



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY

9769/21

Paper 2a European History Outlines, c. 300–c. 1516

May/June 2014

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.

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

Section 1: c. 300–c. 632

- 1 Was Diocletian more successful in his military or his administrative reforms?
- 2 Was monastic evangelism the main aim of Gregory the Great?
- 3 How important were military factors in explaining the decline and then the collapse of the Roman Empire in the fifth century?
- 4 How powerful were the Merovingian rulers of the Frankish lands in the years after the death of Clovis in 511?
- 5 Were the successes of Justinian's reign more the result of the achievements of his advisers and generals rather than of his own work?

Section 2: c. 632–c. 919

- 6 What best explains the spread and consolidation of Muslim rule from 756 to 961?
- 7 How impressive was the legacy of Charles Martel?
- 8 Was there a substantial cultural renaissance under Charlemagne?
- 9 'Viking attacks and devastation continued unchecked.' How valid is this view of Viking activity in mainland Europe in the ninth century?
- 10 'The decline of the Carolingian Empire resulted from its becoming defensive where once it had been expansionist.' Assess this view.

Section 3: c. 919–1099

- 11 What best explains the revival of the German monarchy after 919?
- 12 'In the tenth and eleventh centuries the Capetian monarchs were surprisingly weak.' How accurate is this judgement?
- 13 To what extent did Norman rule benefit Sicily up to 1101?
- 14 How important is national feeling in explaining the reconquest of Spain and Portugal in the eleventh and twelfth centuries?
- 15 How successful were the Popes up to 1073 in their attempts to reform the Church?

Section 4: 1085–1250

- 16 What best explains Frederick Barbarossa's problems in Italy?
- 17 How far were the successes of Louis VI and Louis VII dependent on the support they had from the Church?
- 18 Assess the reasons why the French monarchy was stronger in 1226 than it had been in 1180.
- 19 How far was the power of the Papacy greater in 1216 than it had been in 1198?
- 20 'Politically skilful but lacking in principles.' How accurate is this view of Frederick II as Holy Roman Emperor from 1220?

Section 5: Themes c. 300–c. 1200

- 21 Who gained and who lost from the introduction of feudalism in the early Middle Ages?
- 22 How significant were towns in the economy of the early Middle Ages?
- 23 What best explains the growing importance and influence of the friars up to 1300?
- 24 ***(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)***
‘They survived largely because of the disunity of their enemies.’ How far is this true of the Crusader States up to 1204?
- 25 How vigorous was the intellectual life of mainland Europe in the twelfth century?
- 26 How successfully did the Church deal with the threat from heresy in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries?

Section 6: 1250–c. 1378

- 27 How valid is the view that the War of the Sicilian Vespers changed nothing?
- 28 ‘Louis IX’s greatest achievement was to raise the prestige of the French monarchy.’ Was it?
- 29 How successful was Boniface VIII in achieving his aims in Italy?
- 30 ‘The Mongols were a serious threat to the established order of Medieval Europe in the late thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.’ Discuss.
- 31 ‘The Italian city states in the fourteenth century experienced almost continuous political anarchy.’ Discuss.

Section 7: c. 1378–c. 1461

- 32 What best explains the economic importance of the Italian city states in this period?
- 33 What best explains the fall of Constantinople?
- 34 Assess the nature and extent of the threat Hus posed to the Roman Catholic Church.
- 35 ‘The nobility was always the most serious problem faced by the Valois monarchy in this period.’ Discuss.
- 36 Was military strength the main reason for the expansion of Muscovy in this period?

Section 8: 1461–c. 1516

- 37 What best explains why Italy was the focus of so much diplomatic interest and military conflict in the later fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries?
- 38 How important a role did Burgundy play in international politics between 1461 and 1515?
- 39 How effectively did the Papacy deal with the challenges facing it in this period?
- 40 How unified was Spain by 1516?
- 41 Assess the contribution of Ivan III to the rise of Muscovy.

Section 9: Themes c. 1200–c.1516

- 42 To what extent did the cult of chivalry reflect the practice of the period?
- 43 'Gothic art was for the rich and no one else.' Assess this view.
- 44 How successful was the conciliar movement?
- 45 To what extent was the fourteenth century a period of rapid change in rural society?
- 46 'Keeping alive the crusading ideal was the only redeeming feature of the fifteenth-century Church.' Discuss.
- 47 To what extent was the desire to make money the motive behind overseas exploration in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries?

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