



# Cambridge International AS & A Level

---

## HISTORY

9489/21

Paper 2 Outline Study

May/June 2025

1 hour 45 minutes



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.

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]

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge Assessment International Education Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at [www.cambridgeinternational.org](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org) after the live examination series.

Cambridge Assessment International Education is part of Cambridge Assessment. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is a department of the University of Cambridge.