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# AS HISTORY

Italy and Fascism, c1900–1945

Component 2L The crisis of Liberal Italy and the Rise of Mussolini, c1900–1926

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Tuesday 22 May 2018      Afternoon      Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

## Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

## Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2L.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

## Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

## Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**

Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

From the Proclamation by the Quadrumvirate giving the order for the March on Rome, 26 October 1922. The Quadrumvirate was a group of fascist leaders, led by Mussolini.

Fascists! Italians!

The time for determined battle has come! Four years ago the Italian Army launched the final offensive, which brought it to victory. Today the army of the Blackshirts again takes possession of that victory, which has been mutilated, and going directly to Rome brings victory again to the glory of that capital. Fascism acknowledges the Army of Vittorio Veneto. Fascism does not march against the police, but against a political class both cowardly and foolish, which in four long years has not been able to give a government to the nation. Fascism wants to impose nothing more than order and discipline upon the nation and to help raise the strength which will renew progress and prosperity.

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**Source B**

From Bruno Palamenghi's diary, March 1924. Palamenghi was a professional soldier in the First World War, becoming a Colonel. He joined the Fascists days before the March on Rome.

Who can forget the state of degeneration to which the masses had been reduced in 1920–22? There were continuous strikes. The railway workers had become absolute masters of the railways. Everything that got dispatched was damaged, wrecked, stolen. Property was not respected. Gangs spread terror in every town, freely carrying out brutality of every kind, robberies, murders and other things. And all this because of the weakness of the governments at that time. Just a few months more of that regime and this beautiful Italy of ours would have been finished. Without the March on Rome Italy would have fallen prey to Bolshevism, anarchy, bankruptcy, poverty, and we would have become the laughing stock and joke of other nations.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining support for fascism in 1922?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2** 'The Libyan war of 1911 had proved to be a disaster for Italy by 1914.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'By 1926 all opposition to Mussolini in Italy had been successfully repressed.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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