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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. “Mazzini’s ideas were a key factor in the growth of Italian nationalism up to 1849.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
22. “Economic factors were the main reason for the rise of Prussia between 1815 and 1866.” Discuss.

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

23. “Economic and social problems were the most significant reasons for the February/March 1917 Revolution.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
24. “The effective leadership of Trotsky won the civil war (1917–1921) for the Bolsheviks.” Discuss.

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

25. To what extent did the changing balance of power in Europe have an impact on European diplomacy between 1871 and 1890?
26. Evaluate the impact of the First World War on civilian populations in any **two** countries between 1914 and 1918.

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

27. To what extent did the Nazis have total control in Germany between 1933 and 1939?
28. Evaluate the contribution of Franco’s leadership to nationalist victory in the Spanish Civil War in 1939.

Section 15: Diplomacy in Europe (1919–1945)

29. To what extent were St Germain (1919) and Trianon (1920) harsh treaties?
30. “The policy of appeasement was a failure.” Discuss.

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

31. Evaluate the political and social impact of the purges and the Great Terror in the Soviet Union.
32. To what extent did Gorbachev's reforms lead to the collapse of the Soviet Union in 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 reasons for the establishment of COMECON in 1949.
 36. Discuss the reasons for, and the results of, the Hungarian Revolution in 1956.
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