

Markscheme

November 2015

History route 2

Higher level and standard level

**Paper 1 – the Arab–Israeli conflict
1945–1979**

6 pages

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For the attention of all examiners: if you are uncertain about the content/accuracy of a candidate's work please contact your team leader.

1. (a) What, according to Source B, was the attitude of Ariel Sharon towards Israel's boundaries? [3]

- The West Bank should be within Israel's boundaries, with the River Jordan as Israel's eastern border;
- The number of Jewish settlements within Israel's boundaries should be increased;
- Israel's security requires the retention of land beyond the coastal strip – otherwise Israel would be a mere strip of concrete within range of Arab guns.
- Israelis had the right to settle on the West Bank (Judea and Samaria were an inseparable part of Israel);
- Sharon regards occupation of the West Bank as a continuation of the long-standing Zionist settlement drive.

Award [1] for each relevant point up to a maximum of [3].

(b) What is the message conveyed by Source C? [2]

- President Carter's jubilation, as shown by his huge grin, at having achieved a tremendously difficult task;
- The role of the US in bringing Sadat and Begin together, by reference either to the dollar pyramid or to the rein attached to the camel;
- The disapproval of the hovering Arab birds, which could be referred to as hawks. Some might refer to the birds as vultures lying in wait. This would demonstrate that the agreement is doomed to failure;
- The agreement between the Arabs and Israelis was a huge and improbable achievement, as shown by the nearly impossible procedure involved in pushing a camel through a needle;
- Carter's exclamation to the statue of Einstein shows that he (Carter) considered his achievement to be a greater triumph than Einstein's development of the Relativity theory.

Award [1] for each valid point up to a maximum of [2].

2. Compare and contrast the views expressed in Sources A and D about Arab-Israeli relations in the period after the end of the October War of 1973. **[6]**

For “compare”

- Both sources indicate that the issue of Israel’s control of the territories occupied since 1967 and the question of the establishment of a self-governing Palestinian state were a source of contention;
- Both sources show Israel’s unwillingness to concede everything that Egypt wanted – Israel was a less willing participant in the peacemaking process;
- Both sources agree that Egypt was concerned to regain territory that had been lost to Israel;
- Both sources take the view that efforts were made to improve relations between Egypt and Israel;
- Both sources express ideas about autonomy for the Palestinians.

For “contrast”

- Source D takes a longer-term view of Arab-Israeli relations whereas Source A deals only with Egypt’s aspiration in 1977;
- Source D shows that both sides were prepared to make concessions whereas Source A only indicates that Egypt was prepared to participate in a discussion without any indication that concessions would be made;
- Source D assigns some significance to the role of the US in achieving reconciliation whereas Source A places virtually exclusive emphasis upon the contributions of Egypt and Israel;
- Despite the negative nature of Source D’s final paragraph, the Source paints a rosier picture of Arab-Israeli relations, in contrast to the more combative nature of Sadat’s comments in Source A;
- The sources disagree in their view of Israel’s control of Arab territory. Source A states that “Israel cannot prevent me from claiming ...”, whereas Source D states that “Begin had no intention ...”.

Do not demand all of the above. If only one source is discussed award a maximum of [2]. If the two sources are discussed separately award [3] or with excellent linkage [4–5]. For maximum [6] expect a detailed running comparison/contrast.

3. With reference to their origin and purpose, assess the value and limitations of Source A and Source E for historians studying Arab-Israeli relations in the period 1973 to 1979. **[6]**

Source A

Origin: Extract from Egyptian President Sadat's speech to the Egyptian National Assembly, 9 November 1977.

Purpose: To indicate and justify his intention to negotiate with Israel.

Value: Sadat is giving a clear indication of official Egyptian policy. The source's immediacy – it gives a direct insight into the Egyptian attitude at that time.

Limitations: The speech is for public consumption, so it may not be an accurate indication of Sadat's real motives. The source's immediacy means that it cannot explain what happened subsequently. The source's origin means that it can only give a one-sided picture of Arab-Israeli relations.

Source E

Origin: A professor of Middle Eastern Studies writing in an academic book in 2005.

Purpose: To outline and analyse relations between Israel and Palestine and to present the author's findings to an academic audience.

Value: An academic viewpoint from a specialist in Middle Eastern Studies. Hindsight – the date of the book's publication (2005), 26 years after the period being considered, makes it likely that the author had access to materials that were not available at the time.

Limitations: The book's title suggests that it deals mainly with the relationship between Israel and Palestine, rather than Israel's dealings with the broader Arab world. Also the title suggests that it is considering the relationship across decades, and therefore it is unlikely to go into depth on the precise period 1973 to 1979.

Do not expect all of the above. Ideally there will be a balance between the two sources, and each one can be marked out of [3], but allow a [4/2] split. If only one source is assessed, mark out of [4]. For a maximum of [6] candidates must refer to both origin and purpose, and value and limitations.

4. Using the sources and your own knowledge, to what extent do you think that there had been progress in resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict between 1973 and 1979? **[8]**

Source material

- Source A This source demonstrates Sadat's determination to have peace talks with Israel, rather than risking more bloodshed. It also suggests that the prospects for peace were bleak – not only is Israel shown as having an obstructive approach but also Egypt appears to be insisting upon massive concessions from Israel.
- Source B This source explains Sharon's argument that Israeli retention of the West Bank was essential for Israel's security, and that the pace of settlement establishment should be stepped up.
- Source C The cartoon suggests that Carter believed he had achieved the impossible by getting agreement between Sadat and Begin. It also shows a bounteous application of the US dollar to both sides in order to encourage the peace process. However, the Arab hawks look angry and disapproving. Or – if the birds are vultures – it suggests that the prospects for peace are not good.
- Source D This source shows that both Sadat and Begin met with opposition to the concessions agreed in Camp David and the Peace Treaty. On the other hand, most Egyptians and most Israelis were content. One source of contention – Israeli access to the Suez Canal and to the Gulf of Aqaba – was removed. But Begin was not prepared to give up the Gaza Strip or the West Bank. Increased Israeli settlement activity meant that talks regarding the establishment of Palestinian self-government were suspended. Also the US had preoccupations elsewhere in the world.
- Source E This source indicates that the PLO hardliners rejected the setting up of a Palestinian state on the West Bank – they believed that this would become permanent, ending any chance of recovering all Palestine. The moderates were prepared to support such a state as a means of getting the Israeli army out of the West Bank and Gaza – this, they believed, would establish the principle of Palestinian autonomy. In 1974 the Palestine National Council adopted a compromise between these two positions.

Own knowledge

The October 1973 War marked yet another low point in the Arab–Israeli conflict. In January 1974 Egypt and Israel agreed on a disengagement of forces, likewise Syria and Israel in May 1974. November 1974 – the Arab states, in a summit meeting, agreed to recognize the PLO as the “sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people”. Also the PLO was granted UN observer status. In September 1975 Israel withdrew from Sinai, and in November 1977 Sadat went to Israel and spoke before the Israeli Knesset. In March 1978 Israel launched an invasion of Lebanon as far as the Litani River in order to destroy PLO infrastructure in south Lebanon. In September 1978 President Carter mediated an Egyptian-Israeli agreement on a framework for peace, and this led to the Egyptian-Israeli bilateral peace treaty, signed on 26 March 1979. Five days later Egypt was expelled from the Arab League because of the unpopularity of its settlement with Israel. Reference could be made to the Cold War context.

*Do not expect all of the above, and accept other relevant material. If only source material or only own knowledge is used, the maximum mark that can be obtained is **[5]**. For maximum **[8]** expect argument, synthesis of source material and own knowledge, as well as references to the sources used.*