The 2020 Ancient History Exam External Specifications contain a number of significant changes that learners and teachers need to be aware of.

Section B will NOT assess C3 and C4. Learners should still be encouraged to write clearly and with a high degree of accuracy. Learners should still be encouraged to incorporate historical details and both primary and secondary sources to support their responses in Section B. Opportunities to demonstrate skills, understanding and knowledge for C3 and C4 will remain in Section A and Section C.

Section B now consists of TWO compulsory short answer questions. Short answer questions can contain multiple paragraphs addressing each part of the question. Introductions and conclusions are not required or expected. Learners who include an introduction or conclusion will not be penalised. Dot points are encouraged as a last resort when learners find themselves time poor during the examination.

Section B has reduced content requirements. There is now a requirement that learners address at least ONE element (down from two) and ONE key feature in Section B. The same element and the same key feature can be referred to in both questions. Learners can also refer to different elements and features in each Section B response and more than one element and more than one key feature in both.