

Regional depth: the HL option

IB DP History HL Paper 3 regional depth full package

1. Paper 3 at a glance

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IB History HL Paper 3: the regional depth paper - one region chosen from four (Africa and the Middle East; the Americas; Asia and Oceania; Europe), three topics in depth, three essays in 150 minutes on Paper 2 markbands with higher expectations.

Must-know: depth is regional and precise (names, provisions, dates, statistics; two cases per point across a period); historiography is the signature - schools named, claims stated, disagreement analysed; timing 45 plus 5, three times; the Weimar worked debate (weak from birth versus golden years with the structure-against-contingency synthesis).

2. Depth and historiography

Depth and historiography

Depth: not industrial growth but the Bessemer converter's spread; not reform but the Reform Act's clauses. The Paper 2 skeleton carries over - thesis, named evidence, counter-case, judgement - but the top band's precise, relevant knowledge means textbook-omitted detail.

Historiography is the history OF the history: name the school (the Gaddis view, the revisionists), state its claim, ask why they disagree (sources? politics? decade?) and weigh the evidence. The counter-case professionalised - not decoration but analysis.

3. The four regions

The four regions

Africa and the Middle East: pre-colonial states and the slave trades, penetration (Muhammad Ali, Berlin 1884-85), independence and the modern Middle East (mandates, Israel-Palestine, Nasser, Iran) - Algeria or Ghana with the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Americas: independence to Civil War and Reconstruction, the New Deal, Cuba, civil rights, Latin American transitions - the Civil War with the Mexican Revolution.

Asia and Oceania: empire's end (India 1947, Indonesia, Indochina), China's century (1911, 1949, 1978), Meiji to postwar Japan, the Pacific - the Chinese revolution with Indian independence. Europe: 1789 and Napoleon, 1848, the unifications, the world wars and totalitarianisms, Cold War division and EU integration - 1871 with Italian unification, or Weimar with the Russian revolutions.

Check yourself

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Depth defined with two cases per period-spanning point.

Historiography's three moves: name, state, analyse the disagreement.

Timing: three essays in 150; choose by depth.

The four regions with their arcs and classic pairings; the Weimar schools with their evidence.