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History

Higher level and standard level

Paper 2

1 November 2023

Zone A afternoon | **Zone B** afternoon | **Zone C** afternoon

1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different topic.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[30 marks]**.
- Where the word “region” is used, it refers to the following four regions: Africa and the Middle East, the Americas, Asia and Oceania, and Europe.

Topic 1: Society and economy (750–1400)

1. Examine the impact of changes in social structures and systems on **two** societies, each chosen from a different region.
2. Evaluate the impact of **two** key individuals on cultural and intellectual developments in the period 750–1400.

Topic 2: Causes and effects of wars (750–1500)

3. Evaluate the importance of the short- and long-term causes of **two** wars.
4. “The most significant effect of war was demographic change.” With reference to **two** wars, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

Topic 3: Dynasties and rulers (750–1500)

5. “Rulers were rarely successful in achieving their aims.” Discuss with reference to **two** rulers, each chosen from a different region.
6. Compare and contrast the methods of government and administration of **two** rulers.

Topic 4: Societies in transition (1400–1700)

7. Examine the impact of changing patterns of trade on the economies of **two** countries.
8. Discuss the cultural and intellectual impact of **two** key figures, each chosen from a different region.

Topic 5: Early Modern states (1450–1789)

9. “The nature of rule was the main reason for the ascendancy of states.” Discuss with reference to **two** states.
10. “Issues of succession were the main cause of internal conflict.” Discuss with reference to **two** early modern states.

Topic 6: Causes and effects of Early Modern wars (1500–1750)

11. Evaluate the impact of technological developments on the outcome of **two** wars, each chosen from a different region.
12. “Peacemaking that followed wars was rarely successful.” With reference to **two** wars, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

Topic 7: Origins, development and impact of industrialization (1750–2005)

13. Evaluate the impact of technological developments on industrialization in **two** countries.
14. Discuss the social impact of urbanization on **two** countries.

Topic 8: Independence movements (1800–2000)

15. Evaluate the importance of external factors in the growth of **two** independence movements, each chosen from a different region.
16. “Non-violent methods were more effective than violent methods in achieving independence.” Discuss with reference to **two** states.

Topic 9: Emergence and development of democratic states (1848–2000)

17. “Economic forces were the most important influence on the development of democratic states.” Discuss with reference to **two** states, each chosen from a different region.
18. “Policies towards women were rarely successful in achieving their aims.” Discuss with reference to **two** democratic states.

Topic 10: Authoritarian states (20th century)

19. To what extent did social division contribute to the emergence of **two** authoritarian states, each chosen from a different region?
20. “The use of force was the most important method used to maintain power in authoritarian states.” Discuss with reference to **two** authoritarian states.

Topic 11: Causes and effects of 20th-century wars

21. “The most important causes of wars were political.” With reference to **two** wars, to what extent do you agree with this statement?
22. “The most significant effects of war were economic.” Discuss with reference to **two** wars, each chosen from a different region.

Topic 12: The Cold War: Superpower tensions and rivalries (20th century)

23. “Fear, rather than aggression, was the main cause of superpower rivalry between 1943 and 1949.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
24. Evaluate the impact of **two** Cold War crises on superpower rivalry.
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