



neec National
Extension
College



A level History

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA): Everything You Need to Know

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WHAT IS THE NEA AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

The Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) is the coursework component of your **Edexcel A level History (9HI0)** qualification. Unlike timed written exam papers, the NEA allows you to step into the shoes of a historian, undertaking an extended, independent investigation into an area of historical debate that interests you.

- **Crucial to Your Final Grade:** The NEA accounts for 20% of your total A level result (alongside Paper 1 at 30%, Paper 2 at 20%, and Paper 3 at 30%). Because it is researched and drafted over time with tutor feedback, achieving a strong mark on your NEA provides an invaluable confidence booster and safety net before sitting your final written papers.
- **A level Only:** The NEA is a requirement for the full A level (there is no NEA requirement at AS level).
- **Carrying Marks Forward:** If you ever choose to resit the qualification in the future, you can carry your NEA mark forward so your effort is never lost.



WHAT IS EXPECTED IN EDEXCEL A LEVEL HISTORY?

The Historical Investigation (3,000-4,000 words)

Following Edexcel Route D (*Challenges to the authority of the state in the late 18th and 19th centuries*), your coursework focuses on historical interpretations. NEC guides you through two main thematic options:

1. **The 'Great' Reform Act of 1832:** Investigating whether the 1832 Reform Act was a genuinely revolutionary turning point or a conservative attempt to preserve the status quo.
2. **The Suffragette Movement:** Evaluating whether militant actions by the WSPU helped or hindered the cause of votes for women.

You will evaluate conflicting perspectives from academic historians, analyse primary source material, and construct a well-substantiated academic argument with formal referencing.

HOW WE HELP YOU SUCCEED

Embarking on an independent research project can feel daunting, but you are never left to navigate it alone. NEC's course is specifically engineered to take you through the research and essay-building process step-by-step:

- **Expert Lead Tutors and Examiners:** Your NEA is supervised and marked by qualified History specialists, many of whom are active or former exam board examiners.
- **Structured Progress Milestones:** On learn@nec, your NEA process follows a clear structure:

Proposal → Plan → First Draft → Final Submission

- **Prerequisite for Authentication:** To ensure your tutor has seen enough evidence of your individual working style to formally authenticate your work, you will complete at least four course assignments before submitting your NEA proposal.
- **Expert Tutor Guidance and Authentication:** Your tutor reviews your progress at key milestones, offering high-level advice to ensure your project meets specification requirements within official JCQ guidelines. They also authenticate your *Coursework Resource Record* and final essay.

THE NEC ADVANTAGE: GUARANTEED EXAM PLACES AND MARKS SUBMISSION

For private candidates, finding an exam centre willing to supervise, authenticate, and mark A level History coursework is a major obstacle. Most independent exam centres decline external candidate NEAs because of the administrative and moderation requirements.

With NEC, this is completely taken care of:

- **Dedicated Tutor Support:** You aren't passed off to an unknown third party. The personal subject tutor who guides you through your course modules is the same specialist who oversees your NEA progress, ensuring continuous, familiar guidance through every stage.
- **Seamless Transfer of Candidate:** NEC registers your official exam entry to handle all NEA marking, authentication, and submission directly with Edexcel. We then arrange a smooth *Transfer of Candidate* so you can sit your written papers at a partner centre.
- **Guaranteed Partnership Centres:** We manage all administration and guarantee you a written exam place at one of our approved partnership centres across the UK.

KEY DEADLINES AND HOW TO REGISTER

- **Proposal Submission:** Typically submitted by December prior to your summer exams.
- **Final Submission:** Your final NEA portfolio (alongside your Authentication Sheet and Resource Record) must be submitted by 15th March in the year of your exams.
- **Milestone Deadlines:** To keep your research on track and ensure your tutor can review your progress, clear milestone dates are set out in your learn@nec study planner.
- **Booking Your Exams:** Simply download the exam application form from learn@nec. Once submitted, our dedicated Exams Team manages all administrative coordination behind the scenes.



WHERE ARE THE PARTNERSHIP CENTRES?

We have a range of partnership exam centres across the country that can be booked for your written exams.

Full details of our current centre locations can be found on our website (www.nec.ac.uk), or on learn@nec once you are enrolled.

GET IN TOUCH

From choosing your initial topic through to final submission and results day - we're here to support your success.

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