

GCSE History 9-1: Exam Technique Guide



- **Paper 1 - Medicine** 1 hour 15 mins, 52 marks, 30% of qualification
- **Paper 2 - Cold War AND Elizabeth** 1 hour 45 minutes, 64 marks, 40% of qualification
- **Paper 3 - Weimar and Nazi Germany** 1 hour 20 minutes, 52 marks, 30% of qualification.

Total marks = 168

Paper 1: Medicine 1250-Present and The Western Front (WW1 medicine) 1914-18

Section A



Section B



Section A

The Western Front 1914-18 (WW1 Medicine)



Q1 - 4 mark 'Describe Two Features'

1) Describe two features of...(4)

Tips

- underline the focus of the Q.
- a feature is something that is important.
- give a precise example in your development.

Point: *One feature of...is...*

Development: *This meant that/This was....*

Point: *Another key feature of...is...*

Development: *This meant that/This was....*

Q2A- 8 Mark 'How Useful are Sources'

2A) How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into...? (8)

Explain your answer, using sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

Tips

-underline the **focus** of the enquiry. When you are reading the source underline anything that is **relevant to the enquiry**.

-You do not have to talk about all three of NOP. **Pick the one** that affects the usefulness of the source and explain why. **Do not just describe its NOP.**

Content: *Source A is useful because it says/shows...(1-2 quotes/features)*

Provenance (NOP): *The provenance of the source makes it useful because..*

This can be seen when it says/shows...

However, the provenance of the source also limits it because...

This can be seen when it says/shows...

Context: *When the source says/shows...I know this to be true because...*

Repeat for source B

Q2B- 4 Mark 'Follow Up Sources'

2B) How could you follow up Source B to find out more about...? (4)

In your answer, you must give the question you would ask and the type of source you would use

Tips

-underline the **focus** of the follow up and make sure the detail and the question you pick is **relevant** to this.

-your source should include an **individual/organisation** and a **location** if possible.

- make sure all four parts of your answer **link to one another**.

Details in Source B I would follow up:
'short quote from the source' or a description of what is in the picture.

Question I would ask:

A question that you would want to ask that is linked to the detail you have picked out.

What type of source I would look for:

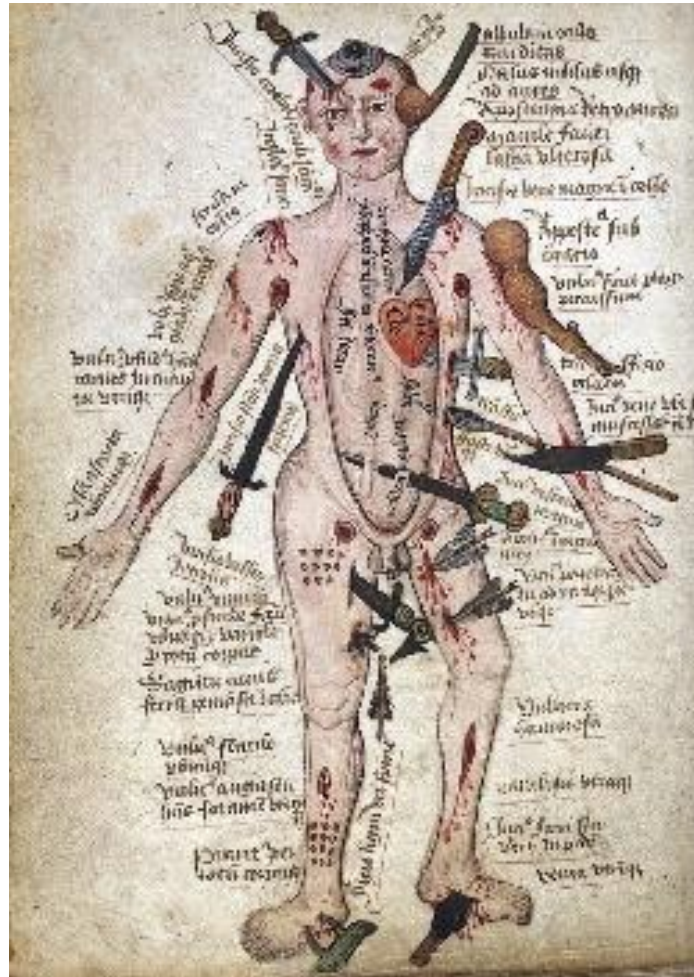
A specific type of source that will help you answer your question.

How might this help me answer my question:

An explanation of why that particular source would help you answer your question.

Section B

Medicine 1250-Present



Q3- 4 Mark 'Similarity or Difference'

3) Explain one way in which...were similar/different in the...and...centuries (4)

Tips

- identify a **precise** similarity or difference.
- explain why** they were similar/different in both centuries.

Similar

Point: *One way in which...were similar was that in both centuries...*

Development: *This is because...*

Different

Point: *One way in which...were different was that in the...century...whereas in the ...century.....*

Development: *This is because...*

Q4- 12 Mark 'Explain Why'

4) Explain why.....(12)

You may use the following in your question:

- Point 1
- Point 2

You must include information of your own.

Tips

- underline the focus of the Q.
- use **one point given to you per paragraph** and come up with your own point.
- include **2-3 pieces of evidence** per paragraph and **link back** to the question throughout your answer.

Point: *One reason why... was*

Evidence: *For example...*

Explanation: *This meant that...*

Link: *Therefore this was important because*

x 3

Q5- 16+4 SPaG mark 'How Far do you Agree'

'Statement'.

How far do you agree? Explain your answer. (16+4 SPaG)

You may use the following in your question:

- Point 1
- Point 2

You **must** include information of your own.

Essay Structure

Introduction

PEE paragraph agreeing

PEE paragraph agreeing/disagreeing

PEE paragraph disagreeing

Conclusion

Q5- 16+4 SPaG mark 'How Far do you Agree'

Intro

It can be argued that... However,... Overall I agree/somewhat agree/disagree with the statement because...

Agree

*On one hand...
For example...
This meant that...*

Disagree

*On the other hand...
For example...
This meant that...*

REPEAT FOR EITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE

Conclusion

On one hand...On the other hand...Overall I agree/somewhat agree/disagree with the statement because...

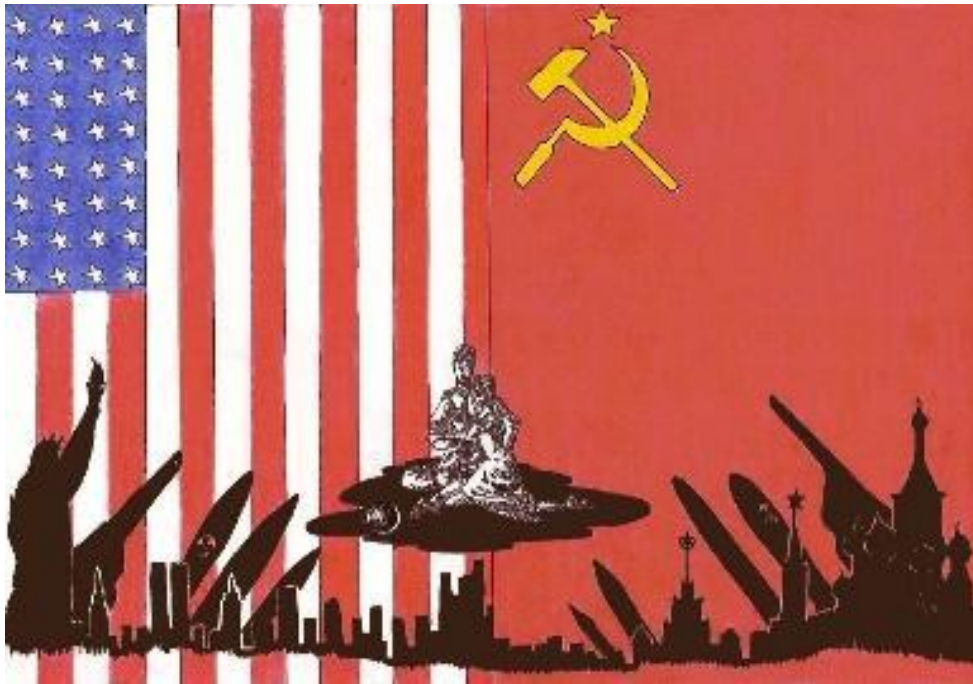
Q5 -16+4 SPaG mark 'How Far do you Agree'

Tips

- You will have a choice of 2 questions. **ONLY ANSWER ONE.**
- One of the points given will **agree** with the statement and the other will **disagree**. You must come up with you **own third point** that either agrees or disagrees with the statement.
- Say how far you agree with the statement in **your introduction**.
- Always **start by agreeing with the statement**. If you do 2X agree paragraphs they must be **next to each other** eg. agree, agree, disagree. **NOT** agree, disagree, agree.
- Use **2-3 pieces of evidence per paragraph**. These should be dates, policies, events, statistics, individuals, countries, precise facts. **Avoid sweeping statements** eg 'Germ theory was significant because it led to other discoveries'.
- Spend **5 minutes planning**, **20 minutes writing** at least

Paper 2: Cold War and Elizabeth

Section A



Section B



Section A

Cold War



Q1 - 8 Mark 'Explaining Consequences'

1) Explain **two** consequences of... (8)

Tips

- make sure your consequences are **different** and don't overlap.
- 'increased/decreased **tension**' can always be a consequence.

Point: *One consequence of...was..*

Evidence: *For example...*

Explanation: *As a result.....*

x2

Q2- 8 Mark 'Narrative Account'

2) Write a narrative account analysing...(8)

You may use the following in your answer:

- Point 1
- Point 2

You must include information of your own

Tips

-The points in the question can be a cause/event/consequence. **Work out which one they are to help you structure your answer.**

-**Link every section:** 'This led to' 'as a result', 'therefore' 'as a consequence' 'furthermore'.

Cause: *The cause of...was...*

Big Events: *This led to... Furthermore...*

Consequences: *As a consequence...Furthermore*
..

Q3- 16 Mark 'Explaining Importance'

Q3) Explain two of the following:

- The importance of... (8 marks)
- The importance of ...(8 marks)
- The importance of...(8 marks)

Indicate which part you are answering by marking a cross in the box. If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new answer with a cross.

Tips

- answer **ONLY TWO** questions.
- use **2-3 pieces of evidence** per paragraph.

Point: *The...was important because....*

Evidence: *For example....*

Explanation: *This meant that....*

X2

REPEAT THIS FOR YOUR SECOND ANSWER

Section B

Elizabeth



Q1 - 4 mark 'Describe Two Features'

1) Describe two features of...(4)

Tips

- underline the focus of the Q.
- a feature is something that is **important**.
- give a **precise example** in your development

Point: *One feature of...is...*

Development: *This meant that/This was....*

Point: *Another key feature of...is...*

Development: *This meant that/This was....*

Q2- 12 Mark 'Explain Why'

4) Explain why.....(12)

You may use the following in your question:

- Point 1
- Point 2

You must include information of your own.

Tips

- underline the focus of the Q.
- use **one point given to you per paragraph** and come up with your own point.
- include **2-3 pieces of evidence per paragraph** and **link back** to the question throughout your answer.

Point: *One reason why... was*

Evidence: *For example...*

Explanation: *This meant that...*

x 3

Q3- 16+4 SPaG mark 'How Far do you Agree'

'Statement'.

How far do you agree? Explain your answer. (16+4 SPaG)

You may use the following in your question:

- Point 1
- Point 2

You **must** include information of your own.

Essay Structure

Introduction

PEE paragraph agreeing

PEE paragraph disagreeing

PEE paragraph agreeing/disagreeing

Conclusion

Q5- 16+4 SPaG mark 'How Far do you Agree'

Intro

It can be argued that... However,... Overall I agree/somewhat agree/disagree with the statement because...

Agree

*On one hand...
For example...
This meant that...*

Disagree

*On the other hand...
For example...
This meant that...*

REPEAT FOR EITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE

Conclusion

On one hand...On the other hand...Overall I agree/somewhat agree/disagree with the statement because...

Q5 -16+4 SPaG mark 'How Far do you Agree'

Tips

- You will have a choice of 2 questions. **ONLY ANSWER ONE.**
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- Use **2-3 pieces of evidence per paragraph**. These should be dates, policies, events, statistics, individuals, countries, precise facts. **Avoid sweeping statements** eg 'The Religious Settlement was a success because it brought peace'.
- Spend **5 minutes planning**, **20 minutes writing** at least

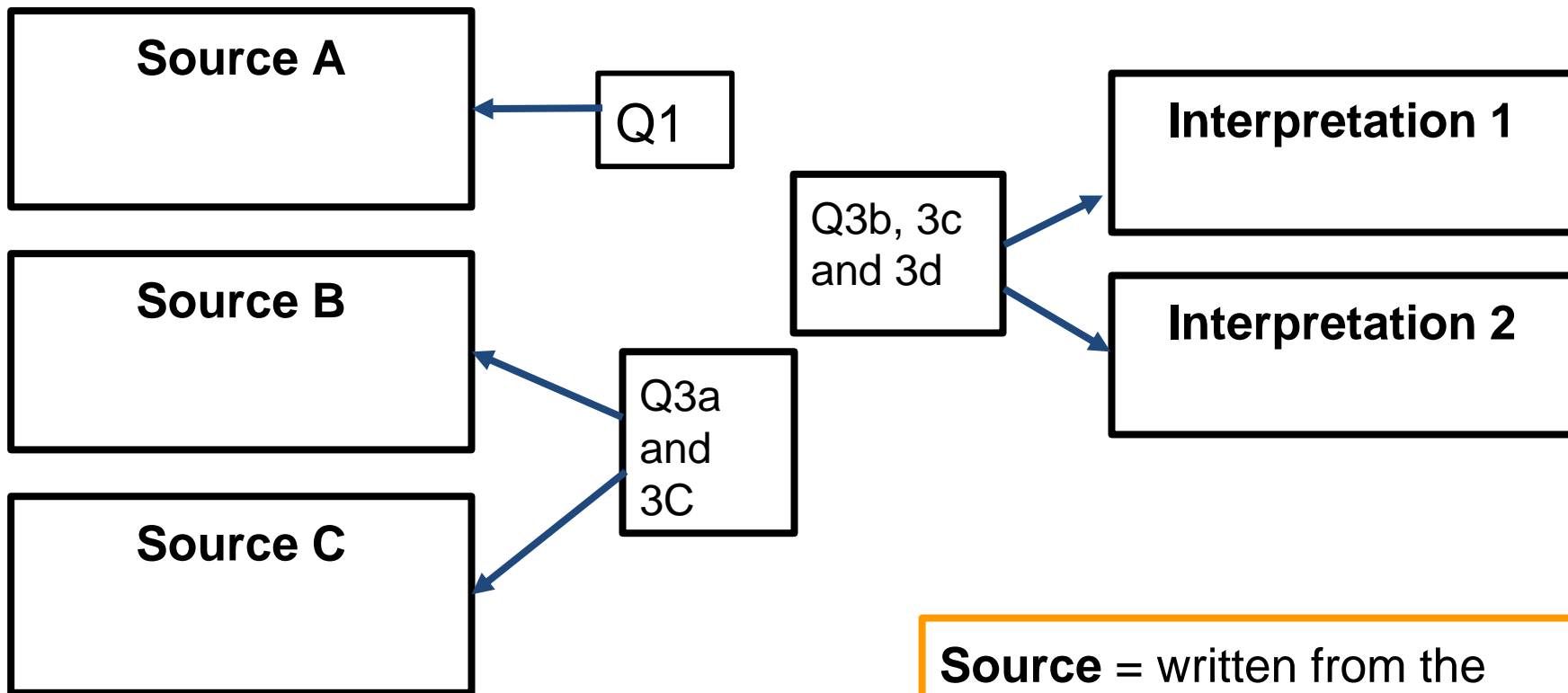
Paper 3

Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39



Paper 3: Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918-39

You will have....



Source = written from the time
interpretation = a historian's opinion

Q1 - 4 Mark 'inferences'

1) Give two things you can infer from Source A about ... (4)

Tips

-underline the focus of the Q. When you are reading and inference is what the source suggests, not what it says.

Point: *One thing I can infer from Source A is that _.*

Evidence: *The evidence for this is 'quote'.*

Point: *Another thing I can infer is _.*

Evidence: *The evidence for this is 'quote'.*

Q2- 12 Mark 'Explain Why'

4) Explain why.....(12)

You may use the following in your question:

- Point 1
- Point 2

You must include information of your own.

Tips

- underline the focus of the Q.
- use **one point given to you per paragraph** and come up with your own point.
- include **2-3 pieces of evidence** per paragraph and **link back** to the question throughout your answer.

Point: *One reason why... was*

Evidence: *For example...*

Explanation: *This meant that...*

x 3

Q3A- 8 mark 'How Useful are Sources'

3A) How useful are Sources A and B for an enquiry into...? (8)

Explain your answer, using sources A and B and your knowledge of the historical context.

Tips

-underline the **focus** of the enquiry. -when you are reading the source underline anything that is **relevant to the enquiry**.

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This can be seen when it says/shows...

However, the provenance of the source also limits it because...

This can be seen when it says/shows...

Context: *When the source says/shows...I know this to be true because...*

Repeat for source B

3B- 4 Mark 'Interpretation Difference'

3B) Study Interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about

What is the main difference between the views?

Explain your answer, using details from both interpretations (4)

Tips

Interpretations differ in terms of:

- 1) what they **emphasise/focus** on
- 2) how **significant** they say something was
- 3) whether something was **positive or negative**
- 4) whether something led to **change or not**

Point: *On one hand, Interpretation 1..*

Evidence: *For example...*

Point: *One the other hand, interpretation 2...*

Evidence: *For example...*

3C- 4 Mark 'Why Interpretations Differ'

3C) Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about... (4)

You may use sources B and C to help explain your answer.

Tip

-you can always write it's because **they use different sources.**
-**Match** the interpretation to the correct source

Point: *Interpretations 1 and 2 differ because they use different sources as evidence.*

Development: *Interpretation 1 uses source...because...*

Whereas interpretation 2 uses source... because

Interpretation 1

Source ?

Interpretation 2

Source ?

3D- 16+4 SPaG mark 'How far do you Agree with Interpretation...'

How far do you agree with interpretation 2 about? (16 +4 SPaG marks)

Explain your answer using both interpretations and knowledge of the historical context.

Tips

-always link own knowledge to the interpretations to agree/disagree with them. Don't tell a story and don't just re-describe what the interpretations say.

-try and find a **similarity** between the interpretations.

-**read the interpretations twice** and plan your answer before you start writing

Essay Structure

Introduction

PEE paragraph agreeing

PEE paragraph disagreeing

PEE paragraph similarities with the interpretations

Conclusion

Introduction

*On one hand interpretation 2 argues...On the other hand interpretation 1 argues...
Ultimately I agree/disagree/somewhat agree with interpretation 2 because....*

Section 1- PEE Agree

On one hand I agree with interpretation 2 because it says...(summarise a key point of the interpretation) .

At the time...This is why interpretation 2 says...

This shows that...

(Repeat with another key point from the source)

Section 2 -PEE Disagree

On the other hand, one might disagree with interpretation 2 because interpretation 1 says...

At the time...This is why interpretation 1 says

This meant that...

(Repeat with another key point from the source)

Section 3- PEE Similarities with the interpretations

Nonetheless, both interpretations agree that...

For example..

This meant that...

Conclusion

Interpretation 2 is valid because...However interpretation 2 is disagreeable because as interpretation 1 argues....

Ultimately, I agree/disagree/somewhat agree with interpretation 2 because....