

The impact of standards-based assessment on knowledge for history education in New Zealand

Tables

Achievement Objectives for History - The New Zealand Curriculum		
Level 6 (For Year 11 students aged 15-16 years)	Level 7 (For Year 12 students aged 16-17 years)	Level 8 (For Year 13 students aged 17-18 years)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how the causes and consequences of past events that are of significance to New Zealanders shape the lives of people and society. • Understand how people's perspectives on past events that are of significance to New Zealanders differ. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how historical forces and movements have influenced the causes and consequences of events of significance to New Zealanders. • Understand how people's interpretations of events that are of significance to New Zealanders differ. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand that the causes, consequences, and explanations of historical events that are of significance to New Zealanders are complex and how and why they are contested. • Understand how trends over time reflect social, economic, and political forces.

Table 1. History achievement objectives Levels 6-8, *The New Zealand Curriculum*, Ministry of Education, 2007.

<p style="text-align: center;">Achievement Objectives <i>The New Zealand Curriculum</i> Level 6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Achievement Standards <i>For the NCEA</i> Level 1</p>
	<p>AS91001</p> <p>Carry out an investigation of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</p>
	<p>AS91002</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</p>
	<p>AS91003</p> <p>Interpret sources of an historical event of significance to New Zealanders.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how people’s perspectives on past events that are of significance to New Zealanders differ. → 	<p>AS91004</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of different perspectives of people in an historical event of significance to New Zealanders.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how the causes and consequences of past events that are of significance to New Zealanders shape the lives of people and society. → 	<p>AS91005</p> <p>Describe the causes and consequences of an historical event.</p>
	<p>AS91006</p> <p>Describe how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society.</p>

Table 2. Alignment between the Level 6 history achievement objectives, *The New Zealand Curriculum*, Ministry of Education, 2007 and the Level 1 history achievement standards, for the NCEA.

History Matrix		
Achievement Standards for The National Certificate of Educational Achievement		
NCEA Level 1	NCEA Level 2	NCEA Level 3
<i>Aligns with Level 6 of The New Zealand Curriculum</i>	<i>Aligns with Level 7 of The New Zealand Curriculum</i>	<i>Aligns with Level 8 of The New Zealand Curriculum</i>
<p>AS91001</p> <p>Carry out an investigation of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91229</p> <p>Carry out an inquiry of an historical event or place that is of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91434</p> <p>Research an historical event or place of significance to New Zealanders, using primary and secondary sources.</p> <p>Internal 5 credits</p>
<p>AS91002</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91230</p> <p>Examine an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 5 credits</p>	<p>AS91435</p> <p>Analyse an historical event, or place, of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 5 credits</p>
<p>AS91003</p> <p>Interpret sources of an historical event of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91231</p> <p>Examine sources of an historical event that is of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91436</p> <p>Analyse evidence relating to an historical event of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>
<p>AS91004</p> <p>Demonstrate understanding of different perspectives of people in an historical event of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91232</p> <p>Interpret different perspectives of people in an historical event that is of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 5 credits</p>	<p>AS91437</p> <p>Analyse different perspectives of a contested event of significance to New Zealanders.</p> <p>Internal 4 credits</p>
<p>AS91005</p> <p>Describe the causes and consequences of an historical event.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91233</p> <p>Examine causes and consequences of a significant historical event.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91438</p> <p>Analyse the causes and consequences of a significant historical event.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>
<p>AS91006</p> <p>Describe how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society.</p> <p>External 4 credits</p>	<p>AS91234</p> <p>Examine how a significant historical event affected New Zealand society.</p> <p>External 5 credits</p>	<p>AS91439</p> <p>Analyse a significant historical trend and the force(s) that influenced it.</p> <p>External 6 credits</p>

Table 3. History matrix of achievement standards for the NCEA, (NZQA).

Achievement Criteria		
Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the causes and consequences of an historical event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe in depth the causes and consequences of an historical event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensively describe the causes and consequences of an historical event.

Table 4. Achievement criteria for Achievement Standard AS91005 *Describe the causes and consequences of an historical event* (NZQA, 2016, Achievement Standards).

Title and Date of Survey	Length of document (pages)	No. of respondents	Survey Content
2014 Externals 1: The Papers	60	148	Views on the 2014 examination papers – whether they addressed the standard fairly, whether the question(s) were open to responses from the contexts students had studied, whether the tasks were appropriate to the level.
2014 Externals: The Results	54	132	Views on the validity of student results
History Department Survey 2015	51	106	The approach taken in programme planning, the extent to which changes should be made to the standards to improve them, views on issues with the current standards, suggestions for changes to the examination format.
History Matrix Review (NCEA) initial questionnaire 2016	25	87	Views on whether NZHTA should embark on its own standards review process, which standards should be re-considered, whether aspects of New Zealand history should be made compulsory.

Table 5. New Zealand History Teachers Association Surveys

NCEA Examination Questions 2016 and 2017		
Level of the NCEA	Achievement Standard	Examination Question
1	AS91005 Describe the causes and consequences of an historical event.	2016 Identify and describe the causes of your chosen historical event. What were the short-term and long-term consequences of the event for people and / or groups?
		2017 Identify and describe TWO main causes of your chosen historical event. What were TWO main consequences of the event for people and / or groups?
2	AS91233 Examine causes and consequences of a significant historical event.	2016 Examine the long-term and short-term causes of a significant historical event, and explain the consequences.
		2017 Examine the causes of a significant historical event, and its positive and / or negative consequences.
3	AS91438 Analyse the causes and consequences of a significant historical event.	2016 Analyse the extent to which particular factors caused a significant historical event, and the different ways this event changed people's lives over an extended period of time.
		2017 Analyse the most important causes of a significant historical event, and the extent to which the consequences of this event changed people's lives at the time.

Table 6. NCEA History Examination Questions 2016 and 2017, Levels 1, 2 and 3 for the standards assessing the causes and consequences of a historical event (NZQA).

Cut scores - History AS91005			
Not Achieved	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
0-2 marks	3-4 marks	5-6 marks	7-8 marks

Table 7. Cut score grades for AS91005 – *Describe the causes and consequences of an historical event*, Examination 2015 (NZQA).