

4th June



Review, Reflect and Correct:
"Problems in 1920s USA - Assessment"



Learning Steps:



- Explore why assessments are given out.
- Revisit the demands of the assessment.
- Examine common issues in the assessment.
- Review own performance.
- Set targets for improvement.
- Chance to make corrections.



Learning gain - to review the assessment as a whole in order to identify common problems and review individual work in order to set targets for further improvement.

Purpose of assessments:

To check your understanding of a topic - what do you need to work on in order to make your understanding complex, what do I as a teacher need to change in my approach in order to make sure you are "getting" the topic.

To monitor progress - I as your teacher and the school, you as a student and your parents through PUR need to know what progress you are making.

To prepare for your final exams - if after 2 years of study you sit down in front of your exam paper and you can not answer a question because you do not know how - then we have **all failed.**

Problem 1 - not knowing what the assessment was about!

chainlinks.docx
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edexcel Lesson 11 - Assessment Preparation

assessment_prep_lesson.pdf
[Download File](#)

Name:

1920s Essay Assignment

"You can get much farther with a kind word and a gun than you can with a kind word alone."

Was Gangsterism the most important problem facing the USA in the 1920s?
Explain your answer. (16)

You may also use the following factors in your answer and any other information of your own.

- Changing role of women
- Problems in agriculture
- Racism
- The growth of intolerance

To get the highest level you should consider the most important (PRIORITISE), LINK show how it was a COMBINATION of fac

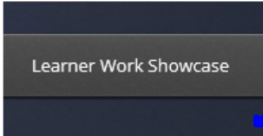
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The website has the assessment on it.

A downloadable document

Also the lesson which explained how to do it



Learner Work Showcase

In this tab is exemplar student work so that you can see what your essay should look like

All exemplars have feedback on them from me so that you can see what you need to do to gain the marks.




Question 6 exam questions or 16 mark essay questions:

Below are some examples of grade A/A* answers which demonstrate the structure, conciseness, balance between description and explanation, linking, prioritising and explicit conclusion necessary to achieve this grade.

Aamrah has produced a perfect answer - the marking is detailed and uses colour to demonstrate the key structure of her essay.

 [question_6_a_grade_model_answer.pdf](#)
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Rebekkah has also produced a 100% answer but has almost *eliminated description* to produce a very concise answer.

 [100_16_mark_answer_concise.pdf](#)
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Anastasia has produced a 80% grade A answer.

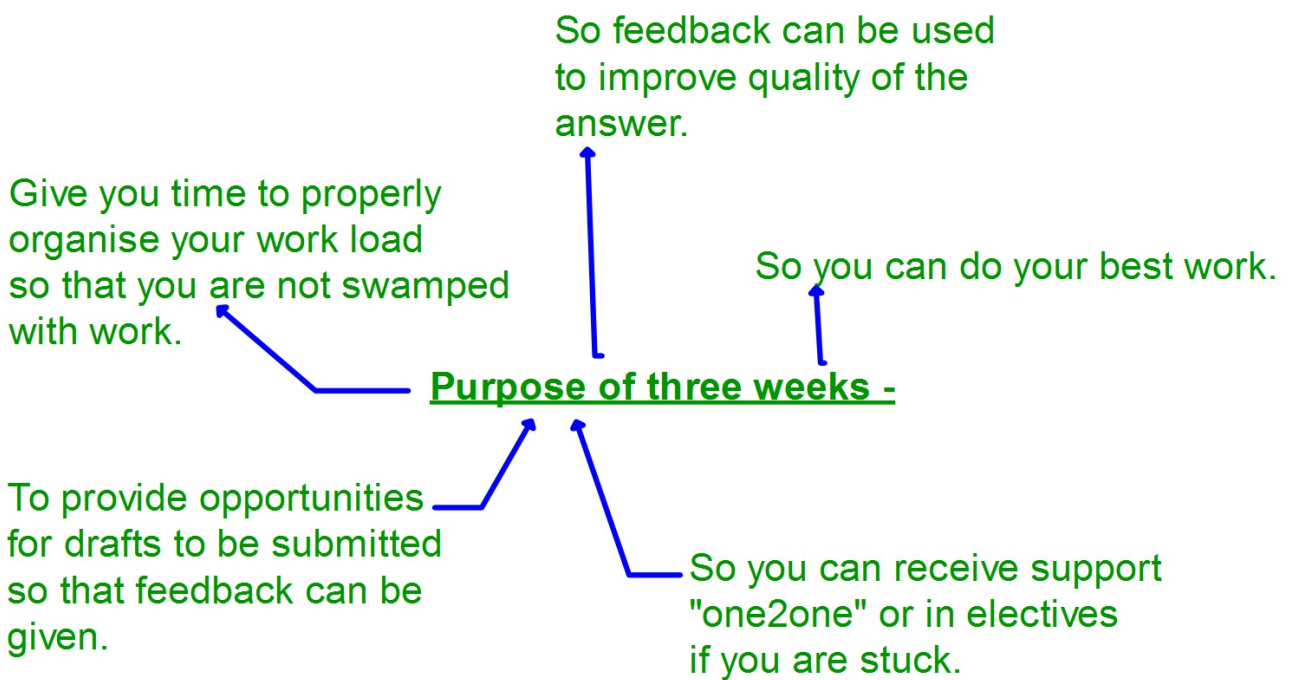
 [grade_a_16_mark_answer.pdf](#)
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Problem 2 - Missing the deadline -

You were given 3 weeks - 21 days to complete this assessment.

Yet it was clear that many people still waiting till the last minute.





The worse examples I marked were ones done at the last minute with little thought, care or thinking. This is a pointless activity as all it teaches you is that you can't wing it and me that you can't be trusted.

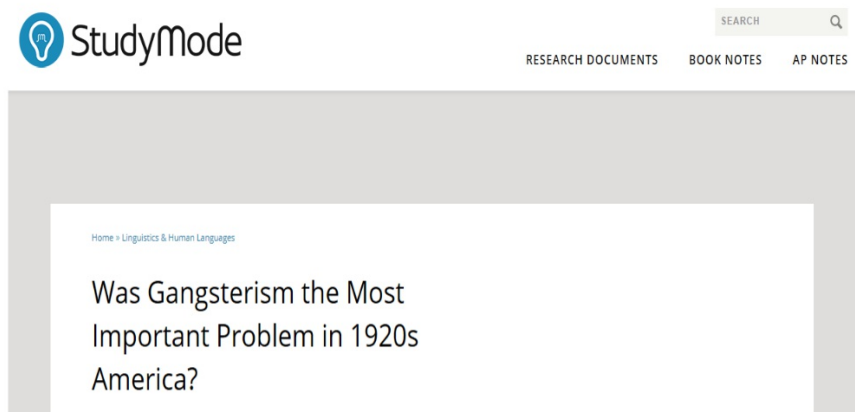
3) Plagiarism -

Taking credit for other people's work.

This can lead to disqualification from University courses, loss of coursework marks in the controlled assessment and a braek down of trust between you and me.

What do I mean?

Students found to be using websites like...



...or copying each other will automatically be given a U grade and will be placed in the intervention group.

This does fulfill any of the purposes of actually setting the assessment in the first place.

4) Not understanding the demands of the question -

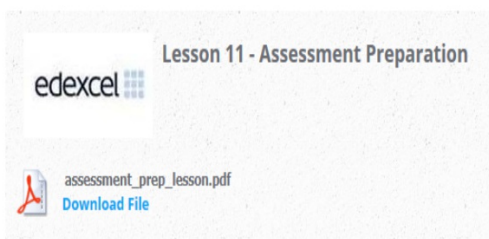
You need to talk about three factors in this essay.

The one in the actual question and up to two from the bullet pointed list.

Many of you wrote good stuff on the other potential problems BUT did not discuss Gangsterism.

D'OH!

If in doubt look here...



or email me...

5) ASSERTION or ARGUMENT

An ASSERTION is when you claim something is the case without providing evidence to support it.

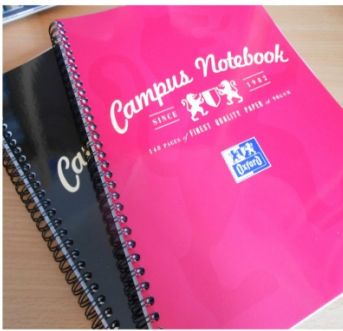
Gangsterism led to a huge increase in homicides.

An ARGUMENT is when you support your assertion with facts and evidence.

Gangsterism led to a huge increase in homicides. In some cities the gang violence saw the rate rise by 81%.

Too many of you chatted about your assertions but failed to achieve **developed explanation** because you did not use statistics or facts to evidence your assertions.

6 - Winging it...



These are note books.

You take notes in them of the stuff you are studying.

They contain all the facts you need to answer your assessments.

Yet some of you do not use them.

You write history essays like they are novels...

"Once upon a time in a country called the USA, some very bad things happened. As I couldn't be bothered to carry my heavy wevy bookie wookie home I am going to basically make things up based upon what I can remember. Unfortunately I was txtng under the desk most of the time about my latest life crisis innit...So yeah like the KKK did some horrid things,Gangs sold illegal booze and women got to wear make up. The END!"

**USE YOUR NOTE BOOKS TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE
TO TURN ASSERTION INTO ARGUMENT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Finally - not learning from past mistakes -

Manmeet Kaur - History Essay

Explain how prohibition changed the lives of many Americans (8) *what is wrong here?*

statement
developed explanation

One way that prohibition changed many lives for Americans was that it criminalised many ordinary, law-abiding citizens. This was because it became illegal to drink alcohol but millions of Americans were against prohibition therefore still continued to consume alcohol and this caused a rise in crime because these American citizens were now classed as criminals. Another reason why there was a rise in crime was due to drink driving, as the motor car industry was developing and improving, more people owned and drove a car however, as they also continued to drink so they would drive to the pub/cafes and drive back drunk. This changed the lives of many Americans because it meant that they weren't able to enjoy a drink in the comfort of their own home, they were classed as criminals for drinking and the police focused on crimes to do with alcohol rather than investigating crimes like rape etc.

C3

statement
developed explanation

Secondly, the Italian mafia and other gangs had a big part in the rise in crime. The mafia took advantage of prohibition by smuggling alcohol and to make sure that they weren't found out they would threaten and bribe people. They made money from far exceeding the traditional crimes of extortion, gambling and prostitution. Prohibition allowed mafia families to make fortunes and as prohibition continued, they mafia continued to dominate organised crime and make lots of money.

The mafia making fortunes led to another problem because the money that they made allowed them to corrupt the government officials, judges, politicians and police to turn a blind eye to their activities. When that didn't work they used violence and this undermined the morality of American society.

In conclusion, prohibition changed the lives of many Americans however, I think these changes had a negative impact on American citizens as criminal activity was increased, organised crime was on a high and the government became corrupt however, if prohibition wasn't in place it would make consuming alcohol legal, reduce crime and allow police to focus on other crimes. Prohibition was initially put into place to cut criminal activity, reduce domestic violence and for religious reasons but I think it was a rule that was impossible for the American government to enforce because the majority of Americans weren't going to give up alcohol and in my opinion, I think prohibition had more of a negative impact of the lives of Americans rather than a positive impact.

C3 7/8 (A) 86% *Excellent Manmeet.*

There is one thing you could do to make this full marks - use the mark scheme to work it out

PROGRESS REVIEW

I am responding to feedback on:

- A written assessment.
- Marking in books
- Peer marking
- Homework
- A learning challenge.

My response to the feedback:

I agree with your comment. The thing that was wrong with the statement was that buying and selling the alcohol was illegal - not drinking it. I am pleased with my grade however, I am annoyed that I didn't get that extra mark to get an A* with explanations.

What I did well:

I managed to give developed statements

Targets for improvement:

I need to make sure I can make links between the different factors, to get that extra mark = get full marks!

None Basic Level of understanding Joined Up Complex

U G/F E/D C B A A*

Teacher SW2

* Low (13-14) You will make a judgement on the

- It takes me over 5 hours to mark a set of assessments.
- You then spend time reviewing your work and identifying strengths and weaknesses, setting targets.
- Then you blindly set off on your next essay and forget everything you set yourself to improve on!!!

Next steps -

- Look at your work and honestly and fully review it.
- Respond to my comments.
- Answer my questions.
- Complete the blue progress update review.
- Set yourself targets for improvement.
- Begin working on making corrections and/or a complete rewrite of your essay.