

# WJEC History Subject Bulletin, September/October 2022



## Welcome back

After a challenging year for teaching and learning, we hope you all managed to have a restful break over the summer and that both you and your candidates were pleased with their examination results that were published in August. Thank you for your exceptional commitment to your learners and for making sure that they were as prepared as they could be for the first public examinations many of them will have undertaken.

## 2022 results

The papers and mark schemes for all units are now available to view on our secure website. If you do not have access to the relevant pages, please contact your Examinations Officer, who will be able to grant you the appropriate permissions via a new password.

### **Exam Results Analysis (Item-level data)**

Found on the [secure website](#), this allows you to compare your candidates' performance on each question with that of the candidature overall. It enables you to work out where they have done well and where future cohorts may be able to improve their attainment.

## Examiner Reports

Principal Examiner reports have been written for every unit of both the GCSE and the GCE courses. These are now available on the relevant subject pages of the WJEC website. We highly recommend that you review these reports in depth as they highlight the findings of the examining and moderating teams for the summer 2022 examination series.

## Resources

Resources for both courses are available on the Digital Resources page, and we would encourage you to visit these to aid teaching and learning. One of the most recent additions to the GCE area is the suite of Blended Learning resources for Unit 3. There is a resource for each theme of each option, and these provide guidance to candidates of all levels, with several extension activities included for candidates who wish to develop their contextual knowledge and understanding in this course.

We anticipate releasing the second issue of our history magazine *Giraldus* very soon. We hope that you found the first issue of the magazine a useful resource. If you have not yet come across this, it is available [here](#) (Welsh) and [here](#) (English). Please do get in touch if you have any suggestions regarding the magazine or if you would like to contribute to forthcoming issues.

## Non-examination Assessment (NEA)

### GCSE

All centres have submitted titles for the 2022–2024 cycle. Centres are free to revise their title during the cycle if they wish to; however, all centres must revise their title in line with the move into the new cycle. The cycles are as follows: 2022–2024 and 2025–2027.

### GCE

September 2022 marks the start of the new three-year cycle of the NEA. All centres must have new titles for this cycle (for submission of NEAs in May 2023, 2024, and 2025). The window for submitting new titles closes on 31 October and centres are required to ensure that they have received approval for their new titles prior to candidates commencing work on these. Further details of this are available on the GCE History page of the website.

There is also guidance on the effective completion of the GCE NEA available on the website. This will be available on the GCE History homepage via the dropdown menu for the NEA.

## Advance Information

All examinations in both GCSE and GCE History will return to their 2019 format and structure. As such:

### GCSE

Candidates must complete all units.

### GCE

Candidates must complete all units. In Unit 3 candidates will be required to answer **two** questions. In Section A, they must choose one of two focused essay questions based on one of the two available themes. In Section B they must complete the compulsory synoptic question on the other theme.

In May, Qualifications Wales (QW) announced their intention to provide Advance Information (AI) to GCSE, AS and A-level candidates as part of the 2023 examination series. This work is ongoing and further details will be announced over the coming weeks on the WJEC website. The advance information will be published during the spring term, but you can read more about QW's decision [here](#) (Welsh) or [here](#) (English).

## Entry Pathways Humanities

Entry Pathways Humanities is a qualification that allows learners to achieve credit for their work across units drawn from History, Geography and Religious Studies, with assessment criteria designed to complement the WJEC GCSE qualifications in these subjects. Centres can select units that are drawn from one or more of these subjects to allow those candidates who may not be able to display a successful outcome at GCSE to achieve an Award, Certificate or Diploma in Humanities at Entry Level 2 or Entry Level 3. For further information about the Entry Pathways Humanities qualification, please see the subject page (Entry Pathways Humanities ([wjec.co.uk](http://wjec.co.uk))) or contact us at [entrypathwayshumanities@wjec.co.uk](mailto:entrypathwayshumanities@wjec.co.uk).

## Professional Learning

The return of face-to-face professional learning sessions this year will see a different approach for History. For the first time we will be offering a full-day, unified GCSE and GCE course. There will be separate targeted sessions for GCSE and GCE examination feedback, and also for the NEA; however, there will also be a number of sessions focusing on historical skills that will be applicable to both levels of WJEC History. Delegates will be able to select the sessions they wish to attend to ensure that they can tailor the day to their specific needs. Sessions will also be offered online at a later date for those teachers who are unable to join us at one of the face-to-face venues.

The dates of the events are as follows:

### Face-to-face

Friday, 25 November 2022	0930–1530	Cardiff	Bilingual
Tuesday, 29 November 2022	0930–1530	Llandudno	Bilingual
Friday, 2 December 2022	0930–1530	Llanelli	Bilingual

### Online

Monday, 5 December 2022	GCSE Examination Feedback	English
Tuesday, 6 December 2022	GCSE Examination Feedback	Welsh
Wednesday, 7 December 2022	GCE Examination Feedback	English
Thursday, 8 December 2022	GCE Examination Feedback	Welsh
Monday, 12 December 2022	Using sources and interpretations	English
Tuesday, 13 December 2022	Using sources and interpretations	Welsh
Wednesday, 14 December 2022	Extended responses in History	English
Thursday, 15 December 2022	Extended responses in History	Welsh

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the Professional Learning events later this year. In the meantime, if you have any questions you would like to ask, please contact us at the following:

[GCSEHistory@wjec.co.uk](mailto:GCSEHistory@wjec.co.uk)

[GCEHistory@wjec.co.uk](mailto:GCEHistory@wjec.co.uk)

Finally, if you have an idea for, or would like to contribute to, the history magazine please let us know at [Giraldus@wjec.co.uk](mailto:Giraldus@wjec.co.uk)

With our best wishes,

*Neil*

*Eira*

**Neil Evans**  
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