



HISTORY
ROUTE 1
HIGHER LEVEL AND STANDARD LEVEL
PAPER 2

Tuesday 11 May 2010 (afternoon)

1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different Topic.
- Questions in this paper must be answered with reference to events and developments in medieval Europe and the Islamic world.

Topic 1: Dynasties and rulers

1. Assess the importance of religion for laws issued in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
2. Analyse the successes and failures of **either** Charlemagne (768–814), **or** Harun al-Rashid (786–809).
3. For what reasons, and with what results, did the Abbasid caliphs lose control of their Empire?
4. Examine the methods used by **one** medieval European ruler to consolidate and expand his/her authority.
5. How effective was the rule of **either** Henry II of England (1154–1189), **or** ‘Abd al-Rahman III of Spain (912–961)?
6. “Medieval European and Islamic rulers faced a number of challenges to their power and control of their domains.” With reference to **either one** medieval European ruler **or one** Islamic ruler, analyse (a) the major challenges to their power and authority, and (b) how effective they were in overcoming these challenges.

Topic 2: Society and economy

7. Assess the role of religious scholars in the Islamic world.
8. Discuss the significance of pilgrimage in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
9. Compare and contrast the impact of **two** cities in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
10. “Women played a crucial, though often overlooked role in the medieval European economy.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
11. Analyse the nature and development of trade in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world prior to 1450.
12. For what reasons, and in what ways, did religious institutions influence society in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world?

Topic 3: Wars and warfare

13. Account for Muslim success in the seventh century wars of conquest.
14. Analyse the reasons for the success of Nur al-Din against the Crusader States.
15. “Religion was more a convenient excuse than a principal reason for wars in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
16. Compare and contrast the social and economic impact of **two** wars.
17. For what reasons, and with what results, were England and France at war between 1154 and 1204?
18. Analyse the importance, in the period you have studied, of **two** of the following: castles; siege warfare; weapons and armour; mercenaries.

Topic 4: Intellectual, cultural and artistic developments

19. Assess the impact of the study of Islamic religious texts on the development of science and learning in the Islamic world.
20. Explain the importance and impact of **one** of the following figures: al-Ma’arri (973–1057); Umar Khayyam (1048–c1131); Dante Alighieri (1265–1321); Geoffery Chaucer (c1340–c1400).
21. Analyse the contributions to the intellectual development of the Islamic world of **either** Ibn Sina (Avicenna) (980–1037) **or** Ibn ‘Arabi (1165–1240).
22. By what methods, and with what results, was classical knowledge transmitted to medieval Europe?
23. Evaluate the contribution of **one** Christian scholar to medieval European learning.
24. Discuss the influence of religious buildings on artistic and cultural developments in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.

Topic 5: Religion and the state

25. In what ways, and for what reasons, did the Sunni/Shia divide affect **one** country in the Islamic world?
 26. Assess the role of clerics in government and administration in medieval Europe.
 27. For what reasons, and with what results, did relations change between Muslim states and Sufism?
 28. Compare and contrast the contributions of Francis of Assisi (c1182–1226) and Dominic Guzman (1170–1221) to medieval religious life.
 29. By what methods, and with what results, did **either** Gregory VII (1073–1085) **or** Gregory IX (1227–1241) seek to expand papal power?
 30. Analyse religious persecution in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
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