



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

HISTORY

9697/12

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789–1939

May/June 2011

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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 a soft pencil for any rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.



Section A: The Origins of World War I, 1870–1914

You **must** answer Question 1.

TENSIONS IN THE BALKANS

- 1 Read the Sources, and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1**, candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the Sources both individually and as a group.

Source A

Slav nationalism became stronger in eastern Europe and the Balkans in the early twentieth century and this worsened relations between Austria and Russia and endangered their previous agreement not to inflame relations in the Balkans. Relations between Austria and Russia worsened and the growing friendship between Russia and the Slavs could not be ignored by Austria.

Baron von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Foreign Minister, introduced a more aggressive policy in the Balkans. In 1908, he announced plans to extend Austrian influence. This angered Britain and Russia. King Edward VII of Britain and Tsar Nicholas II of Russia met to urge a settlement. Their proposals were rejected by Austria and Germany.

In 1908, Austria announced that it had annexed Bosnia, a direct challenge to Serbian nationalism. The first reaction of the German government was anger because it had not been consulted. But Germany had to stand by Austria because Germany had no other partner. In 1909, Moltke, the German Chief of Staff, assured his Austrian opposite number that Germany would mobilise against Russia if Austria had to invade Serbia. Austria warned Serbia that it must accept the annexation of Bosnia and guarantee a 'correct and peaceful policy' if it did not want war. Germany then demanded that the Russian government accept the annexation. The bullying tactics paid off. Despite Austria's violation of previous agreements, Russia was too weak to consider war on behalf of Serbia. Neither did the Triple Entente do its job. France was governed by politicians who did not favour Russia and certainly would not risk war to support Russia in the Balkans. In Britain, Russia's friends were in a minority. Five years later in 1914, in almost identical circumstances, things worked out quite differently.

From a British history of nineteenth-century Europe, published in 1987.

Source B

The war between Austria and Serbia is inevitable. If Serbia wants to live in honour, she can only do so by war. Our obligations to our traditions and culture demand war. The origin of the war is the duty of our race which will not allow itself to be merged with Austrians. This war must bring about the eternal freedom of Serbia, of the south Slavs, of all the Balkan peoples. Our whole race must stand together to halt the onslaught of these alien Austrians from the north.

Colonel Dimitrevic, writing in his newspaper, 1912. (Dimitrevic became the head of Serbia's military intelligence. He was one of the founders of the Black Hand secret organisation involved in the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife at Sarajevo in 1914.)

Source C

Journalists believe that Austria is stumbling into war. If they adopted a healthy policy of maintaining their position as a Great Power, settling the Slav question as it suited them, the majority of the Austrian population would be behind the government. But they are moving slowly through weakness, and this is producing feelings of uncertainty and depression. One of the Austrian military chiefs was told by a leading officer, 'We are ashamed of ourselves. If we do not pull ourselves together, we must accept the consequences and cease to be a Great Power.' Austrians watch the sudden increase in Slav power with amazement and anguish and everybody asks the anxious question: what is to become of Austria? They believe that, if the government does not pull itself together and take vigorous action against Serbia's ambitions, it will not be possible to keep six million Slavs now living in Austria and Bosnia within the Austrian Empire.

Count Tschirschky, German Ambassador to Austria, reporting to his government on opinions in Austrian newspapers, November 1912.

Source D

Austria had to act vigorously against the Slavs in Serbia because otherwise she would lose control over the Slavs within Austria itself. Sazonov, the Russian Foreign Minister, has declared that Russia would immediately attack Austria if Austria invaded Serbia. If Russia does support the Serbs, war would be inevitable for us. Of course, the German navy would have to face a war with Britain.

Kaiser William II, speaking to his military chiefs, December 1912.

Source E

The Tsar spoke of the day when we should see Austria divided into the separate kingdoms of Hungary and Bohemia. The southern Slavs might be absorbed by Serbia and the German provinces become part of the German empire. Austria would then not be able to involve Germany in a war about the Balkans. The Tsar said that this would make for peace.

A senior British diplomat in Russia reporting a conversation with Tsar Nicholas II, April 1913.

Now answer the following question.

'Austria was to blame for tensions in the Balkans before World War I.' Use Sources A–E to show how far the evidence confirms this statement.

Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

- 2 How far do you agree that, from 1799 to 1815, Napoleon achieved more in domestic than in foreign affairs?
- 3 How far was the Agricultural Revolution the most important factor leading to the Industrial Revolution?
(You should refer to developments in **at least two** of Britain, France and Germany in your answer.)
- 4 Assess the impact of nationalism on the 1848–49 revolutions in Germany and Italy.
- 5 Why was there a ‘Scramble for Africa’ in the late nineteenth century?
- 6 Why did World War I have important effects on Russia up to October 1917?
- 7 How far was Mussolini a ‘totalitarian’ ruler of Italy up to 1939?
- 8 Who of Bismarck and Marx had the greater effect on Europe up to 1914?

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