

# CONTENTS

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FOREWORD .....	1
RESEARCH PROJECTS .....	2
GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level .....	2
Papers 8660/01 and 8660/02 Papers 1 and 2.....	2

## FOREWORD

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This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

# RESEARCH PROJECTS

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## GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Papers 8660/01 and 8660/02  
Papers 1 and 2

### General comments

The quality of Research Projects varied greatly, as did their subject matter, and this year focused mostly on History, Literature and Sociology.

In the better ones, there was evidence that the candidates and teachers had read through the 'Guide To Research Projects Booklet' and had applied the advice well. The very best Projects were well focused and based on well researched evidence and primary sources. They were written in an enquiry based manner, and had a well structured argument. The best were well organised, and each section led to a summary comment directed back towards the aims of the work. In the weaker ones, there was less evidence of research and some were merely descriptive accounts with much of the material lifted from standard textbooks; this should be avoided.

The high scoring Research Projects showed well documented and critical use of references and source material, but in the weaker ones clear reference to, and acknowledgment of, sources used as evidence was lacking.

Centres wishing to submit Research Projects are directed to the 'Guidance on Research Projects Booklet' and the advice contained in it. The Research Projects are best when the focus is narrow and there is a clearly stated aim or question to be answered. Centres are also requested to follow the administrative procedures detailed in the booklet, as this makes life easier for both CIE and the Centres, allows problems to be corrected at an early stage, and avoids candidates submitting work that does not meet the criteria.

All the Research Projects were well presented and obviously showed a lot of work and effort had gone into them; the Examiners enjoyed reading through them and were pleased at the variety of stimulating subjects covered.