**HIST IN-SERVICE MATERIAL**

**THE RESEARCH STUDY
TEXT OF PRESENTATION TO TEACHERS**
**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Purpose of the Research Study**

To develop in students:

* A spirit of inquiry about the past
* A range of skills for the conduct of the  inquiry
* Allows students to engage in a measure of self-directed learning (S8)

**Choosing a Subject**

* The subject chosen must be clearly defined
* should have a narrow focus for depth of investigation
* should be based on information that may be readily authenticated
should be of historical significance (S8,S9)
* Great care needed in the selection of subjects
* Choice to be made in consultation with teacher
* Student should not undertake substantive work until teacher has approved outline plan (G15, G34)
* The specific subject chosen by each student in a class group should be unique to the individual student
* This uniqueness should be reflected in the title of the study. (G14)-

**Learning Outcomes**

Higher and Ordinary Level Students should:

* Show understanding of the role of evidence in the writing of history
* Display an awareness of objectivity in their own writing by striving to be fair-minded and unbiased (S10)

Higher Level Students should:

* Recognise the provisional nature of historical knowledge (S10)
* Show understanding of the broader historical context of research findings

**Sources**

* At Ordinary Level: a minimum of TWO sources should be used
* At Higher Level: THREE (or more) sources should be used (S8)
* Sources sould be primary or specialist secondary (S8)
* At least one source by a historian, where available (G14)
* Standard school textbooks will not be suitable sources (G14)
* Extreme caution to be exercised with primary sources (G14)

**The Report**

* Each student will compile a report (S9)
* The report will be pre-submitted
* The report will have three components:
	+ 1. An outline plan
		2. An evaluation of sources
		3. An extended essay

***The Report: Outline Plan***

* Student defines the subject
* Student justifies the subject
* Student identifies 1.the aims; 2 the intended approach
* The sources to be consulted

***The Report: Evaluation of Sources***

* Indicates the relevance of the sources to the subject of the study
* Comments on the strengths and weaknesses of each source used

***The Report: Extended Essay***

* Sets down the main findings and conclusions arrived at by the student
* Includes a review of the process undertaken, and how useful that process was in achieving the aims laid down in the outline plan
* Most substantial of the three components
* Findings should be laid out in a coherent manner with 1. a clear introduction; 2. a conclusion 3. in between, a line of logical development

***The Report: Mark Allocation (20% of the total marks)***

* Outline plan   15%
* Evaluation of sources  25%
* Extended essay   60%

***The Report: Authentication Procedures***

* Must be the candidate’s own work.
* Authentication procedures will be put in place to ensure compliance with this requirement.
* These will include a protocol in relation to the use of internet-sourced material.