Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

HISTORY **9489/21**

Paper 2 Outline Study **May/June 2025**

1 hour 45 minutes

5957633298

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions from **one** section only.
  - Section A: European option
  - Section B: American option
  - Section C: International option
- 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 **4** pages.

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Answer **two** questions from **one** section only.

Section A: European option

Modern Europe, 1750–1921

1 France, 1774–1814

(a) Explain why Napoleon was able to establish order in France after 1799. [10]

(b) To what extent were Robespierre and the Jacobins responsible for political instability in France in the period 1790–94? [20]

2 The Industrial Revolution in Britain, 1750–1850

(a) Explain why cooperative societies began to develop after 1800. [10]

(b) ‘The main cause of industrial growth was the slave trade.’ How far do you agree? [20]

3 The Russian Revolution, 1894–1921

(a) Explain why Witte’s industrial reforms were a success. [10]

(b) ‘Lenin’s leadership was the reason for Bolshevik success in October 1917.’ How far do you agree? [20]

Section B: American option

The history of the USA, 1820–1941

4 Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861–77

(a) Explain why by 1864 the Union had changed its strategy to a war of attrition. [10]

(b) How far do you agree that the main aim of Radical Reconstruction was to rebuild the Southern economy? [20]

5 The Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 1870s–1920

(a) Explain why successive US governments took little action to limit private corporations. [10]

(b) How important were the railroads to the industrialisation of the USA? [20]

6 The Great Crash, the Great Depression and the New Deal policies, 1920–41

(a) Explain why many banks failed after the Great Crash. [10]

(b) ‘Roosevelt won the 1936 presidential election because he was seen as the champion of the “have-nots”.’ How far do you agree? [20]

Section C: International option

International history, 1870–1945

7 Empire and the emergence of world powers, 1870–1919

(a) Explain why there was a conference of European powers in Berlin in 1884–85. [10]

(b) To what extent had the USA abandoned an isolationist foreign policy by 1914? [20]

8 The League of Nations and international relations in the 1920s

(a) Explain why France and Belgium took control of the Ruhr in 1923. [10]

(b) ‘The League of Nations carried out its work successfully in the 1920s.’ How far do you agree? [20]

9 China and Japan, 1912–45

(a) Explain why the Manchu dynasty was removed from power in 1912. [10]

(b) ‘The Nanjing Decade (1928–37) was a period of success for the Kuomintang.’ How far do you agree? [20]