

# Layout of the LC History Exam

Headings	Notes															
<b>Structure of the Ordinary Level (OL) Paper</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will look at four topics from the available 12 topics that are available in the Later Modern Field of Study.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Later Modern Ireland Topic 3: The Pursuit of Sovereignty and the Impact of Partition, 1912-1949</li> <li>Later Modern Ireland Topic 5: Politics and Society in Northern Ireland, 1949-1993</li> <li>Later Modern Europe and the Wider World Topic 3: Dictatorship and Democracy in Europe, 1920-1945 (DBQ for 2024-2025)</li> <li>Later Modern Europe and the Wider World Topic 6: The United States and the World, 1945-1989</li> </ul> </li> <li>All topics follow the same format and are examined through the same three perspectives:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Politics and administration</li> <li>Society and economy</li> <li>Culture, science and religion</li> </ul> </li> <li>Each perspective contains a Case Study. There are also a number of Key Personalities throughout the key events. Exam questions are often drawn from Case Studies or refer to key personalities – but this is a guarantee.</li> </ul>															
<b>Structure of the Higher Level (HL) paper</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your paper will have three sections.</li> <li>Section 1 is a Document Based Question, drawn from the pre-nominated Topic decided by the SEC. It will be drawn from one of the Case Studies. You will be given two sources, either written or visual, and the questions on them will be divided as follows:</li> </ul> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Part</th> <th>Explanation</th> <th>Marks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(a)</td> <td>Comprehension</td> <td>You will be expected to answer questions that will show you understand the source. (20%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td> <td>Comparison</td> <td>Here you will be asked to compare or note differences between the two sources. (20%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td> <td>Criticism</td> <td>This section may ask you to detect bias, propaganda, opinions or to make judgements about the reliability of the sources. (20%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td> <td>Contextualisation</td> <td>Here you will be asked to show that you know this historical background to the documents by writing a short essay. (40%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As most marks are awarded for part (d), it is very important that you understand the background to each of the Case Studies you have prepared. You should write about one and a half pages to two pages.</li> <li>Do not spend too long on the DBQ because you still have three essays to write on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 2 – your chosen Topics from Ireland</li> <li>Section 3 – your chosen Topics from Europe and the Wider World</li> </ul> </li> <li>In each of the topics, you will be given four essay titles and you must choose one to write about. You have, maximum, 40 minutes for each essay.</li> </ul>	Part	Explanation	Marks	(a)	Comprehension	You will be expected to answer questions that will show you understand the source. (20%)	(b)	Comparison	Here you will be asked to compare or note differences between the two sources. (20%)	(c)	Criticism	This section may ask you to detect bias, propaganda, opinions or to make judgements about the reliability of the sources. (20%)	(d)	Contextualisation	Here you will be asked to show that you know this historical background to the documents by writing a short essay. (40%)
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<b>Structure of the Ordinary Level (OL) Paper</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The OL paper has two parts. Section 1 is compulsory and is a document based question. You will be given two documents, written or visual, drawn from one of the Case Studies in the pre-nominated Topic that you have studied.</li><li>• You will be asked four questions on them.</li><li>• (a) Asks you about the content of the documents (40 marks)</li><li>• (b) Asks you to compare the two documents (20 marks)</li><li>• (c) Asks you to judge if the documents are reliable or biased (20 marks)</li><li>• (d) Asks you to write about the background to the document (20 marks)</li><li>• Do not spend too long on this section as you will have three more to do.</li><li>• Next you must look at the questions of the three remaining Topics you have studied. It is very important to know the names of your chosen Topics: doing the wrong one can lead to failing your exam.</li><li>• The questions on each Topic are divided into (a), (b) and (c).</li><li>• You are given a visual or a short document and asked questions about it. This is worth 30 marks.</li><li>• You have to write a short paragraph which is also worth 30 marks. This part is usually based on Case Studies or Key Personalities.</li><li>• You have to write a short essay. This is worth 40 marks. This part is usually based on Case Studies or Key Personalities.</li></ul>