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History

Higher level

Paper 3 – history of Europe

6 May 2025

Zone A morning | Zone B morning | Zone C morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer any three questions.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section 1: Monarchies in England and France (1066–1223)

1. To what extent did Henry I extend the authority of the monarchy?
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the methods used by Richard I and John to retain Normandy.

Section 2: Muslims and Jews in medieval Europe (1095–1492)

3. To what extent was fear of Muslim power the main reason for Christian hostility towards Muslims?
4. Evaluate the most significant contributions of Jews in medieval Europe.

Section 3: Late medieval political crises (1300–1487)

5. To what extent was poor leadership the main reason for English defeat in the Hundred Years War (1415–1453)?
6. “The War of the Public Weal was the main challenge to the authority of Louis XI.” Discuss.

Section 4: The Renaissance (c1400–1600)

7. Discuss the impact of political writings on Renaissance government and society.
8. Compare and contrast the Northern Renaissance in Burgundy and Germany.

Section 5: The Age of Exploration and its impact (1400–1550)

9. To what extent were technological advances the most important factor in the expansion of European exploration?
10. Evaluate the impact of the “Columbian Exchange” on Europe up to 1550.

Section 6: Aspects of the Reformation (c1500–1563)

11. Evaluate the impact of Erasmus on the Reformation.
12. To what extent did the Catholic Church reform clerical education and discipline in response to the Reformation?

Section 7: Absolutism and Enlightenment (1650–1800)

13. “The Scientific Revolution was the most significant cause of the Enlightenment.” Discuss.
14. Compare and contrast the nature of the rule of any **two** absolutist monarchs.

Section 8: The French Revolution and Napoleon I (1774–1815)

15. “Economic factors were the most significant immediate cause of the French Revolution in 1789.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
16. “The nature of the Directory’s government was not revolutionary.” Discuss.

Section 9: France (1815–1914)

17. “The principle of legitimacy was the most significant reason for the Bourbon restoration.” Discuss.
18. Evaluate the impact of the Dreyfus affair on French society and politics.

Section 10: Society, politics and economy in Britain and Ireland (1815–1914)

19. “The Peterloo massacre did little to alter political attitudes up to 1830.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
20. To what extent did the Labour Party have a significant impact on British politics up to 1914?

Section 11: Italy (1815–1871) and Germany (1815–1890)

21. To what extent was support for Italian nationalism a cause of the 1848–1849 Revolutions in Italy?
22. “The decline of Austria between 1815 and 1866 was largely the result of internal weakness.” Discuss.

Section 12: Imperial Russia, revolution and the establishment of the Soviet Union (1855–1924)

23. To what extent were decisions made by Nicholas II between 1905 and 1917 the most significant factor in the collapse of Tsarism?
24. “Effective leadership was the main reason for Bolshevik victory in the Russian Civil War (1917–1921).” Discuss.

Section 13: Europe and the First World War (1871–1918)

25. To what extent did imperial expansion in Africa and Asia have an impact on European diplomacy up to 1890?
26. Examine the social effects of the First World War on civilian populations in **two** countries.

Section 14: Inter-war domestic developments in European states (1918–1939)

27. Discuss the main factors that enabled Hitler to fully consolidate his power by August 1934.
28. Evaluate the main reasons for the collapse of Primo de Rivera’s regime in 1930.

Section 15: Diplomacy in Europe (1919–1945)

29. To what extent was Germany treated fairly in the Treaty of Versailles (1919)?
30. Examine the reasons why Britain and France followed a policy of appeasement during the 1930s.

Section 16: The Soviet Union and post-Soviet Russia (1924–2000)

31. “Stalin won the struggle for power (1924–1929) mainly because of his political skills.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

32. To what extent were Gorbachev’s policies of *glasnost* (openness) and *perestroika* (restructuring) successful between 1985 and 1991?

Section 17: Post-war western and northern Europe (1945–2000)

33. Evaluate the reasons for the reunification of Germany in 1990.

34. “There was significant economic development in Spain from 1945 to 1975.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 18: Post-war central and eastern Europe (1945–2000)

35. Evaluate the impact of COMECON on states under Soviet control in central and eastern Europe between 1949 and 1955.

 36. Discuss the reasons for, and the results of, the uprising (the Prague Spring) in Czechoslovakia in 1968.
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