



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/22

Paper 2b European History Outlines, c. 1378–c. 1815

May/June 2015

2 hours 15 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 an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

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

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **three** questions, which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

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

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

The syllabus is approved for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

Section 1: c. 1378–c. 1461

- 1 What best explains the intense rivalries between the Italian city states in this period?
- 2 'Valois Burgundy played only a limited role in the Hundred Years War.' Discuss.
- 3 'Over-extended and under-resourced.' Discuss this view of the Byzantine Empire in the years c. 1378 to 1453.
- 4 To what extent was the reign of Charles VII a period of 'real recovery' for France?
- 5 What best explains the rise of Poland in this period?

Section 2: c. 1461–c. 1516

- 6 To what extent does Louis XI deserve his title of 'Louis the Prudent'?
- 7 To what extent were the Italian Wars caused by a failure of diplomacy?
- 8 'Dominated by Italians who had only Italian interests at heart.' Discuss this view of the Papacy between 1458 and 1513.
- 9 'More successful as Holy Roman Emperor than in any other role.' Discuss this view of Maximilian of Habsburg.
- 10 How convincing is the view that Ferdinand and Isabella achieved more in their foreign than in their domestic policies?

Section 3: c. 1516–c. 1559

11 *(Candidates offering Paper 5d: Reformation Europe should not answer this question.)*

‘A very conservative reformer.’ Assess this view of Luther.

12 *(Candidates offering Paper 5d: Reformation Europe should not answer this question.)*

How well governed was Spain in the years 1516 to 1556?

13 ‘Suleiman the Magnificent’s abilities were exclusively military.’ Discuss.

14 How strong was France during the reigns of Francis I and Henry II?

15 Evaluate the nature and extent of the achievements of Ivan IV of Russia.

Section 4: c. 1559–c. 1610

16 To what extent did Philip II of Spain subordinate Spanish interests to Catholic interests?

17 What best explains the survival of the Huguenots in France in the later sixteenth century?

18 To what extent, and why, did the Baltic assume greater strategic importance during this period?

19 ‘The successes of the Counter Reformation were achieved largely in spite of, and not because of, the Papacy.’ Discuss.

20 How important was William of Orange to the Dutch revolt?

Section 5: Themes c. 1378–c. 1610

- 21 How effectively did the pre-Reformation Church deal with heresy?
- 22 ‘Without patronage there would have been no Italian Renaissance.’ Discuss.
- 23 To what extent were the later Middle Ages a period of social change?
- 24 ‘The military changes were so great that they constituted a revolution.’ Discuss with reference to **either** the fifteenth **or** the sixteenth century.
- 25 What best explains the dominance of Portugal and Spain in European expansion overseas in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries?
- 26 Did the influx of bullion bring substantial benefits to Europe?

Section 6: c. 1610–c. 1660

- 27 ‘Richelieu’s attack on the Huguenots was the only serious mistake he made in his domestic policies.’ Discuss.
- 28 ‘Able ministers serving foolish monarchs.’ How appropriate is this view of Spanish government under Philip III and Philip IV?
- 29 Assess the view that Gustavus Adolphus was a great general but no statesman.
- 30 ‘A remarkable achievement in the circumstances.’ Discuss this verdict on the Treaty of Westphalia.
- 31 What best explains the rise of Brandenburg-Prussia between 1640 and 1688?

Section 7: c. 1660–c. 1715

- 32 How seriously was Spain in decline in the later seventeenth century?
- 33 Did Louis XIV extend absolutism in France?
- 34 'Unwise experiments.' Discuss this verdict on Peter the Great's attempts to modernise Russia.
- 35 'Charles XII of Sweden's greatest weakness was his poor diplomacy.' Was it?
- 36 What best explains the outbreak of the War of Spanish Succession?

Section 8: c. 1715–c. 1774

- 37 'France was better governed during Louis XV's minority than during his majority.' Discuss.
- 38 'More despotic than enlightened.' Assess this view of Maria Theresa.
- 39 How important were economic factors to the development of Prussia in this period?
- 40 Why was there so much international tension and conflict in Europe in the years 1721 to 1763?
- 41 'The reign of Elizabeth of Russia was one of limited achievements.' Discuss.

Section 9: c. 1774–c. 1815

- 42 To what extent did Russia benefit from the rule of Catherine the Great?
- 43 *(Candidates offering Paper 5f: The French Revolution should not answer this question.)*
How important were bourgeois grievances in bringing about a revolution in France in 1789?
- 44 'Poland had greedy neighbours.' Is this the best explanation for the country's partitions?
- 45 *(Candidates offering Paper 5f: The French Revolution should not answer this question.)*
What best explains the fall of Robespierre?
- 46 How important was the Russian campaign of 1812 in bringing about the defeat of Napoleon?

Section 10: Themes c. 1610–c. 1815

- 47 'Gradual evolution; rapid revolution.' Which is the more appropriate description of scientific development in the seventeenth century?
- 48 How great an impact did the application of technology have on warfare? Answer with reference to **either** the seventeenth **or** the eighteenth century.
- 49 How significant an influence did women have on cultural and intellectual life in the eighteenth century?
- 50 To what extent did the eighteenth century witness the decline of absolutism?
- 51 Assess the importance of colonial trade to the European economy in the eighteenth century.
- 52 Was the second half of the eighteenth century a period of stagnation for European agriculture and industry?

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