

## A\*/A Grade in GCSE History

### Exam Board Criteria A\*/A

*Candidates recall, select, organise and deploy detailed historical knowledge effectively and with consistency. They show a thorough understanding of the historical periods, themes and topics studied. They communicate their ideas using historical terms accurately and appropriately. They demonstrate their understanding of the past through developed, reasoned and well substantiated explanations. They make perceptive analyses of the key concepts, features and characteristics of the periods studied, and the interrelationships between them. They evaluate and use critically a wide range of sources of information in an historical context to investigate historical questions, problems or issues independently, and to reach reasoned and substantiated conclusions. They recognise and provide reasoned comments on how and why events, people and issues have been interpreted and represented in different ways, and provide a well developed consideration of their value in relation to their historical context.*

(Source: pgs 42-43 OCR GCSE History B Specification)

**Assessment Objectives:** like in all subjects students have to demonstrate an ability to meet assessment objectives. There are three in GCSE History:

<b>AO1</b> Recall, select, use and communicate their knowledge and understanding of history.	<b>AO2</b> Demonstrate their understanding of the past through explanation and analysis of: • key concepts: causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance within an historical context • key features and characteristics of the periods studied and the relationships between them.	<b>AO3</b> Understand, analyse and evaluate: • a range of source material as part of an historical enquiry • how aspects of the past have been interpreted and represented in different ways as part of an historical enquiry.
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### What it means

- You have a thorough understanding of the periods studied.
- You use historical terms (e.g. turning point)
- You explain and analyse rather than describe.
- You are able to understand and explain the interrelationships between different factors.
- You can prioritise e.g. which factor was most important?
- You can evaluate a wide range of sources to address a question.
- You can identify interpretations and representations and be able to evaluate these in a critical manner.

(Source: pgs 42-43 OCR GCSE History B Specification)

### Useful links

**OCR History B website:** Studying examiner reports and mark schemes are a really useful way of understanding how your work is assessed.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-history-b-modern-world-j417-j117-from-2012/>