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Pearson Edexcel
International
Advanced Level

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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History

International Advanced

Paper 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

Option 1B: The World in Crisis, 1879–1945

Friday 16 June 2017 – Morning

Time: 2 hours

Paper Reference

WHI04/1B

You must have:

Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** How far do you agree with the view that the outbreak of war in Europe in 1914 was a result of the alliance system developed by the great powers?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(25)

[Dotted lines for writing the answer]

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

- 2** How accurate is it to say that the peace treaties of the Versailles Settlement (1919–23) produced a period of peaceful international relations in the years 1923–33?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3** How far do you agree that the British and American contribution was more significant than the Russian contribution to the defeat of Germany in the Second World War?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2** **Question 3**

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



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Pearson Edexcel
International Advanced Level

History

International Advanced
Paper 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations
Option 1B: The World in Crisis, 1879–1945

Friday 16 June 2017 – Morning
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Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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Extracts for use with Section A.

Extract 1: From B E Schmitt, *The Origins of the First World War*, published in 1958.

From the 1870s to 1914, the peace of Europe was maintained by the combination of alliances and armaments. In 1914, what was at stake was the balance of power in Europe for an indefinite time ahead, and the governments were more ready for war than they had been in any previous crisis. Austria-Hungary and Germany insisted on a military solution to the Serbian problem, and clearly wished to upset the *status quo*. Russia, France and Britain were ready to tolerate a diplomatic humiliation of Serbia but not its military conquest. While Russia, France and Britain were not committed to the *status quo*, they were unwilling to see it altered without their consent. Thus the alliances, which had originally served the cause of peace, when put to the final test, almost mechanically operated to convert a local conflict into a general war. Likewise, the great armaments had helped to keep the peace as long as they were not used. But as soon as one power, in order to reinforce its diplomacy, began to mobilise, its action made military men everywhere nervous. No military command was willing to allow a rival to get a head start by mobilising first.

Extract 2: From A J P Taylor, *The Struggle for Mastery in Europe 1848–1918*, published in 1954.

It would be wrong to exaggerate the rigidity of the system of alliances or to regard the European war as inevitable. No war is inevitable until it breaks out. In 1914, the existing alliances were all precarious. Italy was only the extreme example – renewing the Triple Alliance and making exaggerated promises of military support to Germany on one side; seeking to negotiate a Mediterranean agreement with France and Great Britain on the other. In France, the Russian alliance was increasingly unpopular. In June 1914, the British government at last reached agreement with Germany over the Baghdad Railway; the French had already done so. Both seemed to be taking sides with Germany against Russia in the great question of Turkey-in-Asia. The Russians had every reason to be dissatisfied with their position. Plenty of Germans knew the ring of alliances around them was not solid.

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