

Edexcel GCSE History - [Specification](#)

Timing	Unit Title	Key Question	Knowledge	Assessing understanding
Autumn	Paper 2: Early Elizabethan England - 1558-1588	Topic 1: Queen, Government and Religion: 1558-68	• The situation on Elizabeth's accession: ○ Elizabethan England in 1558: society and government ○ The Virgin Queen: the problem of her legitimacy, gender, marriage ○ Her character and strengths ○ Challenges at home and from abroad: financial weaknesses, religious divisions, the French threat • The 'settlement' of religion: ○ Elizabeth's religious settlement (1559): its features and impact ○ The Church of England: its role in society • Challenge to the religious settlement: ○ The nature and extent of the Puritan challenge ○ The nature and extent of the Catholic challenge, including the role of the nobility, Papacy and foreign powers • The problem of Mary, Queen of Scots: ○ Her claim to the English throne ○ Relations between Elizabeth and Mary, 1568–69	• Regular knowledge and timeline quizzes • Regular checks for understanding in the classroom • Regular writing tasks • Essay planning activities • Unseen timed exam practice
		Topic 2: Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad: 1569-88	• Plots and Revolts at home: ○ The reasons for, and significance of, the Revolt of the Northern Earls, 1569–70. ○ The features and significance of the Ridolfi, Throckmorton and Babington plots. Walsingham and the use of spies. ○ The reasons for, and significance of, Mary Queen of Scots' execution in 1587. • Relations with Spain: ○ Political, religious and commercial rivalry. ○ The significance of privateering and the activities of Drake. • Outbreak of war with Spain - 1585-8: ○ Reasons for deteriorating relations with Spain: English direct involvement in the Netherlands and the actions of Robert Dudley. ○ Drake and the raid on Cadiz: 'Singeing the King of Spain's beard'.	

			● The Armada: ○ Spanish invasion plans. Key events of the Spanish Armada. ○ The reasons for the English victory.	
		Topic 3: Elizabethan Society in the Age of Exploration: 1558-88	● Education and Leisure: ○ Education in the home and schools ○ Sport, pastimes and the theatre ● The 'problem of the poor': ○ The reasons for the increase in poverty and vagabondage during these years ○ The changing attitudes and policies towards the poor ● Exploration and Voyages of Discovery: ○ Factors prompting exploration, including the impact of new technology on ships and sailing and the drive to expand trade ○ The reasons for, and significance of, Drake's circumnavigation of the globe ● Attempted colonisation of Virginia ○ Reasons for the attempted colonisation of Virginia, including the significance of Raleigh ○ Reasons for the failure of the first settlement in Virginia	
Spring	Paper 1: Migrants in Britain c.800-present	The Historic Environment: Notting Hill c.1948-1970	● The local context of Notting Hill: the reasons for Caribbean migration to the area, the problems of housing (e.g. HMOs, overcrowding, slum landlords), Notting Hill Housing Trust, the development of Portobello Road market. ● The influence of Caribbean cultures on the area, e.g. the development of shops, markets, cafes and restaurants, shebeens, nightclubs and entertainment which featured Caribbean food and music, the development of All Saints Road, Mutual self-help organisations ● Racism and policing: the Notting Hill Riots (1958), the murder of Kelso Cochrane and the reaction of the local community, the impact of anti-immigrant groups, including Oswald Mosley's Union Movement and his 1959 election campaign. ● Black activism in the Notting Hill area: Claudia Jones and the West Indian Gazette, the 1959 Caribbean Carnival (later the Notting Hill Carnival), the Mangrove Restaurant, the British Black Panthers, the 'Mangrove Nine'. ● The national and regional context: Britain after the Second World War, reconstruction and demand for labour; the connection to the British Empire and Commonwealth. The 'Swinging Sixties', Poverty in London, Policing in London	● Regular knowledge and timeline quizzes ● Regular checks for understanding in the classroom ● Regular writing tasks ● Essay planning activities ● Unseen timed exam practice

			• Knowledge of local and national sources relevant to the period and issue • Recognition of the strengths and weaknesses of different types of source for specific enquiries.	
		Migration in Medieval England: c.800-c.1500	• The context for migration: ○ Reasons for migration and patterns of settlement, including Vikings, Normans, Jews and other European traders and craftsmen ○ The context of English society: landownership and the growth of towns; the role of the wool industry; opportunities for migrants; the role the monarchy, including the need for royal finance; England as a part of Christendom • The experience and impact of migrants: ○ The experience of migrants in England: their relations with the authorities and the existing population, including the legal status of 'alien' and the impact of the Black Death ○ The impact of migrants in England, including the Danelaw, culture, trade and the built environment • Case study: The city of York under the Vikings	
		Migration in early modern Britain: c.1500-c.1700	• The context for migration: ○ Change and continuity in reasons for migration and patterns of settlement, including migrants from Europe and Africa ○ The changing context of English society: changing social structures; economic growth, including the cloth industry and global trading companies; privateering and trade; the emergence of England as a predominantly Protestant nation • The experience and impact of migrant: ○ The experience of migrants in England: their relations with the authorities and the existing population ○ The impact of migrants in England, including culture, trade, industry and agriculture • Case studies: ○ Sandwich and Canterbury in the sixteenth century: the experiences of Flemish and Walloon migrants and their role in the local economy ○ The experience of Huguenots in seventeenth century England.	
Summer	Paper 1: Migrants in	Migration in Britain in the	• The context for migration: ○ Change and continuity in reasons for migration and patterns of settlement,	• Regular knowledge and

	Britain c.800-present	18th and 19th centuries: c.1700-c.1900	including migrants from Ireland, Europe and the Empire ○ The changing context of British society: changing social structures; the Industrial Revolution; urbanisation; transatlantic slavery; the growth of the British Empire; civil liberties ● The experience and impact of migrants: ○ The experience of migrants in Britain: their relations with the authorities and the existing population, the role of the media ○ The impact of migrants in Britain, including culture, trade and industry, politics and the urban environment ● Case studies: ○ Liverpool in the nineteenth century: its role in migration and the experiences of migrants, including Irish migrants ○ the experience of Jewish migrants in the East End of London in late 19th century	timeline quizzes ● Regular checks for understanding in the classroom ● Regular writing tasks ● Essay planning activities ● Unseen timed exam practice ● Year 10 Mock Exam in June (June)
		Migration in Modern Britain: c.1900-present	● The context for migration: ○ Change and continuity in reasons for migration and patterns of settlement, including migrants from Ireland, Europe, the British Empire and the Commonwealth; refugees and asylum seekers ○ The changing context of British society: the World Wars; the end of the British Empire, decolonisation and the development of the Commonwealth; EU membership; legislation on immigration and nationality, including the Aliens Act (1905) and British Nationality Acts ● The experience and impact of migrants: ○ The experience of migrants in Britain: their relations with the authorities and the existing population, including anti-immigration and equal rights movements. The Race Relations Act (1965) and the role of the media ○ The impact of migrants in Britain, including culture, politics, the urban environment, public services and the economy ● Case studies: ○ Bristol in the mid-twentieth century: the experiences of migrants and their impact on society ○ The experience of Asian migrants in Leicester from 1945.	