**IGCSE World History Tips**

[**Syllabus**](https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/649636-2024-2026-syllabus.pdf)

**Paper 1** (structured questions)

* Every question from this paper is split into 3 parts, which are: a, b, and c.
  + Part a is purely knowledge-based; no analysis required
  + Part b and c are based on both knowledge and understanding
* You must answer 3 questions from this paper which means you’ll answer 9 questions in total
  + 2 core content questions
  + 1 depth study question

How to work on Paper 1?

* Part a of paper 1 usually asks you to describe an event and is the easiest question to get full marks on since you just have to list the four main points. (~5 min)

To practise for this I would advise you to answer the question on your own first then work on the mark scheme to memorise the structure and the right wording of the answer.

* Part b of paper 1 usually starts with “Why?” which is a bit trickier as you have to write from both sides supporting one side more than the other. (~15 min)

1 mark for explaining a relevant point and an additional point for analysing that point fully. So to get full marks on this part you’ll need a minimum of 3 fully explained points.

* Part c of paper 1 usually asks “How far do you agree?” or “How significant/important was..” which you MUST write on both sides of the argument (agree AND disagree). (~20 min)

You’ll have to write at least 7 paragraphs. Start with an introduction paragraph then 3 points for agree and 2 points for disagree (or vice versa). Then you MUST give a conclusion paragraph of which side you support and why.

**Paper 2** (document questions)

* You’ll get two types of sources to analyse and answer (~10 sources). The two types are: pictures (cartoons, photographs, newspapers, etc..) and extracts (taken from newspapers, speeches, letters, etc..)

How to work on Paper 2?

* Look at the provenance
  + Who wrote it? When and where?
  + Analyse if the source is biassed or not, and whether or not it’s reliable
* Find the main idea of each source
  + The main idea of each source will be obvious so it’s important to show that you know why the source was bringing up that idea
  + You should also find not so obvious ideas which could be brought up by digging up more information from your knowledge
* You must show both sides of the argument
  + You should bring up relevant events that connects to the source to show your knowledge
  + You should compare and contrast how these relevant events supports or oppose the two sides
* You should **NOT** describe/explain the sources when you’re trying to compare and contrast

**Paper 4** (alternative to coursework)

* For this paper you’ll have to answer only one question which will be split into two parts, a and b.

The syllabus changed for the 2024-26 examinee which means I’m not familiar with the two parts. So my advice is to listen to Enkhsaruul teacher and do what she tells you to do, and I would also advise you to work on specimen papers in your free time.

**Just a little advice from an AS level History student:**

* **LISTEN** to Enkhsaruul teacher!!!
  + She will guide you through the exams effectively if you do exactly what she tells you to do. How do I know? I know this because the exact question she provided came in the actual exam.
* **DO NOT** slack off!!!
  + History is not one of those classes you could cram in one week.
* **SELF-STUDY**!!!
  + As I said before, do exactly what Enkhsaruul teacher tells you to BUT don't just leave it there, you should work on past papers or find resource.
* **FIND** resources online!!!
  + A Coursebook is not the only resource you should be reading. Since Cambridge is British there’s a high chance the coursebook is biassed or just leaving out some information. So go on the internet and search for more resources.

If you’re still here, that's great! You're a good kid, and if you need help on IGCSE World History, don't be shy—reach out!

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