



Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)

HISTORY

0977/12

Paper 1

May/June 2021

2 hours

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total:
 - Section A (Core Content): answer **two** questions.
 - Section B (Depth Studies): answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **12** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

SECTION A: CORE CONTENT

Answer any **two** questions from this Section.

- 1** In 1848 there was unrest across much of Europe.
- (a) Describe how Frederick William IV reacted to unrest in Berlin in 1848. [4]
 - (b) Why were there challenges to the existing regimes in Italy in 1848? [6]
 - (c) How important were the revolutions of 1848? Explain your answer. [10]
- 2** The USA faced problems both before and after the Civil War.
- (a) Describe what happened at Harpers Ferry in 1859. [4]
 - (b) Why was Reconstruction not successful? [6]
 - (c) How important was slavery as a cause of the Civil War? Explain your answer. [10]
- 3** In the nineteenth century European countries were active in Africa, China and India.
- (a) What were the beliefs of the Boxers? [4]
 - (b) Why was the Congo important to Leopold II? [6]
 - (c) 'The Indian Mutiny achieved little.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 4** Tensions in Europe grew worse in the years before 1914.
- (a) Describe German colonial policy in the period 1890 to 1914. [4]
 - (b) Why were events in the Balkans in 1912–13 important? [6]
 - (c) 'Germany was reluctant to go to war in 1914.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 5 The League of Nations failed to live up to expectations.
- (a) Describe how the Assembly and the Council of the League were meant to work. [4]
 - (b) Why was the League's failure over Corfu important? [6]
 - (c) 'The League's lack of an army explains its failure in the 1930s.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 6 Germany grew in strength during the 1930s.
- (a) Describe what happened in the Saar in 1935. [4]
 - (b) Why was Anschluss important to Hitler? [6]
 - (c) Are you surprised that Britain and France declared war on Germany in September 1939? Explain your answer. [10]
- 7 The USA had an interventionist foreign policy in the 1950s and 1960s.
- (a) Describe the tactics used by the Vietcong. [4]
 - (b) Why was the Tet Offensive important for the USA? [6]
 - (c) Which was more important for the USA, its involvement in Korea or the Cuban Missile Crisis? Explain your answer. [10]
- 8 After decades of problems in parts of Eastern Europe, Soviet control finally collapsed.
- (a) Describe how the Soviet Union responded to the uprising in Hungary in 1956. [4]
 - (b) Why was it important for the Soviet Union to stop Dubček's reform programme in Czechoslovakia? [6]
 - (c) Are you surprised that Gorbachev made little effort to defend Soviet power in Eastern Europe? Explain your answer. [10]

SECTION B: DEPTH STUDIES

Answer any **one** question from this Section.

DEPTH STUDY A: THE FIRST WORLD WAR, 1914–18

- 9** There were important developments in the first year of the war.
- (a) Describe events in Belgium in 1914. [4]
 - (b) Why did trench warfare present both sides with difficulties? [6]
 - (c) 'The Battle of Mons was more important than the first Battle of the Marne.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 10** Events in 1917–18 determined the outcome of the war.
- (a) Describe the events that led to the USA entering the war. [4]
 - (b) Why did mutiny break out at Kiel and Wilhelmshaven in 1918? [6]
 - (c) Are you surprised that the Germans launched the Ludendorff Offensive in 1918? Explain your answer. [10]

DEPTH STUDY B: GERMANY, 1918–45

- 11** Hitler's rise to power was caused by several factors.
- (a) Describe how Hitler took advantage of the Reichstag Fire. [4]
 - (b) Why was the Depression important to the Nazis? [6]
 - (c) 'The Munich Putsch was a disaster for the Nazis.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 12** The Nazis did as much as they could to try and ensure they faced little opposition.
- (a) Describe how the Nazis used the mass media. [4]
 - (b) Why was Kristallnacht important? [6]
 - (c) 'There was no effective opposition to the Nazi regime.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

DEPTH STUDY C: RUSSIA, 1905–41

13 Nicholas II survived as Tsar in 1905, but not in 1917.

- (a) What problems faced the Tsar's government at the beginning of the twentieth century? [4]
- (b) Why did the Tsar abdicate in March 1917? [6]
- (c) 'The Tsar survived the 1905 Revolution because of his repressive policies.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

14 Stalin was determined to modernise Russia.

- (a) Describe the experiences of ethnic minorities under Stalin. [4]
- (b) Why was developing heavy industry important for Stalin's plans? [6]
- (c) 'The kulaks suffered the most from Stalin's economic policies.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

DEPTH STUDY D: THE UNITED STATES, 1919–41

- 15** Not everyone prospered in the USA during the 1920s.
- (a) Describe the experiences of American farmers during the 1920s. [4]
 - (b) Why did traditional industries struggle in the 1920s? [6]
 - (c) 'Republican governments were responsible for the boom in America in the 1920s.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 16** The USA went through some very difficult times in the 1920s and 1930s.
- (a) Describe the campaign run by Roosevelt in the 1932 presidential election. [4]
 - (b) Why did many people blame Hoover for the hardship caused by the Depression? [6]
 - (c) 'It was long-term weaknesses in the American economy that led to the Wall Street Crash.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

DEPTH STUDY E: CHINA, c.1930–c.1990

- 17** The 1950s and 1960s were periods of great change for China.
- (a) Describe how the Communists tried to destroy the traditional culture of China. [4]
 - (b) Why were communes introduced by the Communists? [6]
 - (c) 'Mao's social reforms were more important to the people of China than his industrial reforms.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 18** China's external relations were unpredictable.
- (a) Describe relations between China and India during the period 1950 to 1970. [4]
 - (b) Why did China not recognise Taiwan as an independent state? [6]
 - (c) 'China's relations with the USA were better than those with the USSR during the period 1950 to 1976.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

DEPTH STUDY F: SOUTH AFRICA, c.1940–c.1994

- 19** Both the enforcement of apartheid and resistance to it increased in the years up to 1966.
- (a) What happened in the 1948 election? [4]
 - (b) Why was the Bantu Education Act of 1953 passed? [6]
 - (c) 'The African National Congress (ANC) was effective as a resistance organisation up to 1966.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 20** It took a long time for South African politicians of different parties to work together.
- (a) Describe the activities of the Inkatha Freedom Party in the early 1990s. [4]
 - (b) Why were the policies of P W Botha not successful? [6]
 - (c) 'After his release from prison Mandela was successful in getting white South Africans to work with him.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

DEPTH STUDY G: ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS SINCE 1945

- 21** Wars and their consequences dominated the Middle East.
- (a) What happened in the Suez Crisis of 1956? [4]
 - (b) Why were the consequences of the war of 1967 important? [6]
 - (c) Who gained most from the Yom Kippur War of 1973? Explain your answer. [10]
- 22** Attempts to find a permanent peace in the Middle East have always failed.
- (a) Describe Likud's attitude towards the creation of a Palestinian state. [4]
 - (b) Why did Hamas grow in importance after 1987? [6]
 - (c) 'The Camp David meetings of 1978 achieved more than the Oslo Accords of 1993 and 1995.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

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