EDUQAS GCSE HISTORY

Sample responses

Component 2 – Period Study

2A.The Development of the USA, 1929-2000

Q.3

The lives of many young Americans in the 1950s and 1960s were influenced by developments such as:

- Films and the media
- New musical styles
- Literature

Arrange the developments in order of their significance in influencing the lives of young Americans. Explain your choices.

[9 marks]

Candidate A

In my opinion new musical styles had most significance as they had a broader range of appeal. Rock and roll music of the 1950s caused many young people to change their attitudes and lifestyles. Before the 1950s most young people were respectful and followed their parents but when rock and roll hit American youngsters took on an 'edge' and the generation gap appeared. They loved the exciting music of Elvis Presley and Little Richard. In the 1960s hard rock music and psychedelia influenced a generation of young people like hippies. They listened to bands like the Doors and Jimi Hendrix and began experimenting with drugs and attended festivals like Woodstock.

Film going was a way of life for many Americans. The 1950s saw the rise of the anti-hero and youngsters copied the style of James Dean in films like Rebel Without a Cause which was aimed at teenage audiences and caused some to rebel against authority.

This rebelliousness was also seen in books written at the time like To Kill a Mockingbird which made young people think hard about life. All three of these developments were significant but I think that music was most significant because it appealed to more young people.

AO 1(a+b)	/3
AO 2	/6
Total	/9

Analysis

- Demonstrates decent knowledge with reference to developments in both decades
- A routine response which attempts to explain the relative significance of the developments but without real depth
- Decent focus on musical styles in changing attitudes and behaviour but weaker on media and literature
- Would expect a sharper focus on the development of sub-cultures and the sectoral appeal of the issues

AO1: Band 3 - Just enough detail and understanding.

AO2: Band 2 - Begins to explain the significance of the factors with some justification.

AO1 - 3/3

AO2 - 4/6

Total 7/9

Candidate B

I think the most significant development was the new musical styles because young people led pretty boring lives before the 1950s but it all took off when Elvis arrived on the scene. Young people loved his rock and roll music and his dancing moves and they bought his records and made dances to go with his music. In the 1960s there was the hippies who listened to singers like Jimmy Hendrix and dropped out. They went to concerts and wore tie-die clothes and took drugs.

Next comes films and the media. Young people loved watching actors like James Dean because they had attitude and they copied his clothes, got into trouble and went against their parents.

Literature was the least important because not all young people were into reading books.

AO 1(a+b)	/3
AO 2	/6
Total	/9

Analysis

- Offers some specific reference to music and films and just gets Band 2
- There is very limited explanation with no justification
- Falls away at the end
- Would expect some focus on all three issues

AO1: Band 2 - Some knowledge and understanding.

AO2: Band 1 - Limited explanation of the significance of the factors with an attempt at justification.

AO1 - 2/3

AO2 - 2/6

Total 4/9

Component 2 – Thematic Study

2F. Changes in Health and Medicine in Britain, c.500 to the present day

Q.2 – Which of the two sources is the more reliable to an historian studying developments in patient care over time? [6 marks]

Candidate A

Source D is from the Daily Mirror dated August 1910 and celebrates the achievements of Florence Nightingale in raising nursing to the level of being a respectable profession for women. She is described as the `angel of the Crimea` which was a popular image of her at the time also being described as the `lady with the lamp` comforting wounded and dying soldiers in the Crimean War. The photograph is quite moving because it shows an ageing Florence Nightingale surrounded by young nurses but as the article is a celebration of her life it will be very positive.

Source E is about the introduction of the NHS which it says will `revolutionise healthcare in the country`. From my knowledge I know that before 1948 people had to pay for their own healthcare and many could not afford to. Now it was going to be available to all regardless of wealth. The journalist has interviewed a junior nurse who seems very excited at the news but she might be a bit emotional but it makes the article sound more interesting.

Both sources come from the actual time and are the opinions of journalists but I think that Source D is more reliable because it is looking back on events and is based on what Florence Nightingale did. Source E is the opinion of a nurse and the viewpoint of a journalist.

AO 1(b)	/2
AO 3	/4
Total	/6

Analysis

 Offers detail and understanding of the key feature. Recognises the contribution of Florence Nightingale and the circumstances surrounding the introduction of the NHS

- Attempts partially to analyse the reliability of both sources
- Considers content and authorship
- Offers a judgement but it is not substantiated
- Would benefit from reference to the times and circumstances under which the sources were produced

AO1: Band 2 - Just enough understanding of the key feature

AO3: Band 2 – Partial evaluation of the reliability of the sources. Attempts to reach a judgement.

AO 1 - 2/2

AO 3 - 2/4

Total 4/6

Candidate B

Source D comes from a newspaper of 1910 written to celebrate the achievements of Florence Nightingale. It describes her as the `angel of the Crimea` because she helped many wounded soldiers in the war. The paper might be biased because it is saying nice things about her.

Source E is from a young nurse speaking to a journalist about the introduction of the NHS in 1948. This is first hand evidence but it is an opinion and the journalist might have changed things slightly to make it sound more interesting.

I think Source E is more reliable.

AO 1(b)	/2
AO 3	/4
Total	/6

Analysis

- Superficial response. Scrapes Band 1
- Highly generalised references to the sources

- Lacks contextual knowledge
- No real attempt to analyse

AO1: Band 1 – Some understanding of the key feature.

AO3: Band 1 – Generalised with little attempt at analysis.

AO1 - 1/2

AO3 - 1/4

Total 2/6