



Diploma Programme
Programme du diplôme
Programa del Diploma

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History

Higher level and standard level

Paper 2

Tuesday 4 May 2021 (afternoon)

45 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer one question.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[15 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. Evaluate the impact of population change on **two** societies, each from a different region.
2. Discuss the social and economic influence of religious institutions on **two** societies, each chosen from a different region.

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

3. “Religion was the most important cause of wars in the period 750–1500.” With reference to **two** wars, to what extent do you agree with this statement?
4. “Wars in the period 750–1500 resulted in significant boundary and dynastic changes.” Discuss with reference to **two** wars, each chosen from a different region.

Topic 3: Dynasties and rulers (750–1500)

5. Evaluate the administration and interpretation of law by **two** rulers, each chosen from a different region.
6. With reference to **two** rulers, compare and contrast the methods used to address external challenges to their power.

Topic 4: Societies in transition (1400–1700)

7. Compare and contrast the treatment of minority or indigenous peoples in **two** societies.
8. Evaluate the significance of **two** key intellectual/scientific figures, each chosen from a different region.

Topic 5: Early Modern states (1450–1789)

9. Examine the impact of territorial expansion on the political organization of **two** Early Modern states.
10. With reference to **one** Early Modern state, discuss the challenges to its power and how successfully they were overcome.

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

11. “The most important causes of war were religious.” With reference to **two** Early Modern wars, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

12. “The most important effects of Early Modern wars were social.” Discuss with reference to **two** wars, each chosen from a different region.

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

13. “The exploitation of natural resources was the most significant contributor to industrialization.” Discuss with reference to **two** countries.

14. “Opposition to industrialization was limited.” Discuss with reference to **two** countries, each from a different region.

Topic 8: Independence movements (1800–2000)

15. Evaluate the importance of external factors in the growth of **two** independence movements, each from a different region.

16. Evaluate the factors, excluding leadership, that led to the success of **one** independence movement.

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

17. “Ideology was the most important influence on the evolution of democratic states.” Discuss with reference to **two** states, each from a different region.

18. Evaluate the impact of changing social policies in **two** states, each chosen from a different region.

Topic 10: Authoritarian states (20th century)

19. Evaluate the impact of foreign policy on the maintenance of power in **two** authoritarian states, each from a different region.

20. “Full authoritarian control could not be achieved.” With reference to **two** states, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

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. “Changes to the role and status of women as a result of war were limited.” Discuss with reference to **two** wars, each from a different region.

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

23. Evaluate the factors which led to detente between the US and USSR between 1971 and 1979.
 24. Discuss the impact of **two** Cold War crises on superpower rivalry.
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