

exam **PREPARATION**



Important Note 2023-2024

The sample paper produced by the State Examinations Commission in November 2020 contained **ten** questions.

The Junior Cycle History Final Examinations that students sat in June 2022 and June 2023 contained only **eight** questions.

The 2024 exam will account for 100% of students' final grade for Junior Cycle History as the 2024 cohort, as like the 2022 and 2023 cohorts, will not be completing the Assessment Task. These three cohorts have also only been required to complete **one** CBA as a result of the Covid provisions brought in by the Department of Education and Skills.



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Structure, Timing and Marks

- Your Junior Cycle **Final Examination** for History will last **2 hours** and is worth **360 marks** – **90%** of the total marks available for your Junior Cycle History grade.
- The other **10% (40 marks)** is for your **Assessment Task**.
- Timing breakdown:
 - If there are **eight questions** on the paper, you have **15 mins** per question. (**8 Qs = 15 mins**)
 - If there are **ten questions** on the paper, you have **12 mins** per question. (**10 Qs = 12 mins**)



How to Complete Your Paper

- You must answer all questions on your paper.
- Answers must be entered into the answer spaces provided. If they are not – for example, if you write outside the lines – your work may not be seen by the examiner.
- Blue or black pen should be used. Do not use a pencil in your History exam.
- If you need space to plan an answer or do rough work, optional planning/rough work space is provided at the beginning of the exam paper.



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How to Complete Your Paper

- If you make a mistake, you may cross it out or use correction tape (rather than fluid) and add the correction information.
- You will notice that many source documents appear on the History examination paper. Each question has a number of parts, some of which are based on the source, and others on your course knowledge. It is a good idea to read the question carefully and be sure you know whether you should answer based on the source or on your studied course material.



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On the day of your Exam

- Bring your blue or black pens with you.
- Ensure your answers are the appropriate length. For example, a question with a small answer space might only require a sentence or two, but a question with a larger answer space may require a much longer response.
- Do not spend too much time on any one question – manage your time so that you can give equal effort to all parts of your examinations paper.
- Do not panic if something unfamiliar is asked in a question. Attempt it as best you can.
- Work neatly so that the examiner can easily understand your answers (write in print if needed).
- Write your answers in the spaces provided in the exam paper.
- If possible, allow time at the end to look over your work. Check that you have not skipped any parts of a question and/or add any relevant points or details that didn't come to mind earlier to an answer.



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study TIPS *and* EXAM *preparation*

Your written paper can include questions from any part of your course, so make sure to revise material from each of your three years of studying History.

As you revise in the days and weeks before your exam, keep the following advice in mind.

Plan

- To begin your History revision, it is recommended that you make a list of the topics you need to revise.
- You have each been given a Revision Timetable (also available on Class Notebook and Teams) which contains a chapter by chapter list of your topics.
- The layout of this Revision Timetable is to divide two topics over the space of two weeks so you can set aside adequate time to revise each topic, up until the Easter Break.



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Gold Stars denote topics which are choice to study.



34 TOPICS COVERED IN CLASS: YOU STUDY 30



Junior Cycle History

Chapter Thirty-Nine: Exam Preparation

The Historian	The Archaeologist	Ancient Ireland	Ancient Rome	Early Christian Ireland	The Middle Ages in England and Ireland	The Renaissance	The Age of Exploration and Conquest	The Reformation	The Irish Plantations	The American or French Revolution
The 1798 Irish Rebellion	Catholic Emancipation	The Industrial Revolution	The Great Irish Famine	Social, Cultural and Social Movements in 19th/20th Century Ireland	The Rise of Nationalism and Unionism in Ireland	The Struggle for Irish Independence	World War I	Life in Communist Russia	Life in Fascist Italy or Nazi Germany	World War II
Ireland During World War II	The Holocaust	The Cold War	The 1960s in Ireland	The 1960s in the USA	Women in 20th Century Ireland	The Troubles in Northern Ireland	European Integration/ The United Nations	Patterns of Change in Medicine	Patterns of Change in Technology	Patterns of Change in Crime and Punishment

Source Comprehension & Analysis

Writing Historically

Evidence	Reliability	Historically Useful	Objective/ Biased	Primary/ Secondary	Source Type	Write an account	Give an outline of/ Describe	What was the role of...	What were the causes of...	Explain the importance (significance) of	What was the outcome/ impact of	Explain changes/differences
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360 Marks

Exam: 8 or 10 questions on the above topics

Common Level

2 Hours

All questions answered on the paper

Diagram adapted from @TheEnglishTeacher on Twitter



Write SMART goals

When planning how much you need to revise, it is a good idea to use the method of **SMART goal planning**. This method can help you achieve more and be more realistic with your revision.



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Revise

- You should reread any notes you have already on the topic and test yourself to see what you can recall.
- Say the information aloud, highlighting important points, and work through each section until you are confident you can remember it well.
- Flashcards can be of great help to break down topics into summary points.
 - For many topics, you can take 5 causes, 5 courses (events), 5 consequences (results) and 5 effects on the people.
 - Make use of your keyword sheets whenever you are stuck on some of the harder words you may come across.



Practise

- After you have refreshed your memory on a topic, it is best practice to then use your exam papers and the related questions to that topic.
- Try to complete the exam questions without your notes first. Keep an eye on timing; it is very important to work quickly and carefully in an exam setting.
- The more you practise, the more comfortable you will be by the time you sit your exam in June.



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Review and Record

- Look over the questions you have just completed and check it against the information in your notes or the marking scheme provided by your teacher.
 - Was your answer correct?
 - Did you include examples if needed?
 - Did you use the source to answer your question, when asked to?
 - Did you leave anything out?
- This is your chance to go over any information you are not yet clear on once more.
- Keep note of which topics and questions you have covered, in line with your Revision Timetable.



Study **AND** *wellbeing*



Taking Care of Yourself...

- The weeks or months coming up to an exam can be very busy and it is normal to feel schoolwork-related or exam-related anxieties and stresses.
- **Your wellbeing is very important;** you should make time to look after your mind and body, especially when you are busy with study or exams.
- Having lots to do in work and daily life is a big feature of adulthood too, so learning to balance things is a skill that will serve you well in the future.



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Sleep

- Always aim to get a good night's sleep. This is not as simple as planning to go to bed early or deciding to sleep in. Routine (going to bed and getting up at similar times each day) and the quality of your sleep are more important than the amount of time you spend lying in bed.
- **Comfort** – are your pillows supportive? Have you got bedcovers? If your bed tidy and inviting or is it littered with clothing and other things?
- **Light** – turn off overhead lights and use a bedside lamp. Make sure curtains or blinds are fully closed.
- **Temperature** – aim not to be too warm or too cold. Use lighter covers, open or close windows, or wear lighter or warmer pyjamas depending on the season.
- **Noise** – some people need silence for sleep.



*g***L***o***S***s***A***r***y** *o***f** *t***e***r***m***s*/*a***C***t***i****o***n* *v***e***r***b***s*



Terms	Defintion
Based on your study/From your knowledge	The answer for this must be from your own knowledge and not from the sources in the exam paper.
Chronological Order	In the order in which they happened in time.
Compare	Identify the similarities and differences between two things.
Contribution	What a person or thing did to help make something happen or to help progress towards a goal.
Define	Give the meaning of a word, phrase or thing.
Describe	Give a detailed account of something.
Discuss	Write a balanced account, include a variety of different viewpoints in your answer.
Evidence	Facts that support opinions are useful information about a topic. They can come from the sources in the exam paper or your own knowledge, depending on the question.
Examine	Inspect carefully.
Extract	A short piece taken from a larger text.
Historical judgement	An opinion about something from the past, supported by historical evidence.
Identify	Depending on the question, find a fact or detail in a source, give an answer from a number of possibilities or briefly state a distinguishing feature or name from your own memory.
Impact	What were the changes something/someone brought about?
Justify	Give a reason for your answer or explain how you came up with your answer.
Outline	Give the main points of something, just the essential information.
Reliable	How trustworthy is the information in the source?
Significant	Why is something important?
Strength of a source	How is this source useful to a historian?
Study	Look at closely.
Type of source	This does not mean primary/secondary, it's looking for something like: written, tactile, aural, oral, or visual such as census, diary, government records, memoir, newspaper, photograph, etc.
Weakness of a source	Why might a historian have to be careful with how much they trust this source?
Why do you think	Based on your knowledge and skills as a historian, come to your own historical judgement.
Write an account	Write a short essay of what you know about the topic the question is based on.

