

## Pearson response to the Ofqual Consultation

GCSE Reform: Regulations for History

January 2015

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### Pearson information

<b>Name</b>	Lesley Davies
<b>Position</b>	Vice President, Quality, Standards & Research
<b>Name of organisation or group</b>	Pearson
<b>Address</b>	Pearson 190 High Holborn London WC1V 7BH
<b>Email</b>	lesley.davies@pearson.com
<b>Telephone number</b>	020 7190 4292

**Would you like us to treat your response as confidential? If you answer Yes we will not include your details in any list of people or organisations that responded to the consultation.**

No

**Are the views expressed in response to this consultation your personal views or an official response from the organisation you represent?**

Official response, awarding organisation

**Nation**

England

**How did you find out about this consultation?**

From our website

**May we contact you for more information?**

Yes

**Consultation questions****Question 1**

Do you have any comments on the draft Condition for new GCSE history?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

**Question 2**

Do you have any comments on the draft Guidance on subject content for new GCSE history?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

We welcome the guidance that has been provided with relation to the requirement for elements to be 'reasonably balanced': the minimum percentages are appropriate. However, given the shortness of the development timeline now, we will have to assume that this is what will be in the final guidance. Any changes to this guidance now will have a serious impact on our ability to develop the qualification on time.

**Question 3**

Do you have any comments on the requirements surrounding the use of spelling, punctuation and grammar and specialist terminology?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

**Question 4**

Do you have any comments on the draft Guidance on assessment objectives for new GCSE history?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

AO1: The third bullet point under 'Interpretations and definitions' states that marks for element 1b may be awarded for questions that also target AO2 and assess second-order historical concepts. We recommend that this should include element 1a as well as element 1b (i.e. 'marks for element 1a and element 1b may be awarded'), so that historical knowledge can also be rewarded in questions that target both AO1 and AO2.

AO2: We support the amended wording of the definition of 'Analyse'.

**Question 5**

We have not identified any ways in which the proposed requirements for reformed GCSEs in history would impact (positively or negatively) on persons who share a protected characteristic. Are there any potential impacts we have not identified? If so, what are they?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

**Question 6**

Are there any additional steps we could take to mitigate any negative impact resulting from these proposals on persons who share a protected characteristic? If so, please comment on the additional steps we could take to mitigate negative impacts.

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

**Question 7**

Have you any other comments on the impacts of the proposals on persons who share a protected characteristic?

Yes  No

If yes, please provide them here:

**General questions**

**We want to write clearly, directly and put the reader first. Overall, do you think we have got this right in this consultation?**

Yes

**Do you have any special requirements to enable you to read our consultations? (For example screen reader, large text, and so on)**

No

**Which of the following document formats would you prefer to use when reading our consultations? (Select all that apply)**

A standard PDF

**How many of our consultations have you read in the last 12 months?**

More than 5