

OCR GCE History AS/A Level B

The aims of this specification are to:

- develop a coherent knowledge of the past – both within and across the topics chosen;
- develop and apply understanding of historical concepts – including explanation, evidence, interpretations and significance;
- develop the techniques of critical thinking in a historical context – and the skills necessary to analyse and solve historical problems;
- develop critical awareness of a range of historical dimensions – conditional and contingent, synchronic and diachronic;
- develop the ability to communicate historical arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly with reference to appropriate historical terminology.

A2 Unit F985 – *British History*

1. Study Topic 3: *Different Interpretations of British Imperialism c.1850–c.1950*

Candidates should consider the following approaches to this debate:	Candidate should consider how these approaches have contributed to our understanding of the following issues:
the contribution made by area studies and approaches that focus on the importance of factors on the periphery, such as the role of indigenous people and local officials;	How important were economic forces in the development of the Empire? How far was the Empire run and shaped by forces and decisions in Britain and how important were factors (eg the indigenous people, local officials) in the periphery?

Edexcel GCE History AS Unit 1

Option C- The British Empire: Colonisation and Decolonisation

C6 Britain and the Scramble for Africa, c1875- 1914

- Britain's growing interests in North Africa: acquisition of Suez canal shares and its significance; the concept of an 'informal' empire.
- culture and extent of imperial acquisitions in Africa in this period.
- Conflict in Southern Africa: reasons for, and consequences of, the two Boer Wars.

- The development of imperial attitudes: British perceptions of the benefits of the Empire for indigenous peoples; advantages and disadvantages of the Empire for the British in this period.