



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

HISTORY

2158/01

Paper 1 World Affairs, 1917–1991

October/November 2009

2 hours 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

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 diagrams, graphs or rough working.

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

Answer **five** questions.

Section A

Answer at least **one** question from this Section.

Sections B to F

Answer questions from at least **two** of these Sections.

The first part of each question is worth 14 marks and the last part is worth 6 marks. Answer each part of the questions chosen as fully as you can.

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

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **8** printed pages.



Section A

International Relations and Developments

1 Describe:

- (a) the structure of the League of Nations at the time it was created;
- (b) the work of the League of Nations during the 1920s in dealing with international disputes.

Why was the League of Nations less successful during the 1930s?

2 Show how the power of Germany in Europe was affected by the terms of the Treaty of Versailles (1919) and the Treaties of Locarno (1925).

Why was Germany able to increase its power in Europe in the years 1938–39?

3 Describe the main features of the fighting by the United States and its allies against Japan during the Second World War.

Why did the United States continue to be involved in Japan during the years 1945–51?

4 Describe the involvement of the United States in:

- (a) Korea in the 1950s;
- (b) Vietnam in the 1960s.

Why was there increasing criticism of the role of the United States in Vietnam in the late 1960s and early 1970s?

5 Show how each of the following contributed to the tensions of the Cold War in the early 1960s:

- (a) U2 aircraft;
- (b) the Berlin Wall;
- (c) the blockading of Cuba.

To what extent did the 1960s also produce a reduction in Cold War tensions?

6 Outline the attempts that were made in the 1970s and 1980s to reduce:

- (a) the extent of world poverty;
- (b) the spread of nuclear weapons.

How far were these attempts successful?

Section B

Western Europe

7 Describe each of the following features in Italy's history:

- (a) the Fiume episode;
- (b) the March on Rome;
- (c) the Matteotti affair.

Why was Mussolini able to develop his power so successfully in the 1920s?

8 Describe the following features in the history of the Weimar Republic:

- (a) political unrest in 1919–20;
- (b) the occupation of the Ruhr;
- (c) the policies of Stresemann.

Why was the Nazi party able to increase its power in the years 1929–33?

9 Write an account of the history of Spain from the collapse of the monarchy in 1931 to the victory of Franco in 1939.

Explain the divisions that existed in Spanish society during these years.

10 **Either**

(a) Describe **three** of the following features of British history during the years between the two World Wars:

- (i) the coupon election (1918);
- (ii) the Zinoviev letter (1924);
- (iii) the General Strike (1926);
- (iv) the formation of the National government (1931);
- (v) the abdication of Edward VIII (1936).

To what extent during these years did the Liberal party decline and the Labour party grow?

Or

(b) Select **two** of the following British prime ministers since the Second World War and give an account of the domestic and foreign policies he/she pursued as prime minister: Clement Attlee; Anthony Eden; Harold Macmillan; Harold Wilson; Edward Heath; Margaret Thatcher.

Why were the two you have chosen criticised during their time as prime minister?

11 With reference to the Fifth French Republic, outline:

- (a)** the circumstances that led to its creation in 1958;
- (b)** the domestic and foreign policies of Charles de Gaulle as its president.

Why did de Gaulle's popularity decline later in the 1960s?

Section C

The Americas

- 12** Give an account of the main features of social and economic life inside the United States during the time of the Republican presidents of 1921–33.

Why, in the presidential election of 1932, was the Democrat candidate successful?

- 13** Describe each of the following features of United States history during the 1930s:

- (a) the Agricultural Adjustment Act;
- (b) the Tennessee Valley scheme;
- (c) the Works Progress Administration;
- (d) the Wagner Act.

How accurate is the view that, because of his domestic policies in the 1930s, Franklin Roosevelt might be regarded as a great president of the United States?

- 14** With reference to the United States in the late 1940s and the 1950s, outline the main features of:

- (a) the treatment of Alger Hiss and the Rosenbergs;
- (b) the campaigns of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Why was there such strong fear of Communism within the United States during these years?

- 15 Either**

- (a) Give an account of the domestic and foreign policies pursued by Vargas as president of Brazil in the years:

- (i) 1930–45;
- (ii) 1951–54.

Why were the ten years after the death of Vargas in 1954 ones of changing fortunes for Brazil?

Or

- (b) Write an account of the political changes that took place in Argentina from the first election of Peron in 1946 to the fall of Galtieri in 1982.

Why did some of the policies of Argentinian governments during these years evoke strong international concern?

- 16** Describe the circumstances that:

- (a) enabled Richard Nixon to win the presidency in 1968;
- (b) led him to lose the presidency in 1974.

To what extent was he a complete failure as president of the United States?

Section D

The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

17 With reference to the year 1917, outline the events that led to the creation of:

- (a) the Provisional government;
- (b) the Bolshevik government.

Why, during the years 1918–21, was the Bolshevik government able to consolidate its power?

18 Outline the steps taken by Stalin, during the 1930s, to develop within the Soviet Union:

- (a) agriculture;
- (b) industry.

To what extent does Stalin deserve the description 'man of steel' by his style of governing the Soviet Union during the 1930s?

19 Describe each of the following features of the Second World War within the Soviet Union:

- (a) the German advance in 1941;
- (b) the siege of Leningrad;
- (c) the battle of Stalingrad.

How do you explain the eventual victory of the Soviet Union in its conflict with Nazi Germany?

20 Write an account of the main features in the history of Poland from 1944 to 1991.

How important in the course of Polish history during these years was the influence of the Church?

21 Outline the policies pursued by Brezhnev as First Secretary of the Communist Party (1964–82) towards:

- (a) the internal development of the Soviet Union;
- (b) the Soviet control of Eastern Europe.

To what extent did Gorbachev (1985–91) change Brezhnev's policies?

Section E

Africa and the Middle East

22 Describe and give the background to:

- (a) the Balfour Declaration (1917);
- (b) Jewish immigration into Palestine in the 1930s;
- (c) the Israeli-Arab War of 1948–49.

Why were Israeli-Arab relations still tense during the first half of the 1950s?

23 Describe the developments – both in the Middle East and elsewhere – that led to the outbreak of war in the Middle East in:

- (a) 1956 (the Suez War);
- (b) 1967 (the Six Day War).

How was the position of Nasser affected by the outcome of both these wars?

24 Describe the importance of each of the following in the warfare in the former Belgian Congo (later Zaire) during the years 1960–65:

- (a) Patrice Lumumba;
- (b) Dag Hammarskjöld;
- (c) Moïse Tshombé;
- (d) Joseph Mobutu.

To what extent did Mobutu after 1965 rule Zaire as a dictatorship?

25 Describe the work of each of the following in the history of Britain's former colonies in Central Africa:

- (a) Roy Welensky;
- (b) Ian Smith;
- (c) Robert Mugabe (to 1991).

Why was progress towards genuine independence in the former British colony of Southern Rhodesia both lengthy and troublesome?

26 Give an account of the history of Nigeria during the course of the 1960s.

To what extent did the problems of that decade continue to be a source of trouble to the people of Nigeria in the 1970s and 1980s?

Section F

Asia

- 27** Write an account of the life of Mao Zedong during the years 1919–49, showing how he led his supporters to eventual victory in China during these years.

How do you explain the failure of his opponents during the 1940s?

- 28** Describe each of the following episodes in Japanese history:

- (a) the conquest of Manchuria in 1931;
- (b) the occupation of much of South-East Asia in 1941–42;
- (c) the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Explain the defeat of Japan by 1945.

- 29** Describe each of the following features in the history of the Indian sub-continent before the outbreak of the Second World War:

- (a) the Amritsar massacre;
- (b) the satyagraha campaigns of Gandhi;
- (c) the growth of the Muslim League.

To what extent did the Second World War hasten the withdrawal of Britain from the sub-continent?

- 30** Describe each of the following features in the history of China during the years 1976–91:

- (a) the economic policies of Deng Xiaoping;
- (b) relations with Western powers;
- (c) the Tiananmen Square massacre.

How do you explain the survival of Communist rule in China during these years?

- 31** Describe each of the following features in the history of the Malay peninsula:

- (a) the Japanese occupation of 1942–45;
- (b) the Malayan 'Emergency' of 1948–60;
- (c) the 'Confrontation' between Malaysia and Indonesia of 1963–66.

Why did Singapore join Malaysia in 1963 and leave it in 1965?