



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

HISTORY

9697/11

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789–1939

May/June 2011

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate 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 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.



Section A: The Origins of World War I, 1870–1914

You **must** answer Question 1.

TENSIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND GERMANY, 1870–1914

- 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

Germany's system of spies in France has become so dangerous and extensive that a German spy and his accomplices will surely be shot in the heat of national passion and the long-expected War of Revenge will begin. This is a real danger. According to Paul Lanoir's book, 'The German Spy System in France', Germany's spies have become increasingly active. Until I read this remarkable book, I had little idea of the atrocious mischief that was being caused in my beloved France by these rotten people. The French Ministry of War has plans to deal with these threats. Suspected spies should be found as soon as possible and never let out of sight, by day or night, of the police. An order would be given that their brains should be blown out the moment war was declared.

An article in a popular British magazine, 1910.

Source B

France's European policy is dominated by the idea of revenge against Germany. She makes the most painful sacrifices for this. She has forgotten the hundred years' hostility to Britain. She wishes first to take vengeance for the defeats by Germany in 1870–71, which severely wounded her national pride. She wishes to raise her prestige by a victory over Germany, and to regain her former supremacy in Europe. She wishes to reconquer Alsace and Lorraine. But she feels too weak for an attack on Germany. Her whole foreign policy, in spite of all claims of peace, has the one aim of gaining allies for this attack. This includes her alliance with Russia and her entente with Britain.

France has succeeded in bringing her military strength to approximately the same level as Germany. She has completely outstripped Germany in the sphere of colonial policy. The conclusion is obvious. France will do her best to arouse hostility against us, and to defeat German interests in every part of the world. It must be unthinkable that an agreement between France and Germany can be negotiated before the disagreements between them have been decided once more by war.

Friedrich von Bernhardi, a leading German general, in his book 'Germany and the Next War', written c. 1912.

Source C

The German government wishes to be in a position to meet all possible risks but the danger to France seems greatest to them. Prince Donnersmarck, a prominent man in the German government, said, 'French people are wrong in thinking that Germans want war. But we cannot forget that the 1870 popular opinion forced the French government to make a foolish attack on us before they were ready. Who can guarantee that public opinion, which in France is so easily inflamed, will not force the government to declare war? We wish to protect ourselves against this danger.'

Monsieur de Faramond, French diplomat in Berlin, reporting to the French government, March 1913.

Source D

This is a true account of the events which have unloosed a European war and compelled a peaceful France to defend her frontier against an unexpected attack from Germany. This attack has no excuse. It is the last act of a plan formed long ago. Germany's actions have been frankly hostile towards France. These included the interruption of communications by road, railway, telegraph and telephone, the seizure of French trains at the frontier, the placing of machine guns in the middle of railways and the concentration of troops on the frontier. We no longer believe in the sincerity of Germany's claims to want peace. For two days, German attacks have increased. At more than fifteen points our frontier has been violated. Shots have been fired at our soldiers and Customs Officers. Men have been killed and wounded. Yesterday a German pilot dropped three bombs on Luneville. The German Ambassador did not deny or express his regrets for this.

Rene Viviani, French Prime Minister, speaking to the French Parliament, 4 August 1914.

Source E

We had to mobilise our forces because of the threat from Russia. At the same time we had to make sure of France's attitude. To our direct question, whether she would remain neutral in the event of a war between Russia and Germany, France replied that she would do what her interests demanded. That was an evasion, if not a refusal to answer. In spite of this, the Kaiser ordered that the French frontier was to be unconditionally respected. This order was strictly obeyed with one single exception. France promised us that she would also respect the frontier. What really happened? Aeroplanes dropped bombs. French soldiers appeared on German territory! Though war had not been declared, France broke the peace and actually attacked us. Regarding the one exception on our side, the Chief of the General Staff reports as follows. 'Only one of the French complaints about the crossing of their frontier from our side is justified. Against direct orders, one army patrol crossed the frontier. But long before this isolated instance of crossing the frontier had occurred, French pilots penetrated into Southern Germany and threw bombs on our railway lines. French soldiers attacked our frontier guards at one point. Our troops have remained strictly on the defensive.'

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

Now answer the following question.

'France was more responsible than Germany for the tensions between them from 1870 to 1914.'
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 was Louis XVI executed in 1793?
- 3 How important were the political effects of the Industrial Revolution on Britain and France up to the mid-nineteenth century?
- 4 Who of Cavour, Garibaldi and Mazzini contributed most to the unification of Italy by 1871?
- 5 How far did European countries achieve their aims in the 'New Imperialism' by 1900?
(You should refer to Britain and **at least one** other European country in your answer.)
- 6 Examine the view that the opposition to Nicholas II in Russia had achieved little by 1914.
- 7 Why was Stalin able to establish his dictatorship in Russia?
- 8 Was Nationalism or Marxism the greater danger to governments before 1914?