

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname

Other names

Pearson Edexcel
International
Advanced Level

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Monday 25 January 2021

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper Reference **WHI04/1B**

History

International Advanced

Paper 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

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

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 general war in Europe in August 1914 was due to the military planning of the European Great Powers?

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

(25)

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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 far do you agree that gaining the support of Italy was the most significant diplomatic achievement of Britain and France during the First World War?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3** To what extent were the foreign policy of Hitler, in the years 1933–41, and the foreign policy of Mussolini, in the years 1933–41, similar?

(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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Extracts Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Extracts for use with Section A.

Extract 1: From P Kennedy, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers: Economic Change and Military Conflict from 1500 to 2000*, published in 1987.

The decision by the Great Powers to go to war in 1914 was affected by the existing military plans. From 1909 onwards the Germans committed themselves to Austria-Hungary, not just diplomatically but militarily. Furthermore, the German military plan involved an immediate and massive assault upon France through Belgium, whatever the specific cause of the war. 5
Austro-Hungarian military planning was less certain but the determination to get a first strike in at Serbia was growing. Aided by French funds, Russia pledged itself to an ever-swifter mobilisation and westward strike if war should come. In 1911, the French adopted the famous Plan XVII. British intervention in Europe in the event of a German attack upon Belgium and France became increasingly more likely. 10

In each of the military commands, there was the unquestioned assumption that, as soon as a clash seemed likely, it was vital to mobilise one's own forces before the enemy had a chance to do the same. This was especially true in Germany but the same sort of thinking was found elsewhere. If, and when, a really great crisis occurred, the diplomats were not going to have much time before the strategic military planners took over. 15

Extract 2: From G Sheffield, *A Short History of the First World War*, published in 2014.

The idea that civilian leaders were pressurised into war by the rigid military plans of over-eager generals does not stand up to scrutiny. German and Austro-Hungarian generals had been urging war for some years. However, it was only in the summer of 1914 that their noisy demands finally coincided with the decisions of the politicians to go to war. The German and Austro-Hungarian generals were far more influential than the military in France, Russia and Britain but their views were not decisive in influencing the deliberations of the political decision-makers in Berlin and Vienna in favour of war. 20 25

The First World War came about because key individuals in Austria-Hungary and Germany took conscious decisions to achieve foreign policy objectives, even at the cost of conflict with Russia and France. The responses of Russia, France and eventually Britain to the events in July and August 1914 were essentially reactive and defensive. The actions of the Great Powers in previous Balkan crises strongly suggest that, had the Austrians and Germans wished it, the international community could have resolved the crisis of summer 1914. On this occasion, however, Austria-Hungary and Germany wanted war. The outbreak of war was a crime committed by the political leaders of two aggressor states. 30 35