

Cambridge O Level

HISTORY

2147/13

Paper 1 Structured Questions

May/June 2026

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total:
 - Section A (Core content): answer **two** questions.
 - Section B (Depth studies): answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A: Core content

Answer **two** questions from this section.

Option A: The nineteenth century

- 1 In 1848, revolutions took place across Europe.
 - (a) Describe the part played by Pope Pius IX in events in Italy in 1848. [4]
 - (b) Why did the French National Assembly turn to Cavaignac in June 1848? [6]
 - (c) Which was more important in the 1848 revolutions: liberalism or nationalism? Explain your answer. [10]

- 2 Between 1848 and 1871, the road to German unification was not always a smooth one.
 - (a) Describe the dispute over the Spanish Succession. [4]
 - (b) Why did the Frankfurt Parliament fail? [6]
 - (c) 'The Austro-Prussian War was the most important factor in bringing about the unification of Germany.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 3 Imperialism had a significant impact in many parts of the world.
 - (a) Describe the events of the Spanish–American war of 1898. [4]
 - (b) Why were changes made to British rule in India in the second half of the nineteenth century? [6]
 - (c) 'The impact of European imperialism in Africa was the same whichever the colonial power was.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 4 Both Germany and Russia played important parts in international relations in the period before 1914.
 - (a) What was the Algeciras Conference? [4]
 - (b) Why did Germany increase its military spending in the period 1890 to 1914? [6]
 - (c) 'Russia was responsible for the outbreak of the First World War.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Option B: The twentieth century

- 5** The League of Nations had some successes in dealing with the challenges it faced.
- (a) Describe Italian actions in Abyssinia from 1934 to 1936. [4]
- (b) Why was the United States' absence from the League important? [6]
- (c) How far were the most important achievements of the League to be found in its humanitarian work? Explain your answer. [10]
- 6** Britain kept a careful watch on Germany's foreign policy in the 1930s.
- (a) What was Britain's policy of appeasement? [4]
- (b) Why did Hitler start to rearm Germany as soon as he came to power? [6]
- (c) Which was more important: Germany's invasion of Czechoslovakia in March 1939 or its invasion of Poland in September 1939? Explain your answer. [10]
- 7** The United States was not always successful in its actions against communism.
- (a) Describe the events of the Korean War. [4]
- (b) Why did Kennedy launch the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961? [6]
- (c) 'The United States withdrew from Vietnam because of media coverage of the war.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 8** Between 1948 and 1989, the Soviet Union regularly came under pressure in Eastern Europe.
- (a) Describe the impact Gorbachev had on the USSR's relations with countries in Eastern Europe. [4]
- (b) Why was there opposition to Soviet control in Czechoslovakia in 1968? [6]
- (c) 'Events in Hungary in 1956 were more serious for the USSR than events in Poland in 1980–81.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Section B: Depth studies

Answer **one** question from this section.

Depth study A: The First World War, 1914–18

- 9** By the end of 1914, there was stalemate on the Western Front.
- (a) What was the British Expeditionary Force? [4]
 - (b) Why was the First Battle of the Marne important? [6]
 - (c) How important was the impact of new types of weapons in the war? Explain your answer. [10]
- 10** The Allies had setbacks during the First World War.
- (a) Describe the tactics used to defeat the U-boat threat. [4]
 - (b) Why was Russia defeated in the First World War? [6]
 - (c) 'The Gallipoli campaign was **not** an important factor in the First World War.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Depth study B: Germany, 1918–45

- 11** German democracy survived from 1918 to 1933.
- (a) Describe the main features of the Weimar Constitution. [4]
 - (b) Why was the German Republic established in 1918? [6]
 - (c) 'The Weimar Republic achieved little.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 12** Hitler's fortunes changed dramatically over time.
- (a) What was the Night of the Long Knives? [4]
 - (b) Why was Hitler able to become Chancellor in 1933? [6]
 - (c) 'The Munich Putsch was a disaster for the Nazis.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Depth study C: Russia, 1905–41

13 The actions of individuals were key to the events from 1905 to 1917.

(a) Who was Stolypin? [4]

(b) Why did the Tsar issue the October Manifesto in 1905? [6]

(c) How far was the Tsarina Alexandra to blame for the March Revolution? Explain your answer. [10]

14 Once Stalin was in power, he was determined to stay there.

(a) Describe Soviet propaganda in the period 1928 to 1941. [4]

(b) Why did Stalin use the Purges? [6]

(c) 'Stalin became leader because he was more cunning than Trotsky.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Depth study D: The United States, 1919–41

15 The Wall Street Crash and its consequences affected all of the United States.

(a) What was the Wall Street Crash of 1929? [4]

(b) Why did the Wall Street Crash have serious economic consequences? [6]

(c) 'Hoover did almost nothing to help the American people during the Depression.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

16 There was much disagreement about the First New Deal.

(a) What was the Agricultural Adjustment Administration? [4]

(b) Why did Roosevelt think that a second New Deal was needed? [6]

(c) 'The opposition to the New Deal came from those who thought the government should **not** be interfering with business.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Depth study E: The Second World War in Europe and the Asia–Pacific, 1939–c.1945

- 17** Germany had some successes and some setbacks in 1940.
- (a) Describe German military successes in Western Europe up to June 1940. [4]
 - (b) Why was the Vichy government established in 1940? [6]
 - (c) 'Germany did **not** invade Britain in 1940 because of the Battle of Britain.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 18** Civilians were involved in the Second World War in different ways.
- (a) Describe how the Japanese controlled people in Malaya. [4]
 - (b) Why did the Germans carry out the Blitz in 1940–41? [6]
 - (c) 'The French Resistance was **not** very effective.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

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