



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

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HISTORY

9697/13

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789-1939

October/November 2010

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, index number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.



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SECTION A: THE ORIGINS OF WORLD WAR I, 1870 – 1914

You **must** answer Question 1.

RUSSIA AND GERMANY BEFORE WORLD WAR I

- 1 Read the Sources, and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1**, candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the Sources both individually and as a group.

Source A

Even in peacetime, the Reinsurance Treaty of 1887 between Germany and Russia places us at the mercy of the Russians. The Treaty means that the Russians can, at any time, disrupt our relations with Austria, Italy, Britain and Turkey. The Treaty does not guarantee equal advantages to Germany and Russia. All its advantages go to Russia. France will not attack us without being sure of Russia's cooperation. So the Treaty does not safeguard us from a French attack, but it does grant Russia the right to launch a war against Austria. It prevents us from mounting a war against France. Most important, the Treaty is extremely difficult to reconcile with the German-Austrian alliance. It allows the Russians to determine when a future European war will begin. Given the present signs, it appears somewhat likely that Russia will have an interest in striking soon. It is therefore very doubtful if the Treaty is in the military interests of Germany and our allies.

Memorandum by Count von Berchem, official in the German Foreign Ministry, recommending that the Reinsurance Treaty should not be renewed, 1890.

Source B

At present, Russia is still very much behind with her reorganisation, equipment and arming of her army. For the time being, Germany and its allies should not be afraid of war with Russia, in spite of her superior numbers. But when we look forward into the future, we must keep in mind that Russia will be stronger with every year that passes because of the enormous sums of money that Russia is spending on reorganising her army.

Count Helmuth von Moltke, German Chief of the Military Staff, memorandum to the German government, 1912.

Source C

The Russian Minister for War told me that peace with Germany was urgently desired in Russia. I thought that he was very nervous and anxious. I consider that the Russian wish for peace is genuine and that complete mobilisation has not been ordered although preparatory measures are very extensive. The Russians are obviously trying to gain time for new negotiations and in order to continue to strengthen their army. Also the internal situation in Russia is unmistakably causing anxiety to them.

Major Bernard von Eggeling, German military diplomat in St. Petersburg, report to his government, 26 July 1914.

Source D

Distorted versions of recent events have appeared in the foreign press. Therefore the government has a duty to publish the following brief account of the diplomatic discussions of the period. Russia believes that Austria's demands humiliate Serbia. Russia pointed out to Austria in the most friendly manner that it would be advisable to re-examine its demands. Austria did not agree.

Germany was kept informed of the steps taken by Russia. It was explained to them that Russian mobilisation was only the result of Austria's preparations. It was not in any way aimed at Germany. Russia was ready to continue discussions towards a peaceful settlement of the dispute, either through direct negotiations with Austria or, as suggested by Great Britain, by a conference of the four Great Powers not directly interested: Great Britain, France, Germany, and Italy. This attempt on the part of Russia was equally unsuccessful. Nevertheless Russia did not abandon its efforts for peace.

Announcement by Sazonov, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, 2 August 1914.

Source E

A terrible crisis is breaking over Europe. Since 1871, when we created the German Empire, we have lived in peace and have protected the peace of Europe. We have become strong and powerful, and have therefore aroused the envy of others. People have wrongly claimed that Germany wanted war. Everyone from the Kaiser down to the youngest soldier believed, 'Only in defence of a just cause shall we draw the sword.' The day has now come when we must draw it unwillingly in spite of our sincere efforts. Russia has set fire to Europe. We are at war with Russia and France – a war that they have forced upon us. At the beginning of the Austro-Serbian conflict, we declared that it must be limited to Austria and Serbia, and we worked with this end in view. Other governments, especially Britain, took the same attitude. Russia alone claimed that she had to intervene. Thus the danger of a European crisis is threatening.

As soon as information about military preparations in Russia reached us, we declared to Russia in a friendly but clear manner that military measures against Austria would find us on the side of our ally. Military preparations against Germany would oblige us to take counter-measures, and mobilisation would come very near to actual war. Russia assured us of her desire for peace and declared that she was making no military preparations against us. News suddenly came that Russia had mobilised all of her army and that her mobilisation was directed against Germany. For the sake of the peace of Europe Germany had, until then, deliberately refrained from calling up a single army reservist. Were we now to wait patiently until the nations on either side of us chose the moment for their attack? It would have been a crime to expose Germany to such peril. Therefore, the Kaiser was obliged to mobilise our army.

Speech by Theobald von Bethmann Hollweg, German Chancellor, 4 August 1914.

Now answer the following question.

'Germany's fears of Russia before World War I were fully justified.' Use Sources A-E to show how far the evidence confirms this statement.

SECTION B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

- 2 Why did the summoning of the Estates-General in 1789 not solve the problems of the *ancien régime*?
- 3 Assess the social impact of the Industrial Revolution on Europe to the end of the nineteenth century.
(You should refer to developments in **at least two** of Britain, France and Germany in your answer.)
- 4 Why was Bismarck a successful leader of Prussia during the period from 1862 to 1871?
- 5 Analyse the reasons why the possession of overseas empires was important to major European governments from c.1870 to 1900.
(You should refer to developments in **at least two** of Britain, France and Germany in your answer.)
- 6 How far was Nicholas II personally responsible for the problems of the Tsarist regime in Russia from 1905 to 1914?
- 7 Explain the similarities and differences in the economies of Nazi Germany and the USSR in the 1930s.
- 8 Which was the more significant for nineteenth-century Europe: Liberalism or Imperialism?