# ① Selecting and applying your own knowledge

This unit will help you to identify relevant features of a topic and build on these features with details from your own knowledge. The skills you will build are to:

- choose historical knowledge based on what the question is asking you
- decide how much of your own historical knowledge you need to include in an answer
- use your own historical knowledge effectively.

The skill of selecting and applying your own knowledge is important for all the questions you might be asked in your History GCSE.

In the exam, you will also be asked to tackle questions such as the one below. This unit will prepare you to write your own response to this exam-style question:

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of immigration into Whitechapel.

Feature 1

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Feature 2

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(4 marks)

The three key questions in the **skills boosts** will help you to decide what historical knowledge you need when you are answering Paper 1 history questions.

| ① How do I identify relevant features? | ② How do I add relevant detail? | ③ How do I know how much to write? |
|---|---|---|

Look at the student response to the exam-style question below:

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of immigration into Whitechapel.

> During the 1840s many young Irishmen arrived in London on their way to America. When money ran out, they stayed and worked as navvies. These were labourers on the canals, roads and railways. Many settled in Whitechapel and this made overcrowding worse. In 1881 the Tsar of Russia was assassinated and people blamed Jewish people, so many of them fled to London. They had a very different culture and they often kept themselves separate from the rest of the Whitechapel community.

① Highlight ✏ any features the student has identified.

② Cross out ⊝ the information in the student answer that is not necessary to answer the question.

③ For each feature identified, the student gives one extra detail to expand the information. Try to identify ✏ this extra detail for each feature.

Feature 1 ........................................................................................................................................................

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Feature 2 ........................................................................................................................................................

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# Tensions in Whitechapel

This unit uses the theme of tensions in Whitechapel to build your skills in selecting and applying your own knowledge. If you need to review your knowledge of this theme, work through these pages.

**1** Read the statements about the environment of Whitechapel below and tick ✓ the correct ones.

**a** Whitechapel was one of the country's poorest districts, located in West London.

**b** Londoners shared the district with immigrants of Irish and Jewish descent.

**c** Each house was divided into several apartments.

**d** There would never be more than one family in each apartment.

**2** Look at the crimes and social problems listed in the word box. Circle (A) the ones most closely associated with unemployment in Whitechapel.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| theft of personal property | domestic abuse | stealing/robbery |
| assaults on women | disorder in the streets | begging |
| political agitation | gang violence | disruptive behaviour |

**3** Draw ✏ lines linking a social group living in Whitechapel to a description of it.

**A** Irish

**a** Immigrant population which grew during the 1880s. Most were fleeing Eastern Europe after being blamed for the assassination of the Tsar of Russia.

**B** Jewish

**b** A potentially revolutionary group who wanted to bring down the capitalist system. Their political party, the SDF, was formed to represent agricultural and industrial labourers.

**C** Socialists

**c** A potentially revolutionary group who thought the answer to Europe's social and economic problems was to overthrow the existing monarchs. Britain was normally where leaders fled to when escaping arrest in their own country.

**D** Anarchists

**d** Immigrant population which expanded rapidly from the 1840s. Usually young men with plans to continue on to America but when money ran out they stayed and worked as navvies – labourers on canals, roads and railways.

**4** Draw ✏ lines linking each of the descriptions of tensions in Whitechapel to the element of the population that was thought to be causing it.

**A** This group would often work for 16 to 18 hours a day and made goods very cheaply. This drove the price of the goods down, which was very unpopular with other workers.

**a** Anarchists

**B** This group was often linked to the Fenians, a terrorist organisation fighting for independence from British rule.

**b** Irish

**C** Violent revolutionary action had been happening in continental Europe. The British press exaggerated the extent of bomb attacks, but in London many people were assuming anyone with an Eastern European accent was a threat.

**c** Socialists

**D** They used the Jack the Ripper case to highlight the stupidity of the Metropolitan Police and the government in the hope of an SDF councillor being elected in the area.

**d** Jewish

**5** Existing communities in Whitechapel were fearful of the effect the arrival of immigrants and different social groups in their community might have. Look at the speech bubbles and groups listed below. Write ✏ the name of the group next to the comment being made about them.

Jewish    Irish    Socialists    Anarchists

**a**

They are putting my job at risk!

........................................................

**b**

They might set off a bomb!

........................................................

**c**

They don't speak English so I don't know what they are saying!

........................................................

**d**

They're always causing problems with the police!

........................................................

## 1 How do I identify relevant features?

In order to answer relevantly, you will need to identify two features. You will therefore need to:

- read the question and highlight the topic of Crime and policing in Whitechapel
- make a list of features of this topic from your own knowledge.

Look at the two exam-style questions below:

A

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of Jewish immigration to Whitechapel.

Feature 1 ...............................................................................

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Feature 2 ...............................................................................

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(4 marks)

B

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of anarchism in Whitechapel.

Feature 1 ...............................................................................

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Feature 2 ...............................................................................

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(4 marks)

1 Highlight 🖉 the 'topic' parts of questions A and B.

2 a The text you have highlighted in the exam-style questions above tells you what knowledge to use to describe **relevant** features. Look at the features described below and sort them into the table under the correct heading. 🖉

| Question A | Question B |
|---|---|
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Were resented by the local workers of Whitechapel

Were often considered to be terrorists

Often came to Britain fleeing arrest

Came mainly from Eastern Europe, fleeing persecution

b Add 🖉 one more feature for each question.

## 2   How do I add relevant detail?

It is necessary to support the feature you have identified with relevant details to develop your answer.

(1) The table below shows each of the features identified for the two exam-style questions on the previous page. Draw ✏ lines linking the feature to its supporting detail.

**Feature**

**Supporting detail**

**A** Were resented by the local workers of Whitechapel

**B** Came mainly from Eastern Europe, fleeing persecution

**C** Often came to Britain fleeing arrest

**D** Were often considered to be terrorists

**a** In 1881 the Russian Tsar had been assassinated and they were blamed. The Russian government started to attack them so they fled to Britain to avoid persecution.

**b** Their revolutionary political ideas were believed to be a threat to law and order in Britain.

**c** Compared to the poor working class living in Whitechapel they seemed to find employment easily and were often successful in business.

**d** This threat of arrest was a result of their revolutionary attempts to overthrow existing governments.

(2) Now write ✏ the two features you added of your own in (2) (b) of page 5 and add a supporting detail to each to develop your description.

| My feature | Supporting detail |
|---|---|
| Exam-style question A: | |
| Exam-style question B: | |

## 3 How do I know how much to write?

Question 1 is worth just 4 marks, so each relevant feature you identify will score a mark and each relevant supporting detail will score a mark. This means full marks can be achieved with just four sentences.

1. You are now going to use the relevant features and the details that have been identified to practise writing an answer to the following exam-style questions. Fill in ✏️ the tables to help you to see what you need to write for each answer.

**Question A:**

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of Jewish immigration to Whitechapel.

| | |
|---|---|
| Sentence 1 (feature 1) | |
| Sentence 2 (supporting detail) | |
| Sentence 3 (feature 2) | |
| Sentence 4 (supporting detail) | |

**Question B:**

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of anarchism in Whitechapel.

| | |
|---|---|
| Sentence 1 (feature 1) | |
| Sentence 2 (supporting detail) | |
| Sentence 3 (feature 2) | |
| Sentence 4 (supporting detail) | |

# Sample response

Read the exam-style question below and the student response that follows.

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of socialism in Whitechapel.

Feature 1 ...................................................................................................................................
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Feature 2 ...................................................................................................................................
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**(4 marks)**

*Socialists wanted to end the capitalist system in Britain to create a fairer spread of wealth. They believed it was unfair that only a few people benefited from the money made by industry. Capitalism was when businesses were privately owned and investors could decide how the money made from that industry was used. The first socialist party had been founded in Britain in 1881 and there was hope that they may be able to get a local councillor elected in Whitechapel due to the large number of working class residents there, whom they represented.*

/4

1. Circle Ⓐ the topic in the exam-style question.

2. Annotate the answer highlighting 🖉 one feature and its supporting detail in one colour and the second feature and its supporting detail in another. To help you, you could write 🖉 your answer into the exam-style question.

3. Give the answer a score out of 4. 🖉

4. Circle Ⓐ and label 🖉 the feature which is not relevant.

5. Write 🖉 an additional feature that might be more relevant to this question. How would you support it?

Feature ......................................................................................................................................
.......................................................................................................................................................

Supporting detail .......................................................................................................................
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# Your turn!

Now it is your turn to try to answer an exam-style question.

**Exam-style question**

Describe **two** features of the Irish immigrant community in Whitechapel.

**1** Highlight ✎ the topic from which you must select your features.

**2** List ✎ two features relevant to this topic.

1 .................................................................................................................................................................

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2 .................................................................................................................................................................

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**3** Use the table below to plan ✎ a relevant detail to support each feature.

| 1 | |
|---|---|
| 2 | |

**4** Now write ✎ your answer as a descriptive paragraph of four sentences.

Feature 1

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Supporting detail

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Feature 2

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Supporting detail

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# Review your skills

## Check up

Review your response to the exam-style question on page 9. Tick ✓ the column below to show how well you think you have done each of the following.

| | Had a go ✓ | Nearly there ✓ | Got it! ✓ |
|---|---|---|---|
| identified the 'topic' in the question to ensure features are relevant | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| selected two features and added relevant detail | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| worked out how much to write | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

## Need more practice?

If you want to practise another exam-style question, have a go ✐ at the one below.

### Exam-style question

Describe **two** features of poverty in Whitechapel.

Feature 1 ................................................................................................

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Feature 2 ................................................................................................

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(4 marks)

How confident do you feel about each of these **skills**? Colour ✐ in the bars.

| 1 How do I identify relevant features? | 2 How do I add relevant detail? | 3 How do I know how much to write? |
|---|---|---|
| ▭▭▭▭ | ▭▭▭▭ | ▭▭▭▭ |