



*For Performance Measurement*

**ZIMBABWE SCHOOL  
EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
(ZIMSEC)**

**ADVANCED LEVEL SYLLABUS**

**HISTORY  
9155**

## 1. PREAMBLE

Zimbabwe is part of a global community with a historical heritage which is directly or indirectly linked to historical and contemporary regional and international events and trends. History is a key subject in understanding and analysing such events and themes, some of which have social, political, economic and cultural relevance to the country.

The rationale is to produce an open and versatile student capable of making judgement well supported by past and temporal evidence. Ultimately, Zimbabwean History students should be able to utilise the subject as a basis for action in determining their future governance, in elucidating their past heritage, whether pre-colonial, colonial or any other and in expressing the diversity of their cultures.

The syllabus is divided into themes, each of which is studied in the context of events in the past. Such a thematic approach encourages students to use independent study skills, to read widely, write fluently and to develop the capacity to formulate and justify their own ideas.

## 2. AIMS

- (a) To stimulate interest in History, acquiring in depth knowledge and understanding of various stages of historical development.
- (b) To promote the critical study of the subject.
- (c) To build and unite Zimbabwe.
- (d) To 'sell' the country's heritage.
- (e) To enable History students to acquire a wide range of skills to take up careers in teaching the subject in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions, in jobs in international law, journalism, development management and strategic studies, among others.
- (f) To sensitise students on issues of human rights, gender and democracy.

## 3. ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The examination will test candidates' proficiency in the following skills:

- (a) the ability to make effective use of relevant factual knowledge to demonstrate an understanding of a historical period or periods in outline and themes under study.
- (b) the ability to interpret and evaluate historical evidence.
- (c) the ability to distinguish and assess different approaches, interpretations and opinions.
- (d) the ability to present a clear, concise, logical and relevant argument.

#### 4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must enter for TWO papers, each written in 3 hours. Candidates may not enter the African History papers only.

## THE HISTORY PAPERS

### PAPER ONE: EUROPEAN HISTORY, 1789 - 1964

Candidates must answer FOUR questions from at least TWO sections. Five questions will be set for each section. The paper is split as follows:-

SECTION A (1789-1814) Theme. The French Revolution and the Napoleonic era. Causes of the French Revolution including issues of human rights and gender; course of the Revolution including the Declaration of Rights, effects on government, society, economy, religion and governance: Napoleonic France and Europe; domestic and foreign policy:- effects on governance, human rights and gender.

SECTION B (1815-1870): Theme:- Change and continuity in Europe.

The main forces:- the Vienna settlement and the Congress System: successes and failures (1830; 1848-9;) imperialism; Russian, Austrian and Turkish nationalism and French, German and Italian liberalism and their effects on the Ottoman Empire and the Balkan States and how they affected international relations; challenges in terms of governance; reform and foreign policies of France, Russia and Austria and their effects on domestic international relations.

German and Italian unification.

SECTION C (1871-1919) Theme:- Industrialisation and imperialism.

Background information on industrialisation, reform movements and transport particularly in Britain, France, Prussia and Russia:

Imperialism:- theories, processes and events: the Berlin Conference; domestic and foreign challenges facing Bismarck and William II in Germany; challenges facing the Third Republic in France, e.g. the Paris Commune and other crises; challenges facing Russia 1881 - 1917.

Origins and events leading to World War I: causes e.g. the Alliance system, militarism; World War I - key strategies and events of the war; effects of the war, e.g. collapse of empires, women getting voting rights, emergence of Communism, new drugs and medication methods, improvements in communications.

SECTION D (1919-1945): Theme. Democracy and dictatorship.

The Peace Settlement, Peace Treaties and the League of Nations:

Germany:- the Weimar Republic and the rise of Hitler (Nazi Germany).

Italy:- failure of post-war political systems and the rise of Fascism (Mussolini).

Spain: the Spanish Republic; the Spanish civil war and Franco.

The rise and development of communism in the USSR up to 1964.

Britain and France - continuity of democracy.

International tensions: the Great Depression and its impact on Europe.

Origins and events leading to World War II:- impact of Peace Treaties, arms race, militarism, The Great Depression, nationalism, the alliances/pacts and weaknesses of the League of Nations, Appeasement.

World War II:- strategies, military technology and planning.

End of war and effects.

SECTION E (1945 - 1964): Theme. Globalisation and international co-operation:

Post war Europe -:the UN, Warsaw Pact, the EU economic growth and post war reconstruction, Europe and Japan; the Marshall Plan, COMECON, and emergence of decolonisation movements.

The Cold War - origins and manifestations; the intra and inter bloc conflicts in Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Cuba; Greece; Turkey, NATO, Warsaw Pact; The role of the UN in conflict resolution in Europe.

## **PAPER TWO: WORLD AFFAIRS SINCE C. 1960 -**

The aim of this paper is to promote the understanding of international relations and evolution of present-day political systems, economic conditions and social life of other peoples.

Candidates will be expected to have such background knowledge as is necessary for the understanding of the topics set out in the syllabus.

The paper is divided into six sections, A to F, as shown below. Candidates must answer FOUR questions in 3 hours, taking not more than two questions from any one section. At least ONE question must be answered from Section A. A wider choice of questions will be set in Section A than in the other sections.

The major themes on which questions will be set are outlined below.

SECTION A - GENERAL (6 questions)

This section provides candidates with the opportunity of discussing the nature of international relations and the sources of international tension. The main fields for detailed study are the following:

International Organisations:

- (a) The United Nations, Charter, agencies, organisation and working.
- (b) Other major political, military and economic groupings, e.g. the OAU, NATO, COMECON, International Energy Agency, SADC, etc.

World population and migration problems.

Factors influencing world economic relations.

The problems of low-income countries.

Major aspects of international law.

The control of arms.

Race relations.

SECTION B - THE USA AND CANADA (4 questions)

USA

The Constitution.

The achievements of the Presidents.

Population: race and minority problems.

The US economy.

The social framework.

Defence policy.

America's role in the world.

CANADA

Political and economic background.

Canada in world politics.

SECTION C - THE USSR AND SUCCESSOR STATES (4 questions)

The theoretical basis of Soviet government.

The structure and working of Soviet government.

The problem of nationalities.

Population structure.

Economic planning and achievements: organisation of industry and agriculture.

Defence policy.

Soviet relations with Eastern Europe.

The role of the USSR in the world.

The post-USSR era.

SECTION D - AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST (4 questions)

AFRICA

African nationalism, independence and decolonisation.

African political, economic and social problems.

Government and governance in African states.

Groupings of African states.

Africa and the world.

THE MIDDLE EAST (the Arabian Peninsula, Cyprus, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, Syria, Egypt and Turkey).

The political and economic problems of Egypt, Iran, Israel and Turkey.

Arab nationalism and relations between Arab states, Arab unity and problems of integration.

Islam and the modern state; the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The oil industry and its significance.

SECTION E - EUROPE (EXCLUDING THE USSR AND SUCCESSOR STATES) (4 questions)

The political consequences of the Second World War.

The political, economic and social developments in the main European states, especially Germany, France, Italy and Spain.

The development of defence organisations and the emergence of European co-operation and supra-nationalism.

The relations of Western Europe with the super states.

The major political developments in Eastern Europe.

SECTION F - SOUTH, EAST AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA (4 questions)

The political, economic and social development of the region with particular reference to China, Japan, the Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia as a region.

At least one question will be set on each of the areas specified above.

**PAPER THREE: THE HISTORY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, 1854-1914 (10 questions in all).**

This paper will consider events in the Cape Province, Natal, the Orange Free State, the Transvaal, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia.

There will be limited coverage of African history in Zimbabwe. Four questions must be answered in 3 hours.

1. The political, social and economic structures of Southern African societies including the Ndebele and the Shona in Zimbabwe.
  - The causes and nature of the decline of their structure under the impact of modernising forces.
  - The nature and extent of African resistance to European encroachment, and the varied reactions of African leaders to the new external pressures.
  - Traditional trading and other economic activities in the mid-nineteenth century and the changes which occurred during the next 60 years, the economic responses of African societies to new opportunities and an analysis of the problems affecting agricultural activities in the region.
2. Major capitalist economic developments in Southern Africa and their impact upon African societies and individuals.
  - The industrialisation of South Africa following the development of diamond and gold mining,. Mining capitalization and its growth, changing methods of economic exploitation from digger enterprises to large-scale mechanical exploitation.
  - Regional responses in terms of migrant labour and agricultural enterprise to new market pressures; African experience in the new mines and cities.
  - The growth of railways and other new means of transport and communication in Southern Africa; their impact upon and consequences for established societies.
3. Missionary activity in the region and its impact upon African societies.
  - The varying degrees of success of Christian missions amongst, for example, the Tswana, the Zulu and the Ndebele.
  - The role of traditional African religion in offering resistance to European ideas and encroachment.
4. An analysis and explanation of imperial motivation and practice in Southern Africa.
  - The theoretical and philosophical background to British and German imperial expansion.

- The consequences for African people and states of different forms of colonial administration and exploitation, for example in Namibia and Zimbabwe.
  - The physical extension of Boer power with the expansion of the Transvaal; the rise of Afrikaner nationalism and its effect upon Boer/British relations.
  - The Anglo-Boer war of 1899-1902; its causes, effects and specific impact upon black people and their involvement in the war; guerilla warfare and the concentration camps.
  - Post-war reconstruction and reconciliation.
5. The South Africa Act of 1909 and the Union of 1910.
- The National Convention and its limitations.
  - The legacy of the South Africa Act for the various people of South Africa, black reactions to the new situation.
6. The origin and sources of modern black nationalism before 1914.
- Independent church and school movements; African -owned newspapers and other outlets.
  - The Ethiopian church; its expansion and subsequent fortunes in South Africa.
  - Native congresses and early national political and protest movements.

**PAPER FOUR: THE HISTORY OF TROPICAL AFRICA, 1855 - 1914  
(10 questions in all)**

This paper covers a period of rapid change in African history, in an African rather than European perspective, although candidates must continue to expect questions on European activities in Africa. The following areas of historical interest will be examined in the paper:

1. Pre-colonial African states, societies and chiefdoms in sub-Saharan Africa; organisation, relations and policies.
2. Changing relations between Africans and Europeans leading to the Partition of Africa, e.g. legitimate trade, economic, demographic, social and technological differences; the Congo and Egyptian crises.



3. African reactions to the Partition and initial colonial conquests, as individuals and as societies.
4. Colonial administrative systems; economic exploitation and missionary or other education with their effects on African societies.
5. African reactions to colonial rule before 1914 in economic, political, social and religious spheres, with their effects on colonial policy.
6. Growth of nationalism: beginning of African organisations, welfare, T.U. , political.

In all these areas of interest, candidates must be prepared to make reasoned comparisons of differing situations, development of personalities within the three broad geographical divisions of Eastern, Western and Central Africa.

## **PAPER FIVE: THE HISTORY OF ZIMBABWE**

Candidates must answer FOUR questions from at least TWO Sections in 3 hours. The syllabus content is given below. Four questions will be set on each section.

### SECTION A

#### Prehistory to 1450

1. Sources of history.
  - The nature and interpretation of archaeological, linguistic oral and written evidence.
  - The heritage of the prehistoric and historic period.
2. The Early to Late Stone Age Cultures of Zimbabwe.
  - Rock art and the hunter-gatherers.
3. Farming communities.
  - Early farming communities, AD 0 - 1000.
  - The later farming communities, AD 1000 - 1500.
  - Long-distance trading contracts and transformation of interior-societies, 700 - 1500 AD.

4. The rise, development and decline of early states of the Zimbabwe Culture, 1000-1450.
  - Mapungubwe; Great Zimbabwe.
  - Zimbabwe Plateau society, politics and economy with particular reference to Great Zimbabwe and the culture associated with it e.g. cattle, trade, gold and ivory.

## SECTION B

### Later Zimbabwe Culture States, Merchant Capitalism, Colonial Conquest and the African Response, 1450 - 1900

1. The rise and development of the Mutapa and Torwa states.
  - Portuguese penetration into the Zimbabwe Plateau and effects on the Mutapa State, 1500-1660.
  - The decline of the Torwa and the rise of the Rozvi under the Changamire dynasty, 1680-1850: Rozvi power and influence.
  - The decline of Portuguese influence on the Zimbabwe Plateau: Prazo settlement in the Lower Zambezi and decline of the Mutapa State (1680-1870).
2. The Indian Ocean trading system involving the Shona, the Swahili and the Portuguese.
  - Shona society, economy, religion and politics, 1500-1890.
  - The re-organisation of Shona political units, migrations to the south, east and west, the emergency of Chireya, Duma, Buhera and other confederacies.
3. Mfecane groups and effects on Shona society, politics and economy.
  - Ndebele state - origins, settlement, socio-political and economic organisation.
  - Ndebele-Shona relations
4. European colonisation of Zimbabwe.
  - The missionaries, hunters and concession seekers.
  - Internal and external pressures on the Ndebele State;
  - The occupation of Mashonaland and Matabeleland.

- Impact of European occupation, 1890-1900; the Anglo-Ndebele War, 1893-4:- results of the war.
- The uprising of 1896-7 (Chimurenga Umvukela 1) - causes, course, results:

## SECTION C

### Colonial rule and the struggle for Independence 1900 - 1979

1. Company rule to 1923: direct rule, land, mining and labour issues.
2. Settler rule to 1953: - rise of agriculture; colonial strategies for survival and repression; - Land Appropriation and dispossession; - African responses and resistances; the emergence of the African elite and industrialisation, urbanisation and trade unionism.
  - Development of mass nationalism.
3. Federation to UDI - 1953 - 1965.
  - Formation of federation.
  - Economic developments in the federation.
  - Rise of nationalist politics ; Labour unrest; formation of nationalist parties; ANC, NDP, ZAPU, ZANU, PCC.
  - Break-up of the Federation and the rise of the Rhodesian Front, 1963-1964.
4. Rhodesia under Smith and the Armed Struggle (Second Chimurenga, Umvukela); 1965-1979.
  - Sanctions and moves to counter them, Educational policies and health delivery systems.
  - The Land Tenure Act of 1969.
  - Events leading to the end of White rule; ZANLA, ZIPRA and FROLIZI in the armed struggle; the Internal Settlement, the Lancaster House Conference and the cease-fire.

## SECTION D

### Zimbabwe Under Black Majority Rule, 1980 - Present.

1. ZANU (PF) rule, economic, political and social developments.
2. The Neo-Colonial State.
  - The Constitutional Reform Process and the constraints of the Lancaster House Constitution.
  - Population growth, unemployment and poverty; the re-emergence of the Land Crisis in Zimbabwe.
3. Towards a market-driven economy in Zimbabwe.
  - International Capitalism, IMF, World Bank, ESAP, ZIMPREST, Social unrest .
4. Zimbabwe's foreign policy: role in the UN, SADC, OAU, Commonwealth, NAM, the G-15.
5. Zimbabwe in the new millennium - political, economic and social challenges; Land Resettlement - new approaches. Role of the mass media.

## BOOK LIST

### THE HISTORY OF ZIMBABWE

1. D.N. BEACH - THE SHONA IN ZIMBABWE
2. D.N. BEACH - ZIMBABWE TO 1900
3. D.W. PHILLIPSON - THE LATER PRE-HISTORY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
4. D.N. BEACH - WAR AND POLITICS
  
5. T.O. RANGER           (a)   Aspects  
                             (b)   Revolt  
                             (c)   The Dogs of War  
                             (d)   The African Voice
  
6. I. PHIMISTER - LA
7. VAN ONSLEN - CHIBHARO
8. PALMER - LAND AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
9. MOYANA - THE POLITICS OF LAND
10. P. MARTIN AND JOHNSON - THE STRUGGLE FOR ZIMBABWE
11. PHIMISTER AND POCTOR - PEOPLE AND POWER
12. NON BUT OURSELVES - FRIEDRIEKSAN ET AL.
13. S. SAMUKANGE - THE ORIGINS OF RHODESIA
14. MASIPULA SITHOLE - STRUGGLE WITHIN THE STRUGGLE
  
15. C. BANANA (a)    The Politics of  
                     (b)   Turmoil and Tenacity  
                     (c)   Towards a Socialist Ethos
  
16. I. MANDAZA - DESTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT
17. I. MANDAZA - ON THE DRC
  
18. STOKES AND BROWN - THE ZAMBEZIA PAST
19. MASON P - THE BIRTH OF A DILEMMA
20. J. NKOMO - THE STORY OF MY LIFE
21. UNESCO GENERAL HISTORY OF AFRICA
22. H. BHILA - TRADE AND POLITICS IN A MANYIKA KINGDOM.
23. N. BHEBHE (a)    Benjamin Burombo  
                     (b)   Christian Mission in South Africa and Zimbabwe  
                     (c)   Lobengula
  
24. J. COBBING - THE NDEBELE UNDER THE KHUMALOS.
25. J. VONSINA - ORAL TRADITIONS AS HISTORY
26. K. RANSMUSEN (a)   The Migrant Kingdom  
                             (b)   Mzilikazi
  
27. J.D. OMER - COOPER - THE ZULU AFTERMATH
28. NEEDHAM AND MASHINGAIDZE - FROM IRON AGE TO INDEPENDENCE
29. PEN TINDAL - HISTORY OF CENTRAL AFRICA
30. BLACK - RHODESIA
31. D.N. BEACH - THE NDEBELE RAIDORS AND SHONA.
32. SAMKANGE
33. C. MAZOBERE - (1923 - UDI)
34. MUDENGE - THE MUTAPA

35. I. PIKIRAYI - THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MUTAPA.
  36. MLAMBO.
  37. J.D. FAGE - AFRICA DISCOVERS HER PAST.
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1. EUROPEAN HISTORY (SEE UCLES 2001 SYLLABUS)  
AND  
TROPICAL AFRICA (UCLES SYLLABUS PAGE 20. (2002  
AND
  - 2 . SOUTHERN AFRICA (SEE UCLES SYLLABUS)
  3. INTERNATIONAL HISTORY (SEE UCLES 2002 P. 19.