



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/22

Paper 2b European History Outlines, c. 1400–c. 1800

May/June 2017

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.

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 are worth 30 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. 1400–c. 1461

- 1 How substantial were the achievements of the conciliar movement?
- 2 Was Venice the most successful Italian city state in the first half of the fifteenth century?
- 3 ‘An event of only symbolic importance.’ Assess this view of the fall of Constantinople.
- 4 How serious a threat to established authority was the Hussite movement?
- 5 ‘The greatest success of Charles VII was gaining financial independence for the French monarchy.’ Discuss.

Section 2: c. 1461–c. 1516

- 6 Were the early Italian Wars of 1494–1516 anything more than a power struggle between France and Spain?
- 7 ‘Dominated by purely worldly considerations.’ How valid is this judgement on the Papacy in this period?
- 8 ‘A purely destructive force.’ Discuss this view of the Ottoman Empire in this period.
- 9 Was Ivan III anything more than a successful military leader?
- 10 How successfully did Ferdinand and Isabella deal with the internal challenges to their authority in this period?

Section 3: c. 1516–c. 1559

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

What best explains why Luther's protest in 1517 developed into the German Reformation?

12 'Poor decision-making by Spain provides the best explanation for its failure to suppress the Dutch revolt by 1577.' Does it?

13 To what extent did Spain experience a period of rapid expansion and great prosperity in the period 1516 to 1556?

14 Who achieved more for France: Francis I or Henry II?

15 To what extent did Sweden become a well-organised and effective state during the reign of Gustavus Vasa?

Section 4: c. 1559–c. 1610

16 'Philip II managed the internal affairs of Spain badly.' Did he?

17 Why did the French civil war last so long?

18 'The Catholic Reformation was limited in both scope and impact.' Discuss.

19 How effectively did Henry IV restore royal authority by 1610?

20 'An empire in serious decline.' Discuss this view of the Ottoman Empire in the period 1566 to 1606.

Section 5: Themes c. 1378–c. 1610

- 21 What best explains attitudes towards the 'outcasts' of society in this period?
- 22 'The Northern Renaissance had a distinctly different character from the Italian Renaissance.' Did it?
- 23 Was there greater innovation in naval warfare, rather than land warfare, in this period?
- 24 'Greed was the principal motive for overseas expansion and exploration in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries.' Discuss.
- 25 What best explains the price rise in the sixteenth century?
- 26 'Economic distress was the main reason for the persecution of witches.' Was it?

Section 6: c. 1610–c. 1660

- 27 'Religion was always a minor consideration in Richelieu's foreign policy.' Discuss.
- 28 'The rise of Sweden in the first half of the seventeenth century was made possible by external rather than by internal factors.' Discuss.
- 29 Was Habsburg unwillingness to compromise the principal reason for the long duration of the Thirty Years War?
- 30 'France gained most from the Treaty of Westphalia.' Did it?
- 31 'A golden age.' Is this an appropriate description of the Dutch Republic in the period to 1660?

Section 7: c. 1660–c. 1715

- 32 'He created order out of chaos.' How valid is this judgement on the rule of Frederick William, the Great Elector?
- 33 'By 1700, Louis XIV's foreign policy had clearly failed.' Had it?
- 34 How successful was Peter the Great's attempt to modernise Russia?
- 35 Why did the Great Northern War, 1700–1721, last so long?
- 36 'Spain was the only real beneficiary of the Treaty of Utrecht.' Discuss.

Section 8: c. 1715–c. 1774

- 37 Why was it so difficult to reform French government in the period 1715–1743?
- 38 'Her reign lacked real achievements.' Assess this judgement on Maria Theresa.
- 39 'European wars between 1740 and 1763 are best explained by the ambition and aggression of Prussia.' Discuss.
- 40 Assess the role played by Spain in Europe and the wider world in this period.
- 41 To what extent did Louis XV strengthen the authority of the monarchy?

Section 9: c. 1774–1815

- 42 'Neither enlightened nor despotic.' Discuss this view of Catherine the Great.
- 43 How much did Joseph II achieve both at home and abroad?
- 44 *(Candidates offering Paper 5f: The French Revolution should not answer this question.)*
'The failure to reform the system of taxation was the principal cause of the French Revolution.'
Was it?
- 45 *(Candidates offering Paper 5f: The French Revolution should not answer this question.)*
How well did the Directory rule France?
- 46 How important was the Spanish Peninsular War to the defeat of Napoleon?

Section 10: Themes c. 1610–c. 1800

- 47 'The greatest advances were made in mathematics and physics.' Discuss this view of the Scientific Revolution of the seventeenth century.
- 48 'Strategies changed, but tactics did not.' Discuss this view of warfare in **either** the seventeenth **or** the eighteenth century.
- 49 'Women had more impact on the cultural than on the political life of eighteenth-century Europe.'
Discuss.
- 50 Assess the impact of enlightenment thinking on European political and economic life.
- 51 Was mercantilism still a major influence in the eighteenth century?
- 52 To what extent did government policies in western Europe discourage rather than encourage the development of industry?

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