



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

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**HISTORY**

**9697/12**

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789–1939

**May/June 2012**

**3 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

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**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.

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



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

You **must** answer Question 1.

**SERBIA'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE 1914 CRISIS**

- 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**

I said to a leading Austrian official, 'The Serbian government condemns most energetically the Sarajevo outrage and will certainly do everything to prove that it will not tolerate within its territory any agitation or illegal proceedings calculated to disturb our already delicate relations with Austria. The Serbian government is prepared also to put on trial any persons implicated in the plot, if it is proved that there are any in Serbia. The Serbian government, in spite of all the obstacles hitherto placed in its way by Austrian diplomacy, remains sincere in its desire to establish a sound basis for our good neighbourly relations. You know that something has been done and achieved in this direction. Serbia intends to continue to work for this object, convinced that it is practicable and ought to be continued. The Sarajevo outrage ought not to, and cannot, prevent this happening.'

*Yovanovitch, Serbian Ambassador to Austria, reporting to Pasic, the Serbian Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, 30 June 1914.*

**Source B**

The Austrian Press Bureau is trying to excite public opinion in Europe. This Bureau interprets neither correctly nor sincerely the tone of the Serbian press. It selects false news designed to mislead public opinion in Austria. The Press Bureau quotes especially extracts from articles from those Serbian newspapers which do not represent any political party or official group. Since the Bosnian crisis of 1908, Austria prohibited the entry into the country of all Serbian political and other newspapers, and thus our press cannot affect public opinion in Austria and Europe. The press in Serbia is absolutely free. Newspapers can be confiscated only for revolutionary propaganda. Confiscation is illegal in all other cases. There is no censorship of newspapers. You should point out that we have no other constitutional or legal means at our disposal for the control of our press. When the articles in our papers are compared with those of Austria, it is evident that the Austrian papers are responsible for the controversy. Ours merely reply. Please also emphasise the fact that public opinion in Serbia is relatively calm, and that there is no desire on our part to provoke and insult Austria.

*Message from Pasic, the Serbian Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Serbian embassies in Europe, 14 July 1914.*

**Source C**

The history of recent years, especially the terrible assassination at Sarajevo, has been proof of a terrorist movement in Serbia, whose ultimate aim is to take over some Austrian territories. This movement developed under the eyes of the Serbian government, which did nothing to suppress it. It tolerated the criminal activities of terrorist societies, the outrageous language of the press, and the wild popularity of plotters. It allowed army officers and officials to take part in the plans and tolerated unhealthy propaganda. The investigation and confessions of the Sarajevo assassins prove that the murder was prepared in Belgrade. The murderers received weapons and bombs from army officers and officials. The criminals and their weapons went to Bosnia with the co-operation of Serbian frontier officials.

*Message from Berchtold, Austrian Foreign Minister, to the Austrian Ambassador to Serbia, 20 July 1914.*

**Source D**

A beautiful sunny day has dawned. I hurry to the hospital wondering how we are going to operate on our patients in such heat. The head surgeon invites all the doctors to his office. He says, 'Austria has sent an ultimatum to Serbia.' We are astounded. We look at each other in bewilderment, but must go back to work. Today's operations must go on. After the Sarajevo assassination, we expected relations with Austria to get tense. However, we did not expect an ultimatum. The news spreads quickly around the hospital and causes alarm. Not just in the hospital. The whole town is in shock. Streets and cafes are filling up with anxious people. How will our government respond? Can a new war be avoided? It is less than a year since our little Serbia emerged from two bloody wars, with Turkey and Bulgaria. Some of the wounded still lie in hospital. Are we to see more bloodshed and more tragedy?

*A doctor's diary, written in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, 24 July 1914.*

**Source E**

The Serb minority in Austria supported the appeals for a greater Serbia that came from Belgrade, the capital of Serbia. The Austrian seizure of Bosnia in 1908 was a cause of grievance for the Serbs, similar to French resentment at the loss of Alsace-Lorraine to Germany. It frustrated the aims and ideals of Pan-Slavism. The Serb secret societies that fought Austria were financed by Russia. Since 1908 they had kept up terrorist activity against Austrian officials in Bosnia. Their stated aim was to make the Austrian position impossible. The Serbian government was aware of their activity because the chiefs of the Black Hand, the main terrorist organisation, had important positions in the Serbian intelligence service. The Serbian government cannot be excused from its responsibility. The Austrian government was not deceived and the army chief demanded action against the real culprits.

*From a French history of World War I, published 1973.*

Now answer the following question.

*'The Serbian government was responsible for the tense relations with Austria before the outbreak of 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 did the people of France gain liberty and equality during the period from 1789 to 1815?
- 3 Assess the claim that the middle classes benefited most from the Industrial Revolution.  
(You should refer to developments in **at least two** of Britain, France and Germany in your answer.)
- 4 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of nationalism in Italy from 1815 to 1849.
- 5 Why was Britain more successful than France and Germany in enlarging its overseas empire in the later nineteenth century?
- 6 Analyse the reasons why the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia in the October 1917 Revolution.
- 7 How far did Stalin's power in Russia to 1939 depend on terror?
- 8 Explain which had the greater effects on nineteenth-century Europe: the Napoleonic Wars or the Franco-Prussian War (1870–71).

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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

Question 1 Source E © M Ferro; *The Great War 1914–1918*; Routledge; 1973.

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