played by members of migrant communities in movements for change in Britain between 1772 and 1905. 8				
How significant was migration between 1945 and 1981 for British society? 14				
'Between c.1440 and c.2010 migrant communities have had to struggle for acceptance within British society.' How far do you agree with this statement? 24				
Explain why the church was wealthy in the early 1530s. 10				
Study Sources A–C. 'The Dissolution of the monasteries was a popular measure.' How far do Sources A–C convince you that this statement is correct? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. 20				
Explain why Conwy Castle fell into disrepair in the period 1400–1600 10				
Study Sources D and E. Which of these sources is more useful to a historian studying the first hundred years of Conwy Castle (from the 1280s to the 1380s)? 20				

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OCR B				
Name one type of official who was responsible for enforcing law and order in the Middle Ages. 1				
Name one type of crime that the authorities were particularly worried about in the period 1500–1750. 1				
To which country were convicts transported after 1787? 1				
In which year in the 1820s did Robert Peel set up the first police force in London? 1				
Name one form of new technology that helped to improve the police after 1900 1				
What caused the increase in crime in the first half of the nineteenth century? Explain your answer 10				
How far do you agree that the most important changes in the punishment of offenders took place in the twentieth century? Give reasons for your answer. 18				
OR 'In the period between 1750 and 1900 there were big changes in policing'. How far do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer. 18				
Answer any two questions				
1. Did your site change dramatically over its history? Use physical features of the site and other sources as well as your knowledge to support your answer. 20				
2. Explain how we can know that your site was important to people at a particular time in its history. Use physical features of the site and other sources as well as your knowledge to support your answer. 20				
3. Imagine that an artist has been hired to do a painting of life at your site, or part of your site, at a particular time in its past. What would you tell the artist to help make the painting historically accurate? Use physical features of the site and other sources as well as your knowledge to support your answer. 20				
Name one of the states that were added to the USA between 1789 and 1838. 1				
What was the name of the Mormon leader who founded Salt Lake City? 1				
In which year in the 1860s did the American Civil War end? 1				
Name one of the Indian wars fought between 1861 and 1876. 1				
Name one of the main industries that provided employment for large numbers of African-Americans in the south after 1877 1				
Write a clear and organised summary of the difficulties faced by early migrants on their journeys to Oregon and California in the 1840s and 1850s. Support your summary with detailed examples. 7				
What was the impact of the Californian gold rush of 1848–1849? Support your answer with detailed examples 10				
How far do you agree that the building of railroads across the Plains was the main reason for the destruction of the Plains Indians' culture after 1877? Give reasons for your answer. 18				
Or "The period of Reconstruction from 1863 to 1877 was a time of progress for former slaves in America's southern states". How far do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer 18				
What can extract A tell us about Nazi propaganda? Use the extract and your own knowledge to support your answer. 9				
How useful are extracts B, C and poster D for a historian studying the growth of Hitler Youth organisations between 1932 and 1939? In your answer, refer to the extract, graph and poster as well as your own knowledge. 13				

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WJEC				
What can be learnt from Sources A and B about the theatre in Elizabethan times? [4]				
To what extent does this source accurately reflect the seriousness of the Puritan threat? [8]				
Why was Mary, Queen of Scots, significant in the Catholic threat to Elizabeth? [12]				
Explain the connections between TWO of the following that are to do with Elizabethan government. [10] Privy Council Parliament Taxation Freedom of speech				
Use Source A and your own knowledge to describe the role of the SA. 5				
What was the purpose of Source B? [8] <i>[Use details from Source B and your own knowledge and understanding of the historical context to answer the question.]</i>				
Which of the sources (C or D) is more useful to an historian studying the economic recovery of Weimar? [11] <i>[You should refer to both sources in your answer and use your knowledge and understanding of the historical context.]</i>				
Describe the status of women during the rule of Stalin. [5]				
How far did Gorbachev's policies change the USSR in the 1980s? [6]				
Stalin used a number of methods to maintain power in the USSR. The methods of control included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of propaganda and censorship • The creation of the Cult of Stalin • The use of terror Arrange the methods of control in order of their significance in Stalin's maintenance of power in the USSR. Explain your choices. 9				
Explain why Khrushchev introduced the policy of de-Stalinisation after 1956. [8]				
How important was the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 in the relationship between the USSR and the USA between 1945 and 1991? [12]				
Use Sources A, B and C above to identify one similarity and one difference in the methods of punishing criminals over time. [4]				
Which of the two sources is the more reliable to an historian studying the methods of enforcing of law and order over time? [7] <i>[In your answer you should refer to the content and authorship of the sources and use your own knowledge and understanding of the wider historical context.]</i>				
Describe the role of a Tudor Justice of the Peace (J.P.) in combating crime. [5]				
Explain why opportunities for crime increased by the end of the eighteenth century. [8]				
Outline how the main causes of crime have changed from c.500 to the present day? [16] <i>[In your answer you should provide a written narrative discussing the main causes of crime across three historical eras.]</i>				
Describe two main features of life for a convict in Botany Bay in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. [8]				
Explain why the establishment of Botany Bay was a significant change in the punishment of criminals in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. [12]				