



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

History

HIS2J

Unit 2J Britain and Appeasement, 1919–1940

Specimen paper for examinations in June 2010 onwards

This question paper uses the new numbering system and new AQA answer book

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2J.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Italy was not a strong power, though Mussolini exaggerated Italy's capabilities at every opportunity. The Stresa Front of April 1935 boosted Mussolini's confidence, but Britain was not prepared to offer Mussolini a free hand to conquer Abyssinia. The League of Nations and collective security were very popular with the British electorate. However, 5 the British government also wanted to remain on good terms with the Italian dictator. 1935 was an election year in Britain and, therefore, the government was quick to take the initiative in imposing League sanctions on Italy. This was its policy in public, but the sanctions were half-hearted. In private, a negotiated settlement was attempted. Britain wanted a League policy to please the electorate but also wanted to avoid a breach with 10 Italy.

Adapted from G DARBY, *Hitler, Appeasement and the Road to War*, 2007

Source B

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Source C The object of the Hoare-Laval Pact was to maintain the Stresa Front against Hitler by sacrificing Abyssinia, but there was a public outcry in Britain and Hoare resigned. Mussolini was furious at Britain's complete change of policy and pulled Italy out of the League, allying with Hitler by forming the Rome-Berlin Axis in 1936. The introduction of 5 sanctions had destroyed the Stresa Front and the Hoare-Laval Pact had destroyed the effectiveness of collective security and the League. The aggression of Mussolini had gone unpunished, leading the dictators to believe that Britain would not go to war.

Adapted from I CAWOOD, *Britain in the Twentieth Century*, 2004

0 1 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to Britain's response to Italy's invasion of Abyssinia. *(12 marks)*

0 2 Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important was the Abyssinian Crisis in influencing Britain's policy towards the dictators from 1935 until March 1938? *(24 marks)*

EITHER

Question 2

0 3 Explain why many Germans regarded the terms of the Treaty of Versailles as unfair. *(12 marks)*

0 4 'During the 1920s, British foreign policy failed to maintain the post-war peace settlement of the Treaty of Versailles.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR

Question 3

0 5 Explain why Neville Chamberlain signed the Munich Agreement of September 1938. *(12 marks)*

0 6 'Neville Chamberlain's policy towards Germany in the period after the Munich Agreement up to May 1940 was confused.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: Adapted from G DARBY, *Hitler, Appeasement and the Road to War*, Hodder Murray, 2007. Reproduced by permission of John Murray (Publishers) Ltd.

Source C: I CAWOOD, *Britain in the Twentieth Century*, Routledge, 2004.