

Examiners' Report
June 2015

GCE History 6HI01 D

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Introduction

Some candidates chose questions whose stated factor appeared to be outside their comfort zone, and delivered an answer which was only obliquely linked, if at all, to the question. A14 asked about the extent to which Henry VII's domestic policies strengthen royal power in England. Some candidates, perhaps hoping for a different question, wrote largely or even exclusively on foreign policy. Answers to D7 occasionally ignored differing views on the future of the USSR, but wrote exclusively on Stalin's role in the years 1924-28.

Questions which have a multi-factored focus are signposted by phrases such as 'most important'. Some of the most confident answers had an introduction, which either agreed with the role of the stated factor or proposed one or more alternatives. Many questions, of course, do not require the consideration of several factors. D9, for example, asked for a consideration of the extent to which the NAACP changed the status of African Americans in the years 1945-56. Many strong answers noted the Association's success in achieving de jure victories via the Supreme Court, but that these were not always accompanied by de facto success thanks to the opposition of Congress or of groups such as the White Citizens Councils. A number of candidates addressed the NAACP's successes, but went on to address other ways in which the status of African Americans was changed, referring to the impact of World War II and to the work of President Truman: these points were not relevant to the question set.

An integral part of the mark scheme is the quality of written communication displayed in an answer. This year there has been an improvement in candidates' communication skills, with much less use of abbreviations and colloquialisms. However, the quality of handwriting on the small number of scripts weakened communication overall.

Able candidates wrote articulately and coherently, demonstrating a logical mind as well as strong linguistic skills. Weaker answers were characterised by poor sentence construction and writing skills, which was a limiting factor in some answers where candidates clearly knew their history, but struggled to produce a coherent and readable response.

Most candidates understood the importance of addressing the entire chronological period set in the question. Candidates should be aware of the possibility that the timescales set will have been covered in their studies, but perhaps not in their revision essays. Question A3 asked why the Norman campaign against England in the months September to December 1066 was so dramatically successful. Some saw this as a question on Stamford Bridge and Hastings only and failed to consider the aftermath of the Norman victory, including the long march to London, the submission of the nobility, and William's coronation on Christmas day. Some answers to D2 did not go beyond 1937, and many answers to D6 stopped in 1921. On the other hand, B7 asked about the outbreak of the European witchcraze in the late 16th century: many answers mistakenly included Hopkins and the East Anglian hunt of the 1640s. D9 covered the years 1945-56, but a significant number included Little Rock, Greensboro and the Freedom Rides.

Question 1

Candidates were well prepared to explain the reasons for the fall of the Qing dynasty and packaged many of the factors as weaknesses of the Imperial government. Most resisted the temptation to go back too far in to the nineteenth century, instead focusing their attention on the internal disputes over reform and the damaging effects of foreign influence. Yuan's role was often highlighted, and the best candidates were able to put the short term causes of the Double Tenth into the context of longer term issues. Many noted the significance of the death of the Dowager Empress Cixi in 1908, who had ruled China for over forty years, but few included the role of natural disasters in the last years of Qing rule.

Question 2

Chiang's failures were dealt with much more thoroughly than his successes, although there were some impressive answers which achieved greater balance by acknowledging the positive aspects of Chiang's modernising policies. Weaker answers frequently had a loose grip of the chronology and strayed beyond 1945, or tackled the question chronologically and failed to get beyond the early years of Chiang's rule. Most candidates saw Chiang as a failure, particularly for his neglect of the peasantry (which played into Mao's hands) and for concentrating excessively on defeating the Communists, and thereby allowing the Japanese to become too easily entrenched in the 1930s.

Question 3

Most candidates were well-informed on the early years of Mao's rule. Not surprisingly, the negative aspects of the Great Leap Forward received most attention (sparrowcide and backyard furnaces at the very least), but plenty of candidates could also supply evidence of the relatively successful aspects of the first plan by means of a contrast. In general candidates were familiar with the shortcomings of Lysenkoism, but were less confident in judging the extent to which People's Communes lived up to Mao's expectations. Strangely, a small number of candidates noted that while the famine killed millions of people, Mao's agricultural policies had in fact been broadly successful. Several candidates neglected the early popular policy of land redistribution, which might have given greater balance to their answer.

This is a Level 3 answer. The candidate understands the focus of the question but supporting material, though broadly accurate, is lacking in both range and depth.

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer .
If you change your mind, put a line through the box
and then put a cross in another box .

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Plan - How Successful governments
agriculture & industry policies
in 1929-62.

- put into collectives ↑ increase
production - however peasants
lost land and their wasn't
enough food.

from 1949-1962 agriculture
and industry policies could have
been seen successful at the time,
as food production increased, as
well as steel; However, agricultural
collectives of peasants or treated
famine created famine, as too much food
had to be given to the government,
and the quality of steel being
produced was too poor to

(This page is for your first answer.) use. As a result overall I feel that the governments' agriculture and ~~stat~~ industry policies were vastly unsuccessful, ~~however~~ however in hindsight they were thought upon to bring ~~stab~~ economical stability in China.

As a result of China's ever growing population in 1949, Mao was faced with a large food demand; however, the production of food at the rate of food, did not correlate with ^{the} increasing population. As a result of this, a famine began. ~~although~~ consequently, Mao introduced, what he thought would be ultimately successful, collectivisation, which entailed neighbouring peasants to work together, ~~whereas~~ they would no longer own their own land which they fought so hard for, but share. However, the prediction from the government was that more people working on one ^{large} piece of land would increase the rate of production, and ~~produce~~ produce

(This page is for your first answer.)

better quality harvest. Consequently, this policies was taken to the extreme, as small collectives were then put together at increasing rates, and as a result their ~~wants~~ ^{needs} could be up to 100 or more farm acres/peasants working on one piece of land. Further more, although Mao's prediction seemed prevalent, food production was rapidly increasing, so was the amount of harvest the collectives had to give to the government; As a result of this, it left the peasants with little food for themselves, ironically ~~proten~~ ^{mao's} the plan to get China out of a famine, firmly cemented them back into one. ~~Mao's~~ Moreover, Mao was blinded by the success of raising figures the realise or care about the starkly dying peasants on the collectives, displaying how his vindictive personality overruled anything and everything, and as a result created the new agriculture policy to

(This page is for your first answer.)

be ~~a tragic feminine~~
unsuccessful, and a tragic famine.

To run parallel with the
rurly increasing figures of food
production, Mao was to increase
industry, and by doing this,
it meant ~~increased~~ rapidly increasing
Steel production. In order of
~~doing~~ succeeding in this, Mao
introduced and promoted home-made
backyard furnaces; he thought if
everyone possible participated
within this, the production could
increased as much as double.

Propaganda was used to brain-
wash the people of China, Mao
was even photographed helping someone
build one himself, and it would be
valued as a great deed to their
leader. However, contrastingly the
quality of steel produced by
the backyard furnaces was so
poor, it could not be use for
anything, this affect the economy
hugely as weapons and warter

(This page is for your first answer.) was desperately needed, as well as ~~paying~~ continuously paying off debt to Russia. As a result of this, the industry policy was a complete failure, and only achieved the very opposite it set out to create, the economy was ~~far~~ becoming more and more unstable, and figures of useful steel production did not increase.

Overall, I ~~think~~ feel that ~~the~~ the governments agriculture and industry policies were a dismal and tragic failure. Not only had Mao ~~deepened~~ substantially created a larger famine, the economy was becoming dangerously unstable. However, ~~yet~~ some people could argue that the increased rate and quantity of food/harvest produced was a success, the overall negative outcomes from both policies resulted in a undeniable ~~un~~success.



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Examiner Comments

The answer attempts an analytical shape and has some understanding of the demands of the question. There is some muddled explanation on agriculture, especially collectivisation and the famine. Industrial development is exemplified only by reference to backyard furnaces, though material here is broadly accurate. Some relevant and accurate conclusions are drawn.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Make sure that you understand the chronology of events for your chosen question, otherwise you will end up making several errors and misunderstandings. If a question asks you to consider two separate policies or events, it is usually best to deal with them separately before drawing overall conclusions.

Question 4

The required focus of the question proved challenging for some candidates, who spent time explaining why Mao purged his political rivals, rather than why he was able to do this so effectively. Most candidates could identify Deng and Liu as the main victims, but fewer included Lin Biao. The role of the Red Guards, the Little Red Book and young people in general was well known; that of Jiang Qing and the Gang of Four, much less so. Some candidates strayed into the years before 1962 by including the Hundred Flowers campaign as part of their answer, although this could have been made relevant by referring to the fact that memories of it provided a strong deterrent to anyone considering opposing Mao. Few candidates managed to take the chronology beyond Lin Biao's fall in 1971.

Question 5

The question gave candidates the opportunity to explore the causes behind the two revolutions of 1917. Examples of Nicholas' weak leadership were not hard for most candidates to find, with his decision to assume command of the army in 1915 being frequently cited, along with the detrimental consequences for his credibility of delegating domestic decisions to Alexandra. While weaker candidates observed that this damaged his reputation with "the Russian people" in general, the more discerning were able to highlight how it contributed to the loss of trust of key elements of the ruling class, whose support Nicholas actually depended upon. Many candidates pointed out how losing the loyalty of the Petrograd garrison damaged Nicholas' chances of survival, with weaker responses giving the impression that this mutiny extended to the entire Russian army. Some considered weak political leadership by ranging over the period of Tsarist rule since 1881, and thus struggled to maintain relevance.

Reasons for the fall of the Provisional Government were more extensively covered, with the issue of dual power with the Soviet being frequently referred to, and Kerensky coming in for particular criticism for his handling of the Kornilov affair. Despite the fact that he led the government until July, Prince Lvov's period in charge seems in danger of being airbrushed out of 1917; and relatively few candidates examined the early period of the Provisional Government when the possibility of a transition to liberal democracy still seemed possible. Only a minority of candidates made use of the point that the early liberal reforms of the new government such as, free speech and the release of political prisoners were soon to backfire on them by giving their opponents freedom to criticise without fear of the consequences.

Weaker answers often got in a tangle by trying to explain the fall of Tsarism and the Provisional Government at the same time, and while there were some useful comparative points to be made, clarity was more easily achieved by those who explained their respective falls separately, perhaps referring to points in common in conclusion.

Question 6

Candidates had no difficulty supplying reasons for the survival in power of the Bolsheviks, but the question did pose challenges of focus for some, who concentrated purely on why the civil war turned out as it did, or whether Lenin or Trotsky was the chief architect of Bolshevik success. Having said that, there were some impressive answers explaining a wide range of reasons, economic, political and military. The importance of the 1921 Kronstadt rising in influencing the shift to NEP was highlighted by many, as was the importance of establishing a viable government structure so that the country could be administered once the Bolsheviks' obvious enemies had been dealt with. Most candidates emphasised the role of terror, especially in the short term, although less well informed candidates continue to see Lenin as universally popular because he gave different social groups what they wanted; land to the peasants, freedom to the workers and peace to everyone. A few candidates did not realise that the question referred to the collapse of two separate political systems, believing that the Provisional Government was the Tsar's government.

The answer is a Level 4 response. There is a clear analytical shape here which is responding to the key issues contained in the question. Accurate factual material is deployed, though there is some lack of balance in places. Reasonable direction overall.

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer .
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- Violence in Civil War
 - Brutality (Tsar)
 - War Communism
 - Ending War
 - War → NEP

(This page is for your first answer.)

The Bolsheviks were able to maintain their hold on power in the years to 1924 & mainly because of Lenin's leadership skill. Despite the widespread opposition against the Bolsheviks Lenin's ~~to~~ Lenin's decision to use violence in the Civil War and Lenin's decision to introduce War Communism & enabled the Bolsheviks to successfully consolidate power in the years 1924. Other factors that enabled Lenin the Bolsheviks to maintain power in Russia included the ending of the First World War, the brutality against the Tsar and War ~~to~~ Lenin's decision to replace War Communism with ~~to~~ the NEP. Lenin's ~~decisions~~ made this decisions and they ~~enable~~ ~~enab~~ allowing the Bolsheviks to hold power in Russia.

Violence in the Civil War was used ~~to~~ to weaken Bolsheviks opposition and thus strengthening the Bolsheviks regime. The Red Army was headed by Trotsky who ~~used his~~ had strong leadership skills and good tactics and ~~it~~ so the Whites were not able to offer strong, cohesive and united resistance against the ~~Tsar~~ Bolsheviks. Also, ~~the~~

(This page is for your first answer.)

Trotsky appointed 42,000 ex-Tsarist soldiers to the Red Army. This provided the Red Army with more experienced leaders thus further weakening their opposition and ~~strengthening~~ strengthening the Bolsheviks. Trotsky ensured that the ~~set~~ soldiers stayed loyal to the army by threatening to kill their families. This violent method ensured the loyalty of the soldiers and also meant that the army and new military tactics to help them ~~in the~~ win the war. Trotsky's role in the Civil War helped the Bolsheviks win the war and consequently ~~and~~ helping them to keep hold on power in the years to 1924. However, it was Lenin's decision to appoint Trotsky as head of the Red Army that enabled the Bolsheviks to maintain power ~~thus emphasising~~ ^{stressing} ^{emphasising} the significance of ~~the~~ Lenin's role in the Bolsheviks consolidation of power.

~~War~~ The policy of ~~to~~ War Communism was introduced by Lenin and this policy helped the Bolsheviks maintain their hold on power in the years to 1924. The adoption of the policy War Communism helped weaken ~~of~~ Bolsheviks opposition. This policy included the seizure of all power by the state and thus giving the Bolsheviks power to control ~~to~~ agriculture and industries. ~~Hence~~ Hence, why the Bolsheviks were able to wage a total ~~to~~ war in the Civil War. Moreover, the Bolsheviks immense power meant that people were independent ~~of~~ of the state for their security therefore, they were less likely to oppose the Bolsheviks thus reinforcing ~~to~~ Bolshevik control in Russia. Lenin's decision to introduce War Communism meant

(This page is for your first answer.)

that people became more loyal to the Bolsheviks and so this ensured that the Bolsheviks had the real power in Russia.

Lenin's decision to replace War Communism with the NEP also contributed significantly to the Bolsheviks hold on power in the years to 1924. In 1921, War Communism brought Russia's economy to a standstill. Industry was 20% of its 1913 level and War Communism helped cities and industries produce war goods. But, it caused a major famine in 1921 which killed 20 million people. This led to peasant uprisings (~~Tambo~~ Tambov (1920-21) was provoked by grain requisitioning) therefore, Lenin made the decision to replace the War Communism with the NEP. This decision ~~was~~ ^{by Lenin} was favoured by the civilians of Russia and so it gained the Bolsheviks more power and weakened their opposition thus allowing the Bolsheviks to maintain their hold on power in Russia.

Unlike the Provisional Government and the Tsar, the Bolsheviks ended Russia's involvement in the war and this helped them gain more support and consequently enabling them to maintain their hold on power in the years to 1924. This decision was done through the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (3rd March) Russia was forced to pay a very high price in loss of territory and economic wealth. Even though, this weakened Russia in the beginning it meant that the Bolsheviks were able to concentrate their hold on power in Russia's internal affairs thus enabling the Bolsheviks to maintain power.

(This page is for your first answer.)

leaders of the Bolsheviks helped to bring an end to Russia's involvement in the war. Lenin played a key role in helping the Bolsheviks to consolidate their power in Russia, if it wasn't for Lenin the Bolsheviks would have perhaps not been able to consolidate maintain their hold on power in the years to 1924.



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Examiner Comments

The introduction suggests a number of reasons for the consolidation of Bolshevik power which are addressed in the body of the answer. There is a developed section on Trotsky and the civil war, but no reference to domestic violence through the Cheka and grain requisitioning squads. There is secure commentary on War Communism and the NEP, though it is not clear what changes the latter brought to economic life. Brest Litovsk is handled well, along with the implications of the murder of the Imperial family. The conclusion highlights the role of Lenin, a recurring theme throughout the answer.

Question 7

A small but notable minority of candidates dispensed with the stated factor fairly quickly, perhaps because they were not confident with it; their focus on the question was thus not entirely secure. However, most candidates knew what the differing views on the future of Russia were in terms of the economy and foreign policy, and some even extended these into often impressively detailed areas of bureaucratic stagnation and Bonapartism. Many candidates wrote confidently about the shifting alliances which Stalin orchestrated, but the important thing here was to explain how these changes affected the outcome of the power struggle, for which the changing economic context between 1924 and 1928 needed to be understood. On the matter of foreign policy, it was often assumed that "Socialism in one country" was popular in the Politburo simply because it was patriotic, but the failure of Liebknecht and Luxemburg in Germany in 1919, the Polish War of 1921, and Comintern's efforts to start revolutions elsewhere in Europe are also worth remembering since these failures emphasised how difficult it was to export Communism abroad.

Question 8

Most candidates were able to supply evidence of higher industrial production in order to show the achievements of the Five-Year Plans; similarly many of the negative aspects were also well known, notably the culture of deception which made accurate data gathering impossible, and the emphasis on quantity over quality which created a false impression of productivity. The damaging consequences of purging "bourgeois specialists" before they could be adequately replaced was also highlighted by some.

A significant number of candidates dwelt on the negative effects of poor living and working conditions, but these were only relevant to the question if their damaging impact on workers' motivation, or efficiency, was explained. Lack of freedom did not in itself reduce the impact on industry of the plans, nor did the scarcity of consumer goods, although this could be used to show the unbalanced nature of industrial progress. Some candidates tried, usually with only limited success, to squeeze their knowledge of collectivisation into their answer.

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer .
If you change your mind, put a line through the box
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~~How accurate is it to say that differing views on the future of USSR~~
How far do you agree that the 5 year plans improved Soviet industry dramatically
in the years 1928-41?

Didn't Help

Helped

(This page is for your first answer.)

~~Handwritten title~~

~~The Five year plans were very controversial economic 'plans' which helped boost despite the problems boosted Russian economy to ~~relate~~ the 20th century and further bringing industrialisation to Russia. However the Five year plans did have their problems which only helped to a degree.~~

~~The Five Year Plans had massive problems which~~

The Five year plans were economic 'plans' of Stalin which helped boost the USSR economy and ~~bring~~ ^{turn} Russia into an industrial country. However despite their success these plans had many failures attributed to each individual plan which ~~caused~~ ^{made} the success of the Five year plans debatable.

The first Five Year Plan first introduced the idea of the Five Year Plans and was Stalin's way of bringing Russia into the 20th century boosting their economy and making Russia more industrial, however the Five Year Plan scheme was still new which led ~~the~~ ^{the} first one to have many failures. One of the main points in the Five Year Plans was setting targets for the factories to meet which greatly ~~contributed~~ ^{contributed} to a failure of the First Five Year Plan. These targets set were highly unrealistic, which caused many problems. Firstly ~~because~~ ^{because} if these targets weren't met the factory person/people in charge of the factory were either sent to the gulags or executed which lost a lot of competent ~~men~~ ^{workers}. Secondly because the targets were so unrealistic statistics of the production of a factory was often faked and said to be larger than it actually was and lastly ~~because~~ ^{due to} Stalin's policy of 'quantity over quality' a lot of

(This page is for your first answer.)

The raw materials produced were unusable. Due to Stalin's ignorance of how industry worked he believed that with a strong leader and ^{stop} will of workers would reach the set targets. However despite these set targets not only ~~not~~ being reached, but also causing production to hamper and the First Five Year Plan failing in the end, this had dramatically improved the economy, ~~then~~ with the economy being in better shape than it had been since ~~the Civil War~~ before the Civil War.

The Second Five Year Plan was arguably far better than the first as the goals set were more realistic and ~~managers~~ ~~to~~ ~~fact~~ took into account the workers, ~~allowing~~ ~~the~~ boosting morale from workers despite the bad living conditions, to further increase production. The Second Plan allowed Stalin to look more like he understood the working class in many ways. Firstly he set more realistic ~~of~~ targets for production which led to ~~the~~ materials being produced more quality and less competent workers sent to gulags, ~~and~~. Secondly he reintroduced some consumer goods which were completely neglected in the First Year Plan which caused black markets, Lastly the Stakhanovite movement was started. The Stakhanovite movement was started due to a Russian miner who ~~digging~~ ~~dedagly~~ mined a record breaking amount of coal in one shift he was then given a reward for this achievement which included 9 months worth of pay and was even featured in Times Magazine, this however was a propaganda movement by Stalin to encourage workers to work harder and to inspire them. This focus on the people in the Second Five Year Plan encouraged workers to put in more effort, this was a very smart move as the First Five Year Plan had neglected the workers believing that Stalin leadership would encourage them alone, This encouragement further improved workers, work ethic and ~~drive~~ ~~leading~~ ~~to~~ with the more realistic ~~goals~~ ~~goals~~ caused the Second Five Year Plan to be a success. Towards the end of the

(This page is for your first answer.) Second Five Year Plan there was more of a shift to rearmament as war with Germany became more imminent.

The Five Year Plans had many problems which made life hell for many people and were very strict. had many faults, however despite this by 1941 Russia was had caught up to the rest of the world economically and had become an industrial giant.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

The answer is a Level 3 response. There is an understanding of the focus of the question, but range and depth of material is very variable, and the candidate omits consideration of the Third Plan and the focus on rearmament. Communication is reasonably coherent, but some passages are lacking in clarity.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

There is an attempted explanatory focus in the introduction. The answer focuses on the setting of targets in the First Plan, and the implications of these for workers and managers, but there is little on changing output or on the Plan's priorities. There is better awareness of the Second Plan, with reference to consumer goods and the Stakhanovite movement. There is no mention of the Third Plan at all.

Question 9

Candidates explained with confidence the difference between the many de jure court rulings obtained by the NAACP, and the de facto realities which limited their effectiveness. Unfortunately a significant minority of candidates twisted the focus of their answers into multi-factored explanations of the other causes of change to the status of African Americans, which was not the question being asked here: it was a clear question asking for a judgment of the extent of the NAACP's success, and the easiest way to reach this was by weighing up successes against failures.

Question 10

Many candidates' knowledge of protest cultures of the 1960s was confined to civil rights, and while this was an acceptable approach to the question, the range of possible protest movements was much wider. The key point was to comment on the impact of the movements, since the question asked about extent of success in "promoting individual freedom". Many weaker answers merely described protest movements without exploring their impact. Better answers displayed impressive range and depth of material, referring to the SDS campaigns, hippy counter-culture and the growth of women's liberation. There were some very detailed comments on the work of Cesar Chavez, and on the growing confidence of Native American groups.

Question 11

Some candidates struggled to get beyond the obvious point that China's involvement in the Korean War denied the USA/UN victory in 1950. Relatively few knew the events of the war in sufficient detail to identify other potential turning points which had an impact on the outcome. Weaker candidates often focused on why the Americans fought the war – such knowledge was only relevant if it was used to explain why the Americans continued to fight in the way that they did. Better candidates however, brought in domestic and diplomatic factors which impacted on the outcome, notably the election of Eisenhower in 1952 and death of Stalin in the following year.

Question 12

Most candidates were fully aware of Nixon's aim to achieve "peace with honour", though few explained just what this meant, and it made sense to judge the extent of his success against this yardstick. The limited success of Vietnamisation was generally acknowledged, as was the mixed impact of other initiatives such as exporting the war to Laos and Cambodia and the Linebacker bombing campaigns. Some weaker candidates with insecure chronology blamed Nixon for earlier policy failings which were Johnson's responsibility, and there was some uncertainty over why the North did agree to the Paris Accords of 1973. Many candidates concluded that Nixon's policies produced a mixed set of results, and were able to identify those elements which were successful and those that were not.

Question 13

The re-election of Reagan in 1984, and Bush's failure to emulate him in 1992, produced some impressive answers, covering a wide range of economic, political and personal factors. Candidates showed a sophisticated understanding of the dynamics of US presidential elections when discussing the different qualities of Reagan and McGovern, and of Bush and Clinton. Many candidates concluded their arguments with some telling comparative observations, particularly relating to their handling of the media and the quality of the opposition that they faced.

Question 13

The answer is an analytical response which addresses the question directly and demonstrates a clear understanding of many key issues. Material is accurate, relevant and appropriately selected and displays some range and depth. A Level 5 response.

Put a cross in the box indicating the **SECOND** question you have chosen to answer .
Your second question choice must be on a different topic to your first question choice.

If you change your mind, put a line through the box
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religious right
origines
and with media
economy - election year
1984
judged with Congress
Anti-women
- addressed - anti-etho
Not appealing to media
movement to left

(This page is for your second answer.)

Why was Reagan re-elected in 1984, yet Bush unable to secure re-election in '92?

Reagan was re-elected in '84 as he was a very popular man, who had huge support from the religious right and although the economy was not booming in '84, the olympics and his likeable character gave people a feel good attitude towards Reagan which inspired them to put enough faith in him to re-elect him again. Bush however, was much less popular than Reagan and by now American society was gradually moving slightly left. Bush's little help on social issues such as abortion and affirmative action meant he didn't appeal to people in '92 leading to him losing to Clinton.

Arguably the main thing that helped Reagan get

(This page is for your second answer.)

re-elected in 1984 was his huge support from the religious right. Reagan was a stand for family values, and was also a very traditional conservative which led to him being extremely appealing to the homophobic, liberal fearing religious right. By charismatically appealing to the religious right Reagan himself earned himself a huge number of votes in the 1984 election.

Bush however, although also a republican with conservative values did not have the same extreme support of the religious right. By 1992 American society was making a slight shift to the left and Bush did not cater to this. He was anti-abortion and although he did publically date Jesse Jackson middle class blacks felt he didn't do enough for them meaning he lost their support and therefore vote too.

Another reason why Reagan was re-elected as voters felt he was a strong personality who could handle congress. As although Reagan did not always get on perfectly with congress he impressed voters by charming congress into agreeing with his Budget. This ~~was~~ made him popular with average Americans.

Bush however did not have a very good relationship with the democratic congress. ~~to~~ Americans perceived him to be a weak president

(This page is for your second answer.)

compared to Reagan as they perceived him to lack Reagan's vision. This and his worse relationship with congress had to him ~~not~~ ^{not} gotten public having little faith in him, especially as unlike Reagan who was perceived to have led the ground rolling with strength and vision when elected president, Bush was perceived to have slowly trudged into it without the plan or direction Reagan had.

Another factor which explains why Reagan 'got re-elected' and Bush didn't is the fact that Reagan, an ex actor, was much better than handling the media than Bush was. For example lots of thought was put into Reagan's '84' election campaign, his slogan 'It's morning in America' was very popular, whereas Bush had a very poor ~~election~~ disorganised election campaign compared to Reagan.

Another factor is to why Bush didn't get ^{re} elected in '92 yet Reagan did in '84' is due to the fact that Bush had, in the form of Clinton, a much stronger democratic rival than Reagan had. This paired with the slight ^{movement} ~~move~~ to the ~~right~~ ^{left} by '92 meant that Bush's task of getting re-elected was definitely much harder than Reagan's. Reagan

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also had the advantage of the just good factor that the 1984 Olympics had given to America which Bush did not have. This meant voters in '84 were much happier for times to be the same, leading to them being happier to re-elect a president in '84 than the uncomfortable with economy and society American citizens of '92 were.

Overall Reagan was re-elected in 1984 due to his personal popularity, support from the religious right, ability to handle the media and a variety of other factors such as his perceived strength and vision. However by 1992 Americans did not want to re-elect Bush as another republican president, as he wasn't as likeable, didn't offer to get the lines socially, and his lack of vision made him seem weaker than Clinton - his strong democrat rival. These factors summarise why Reagan was popular and able to get re-elected whereas Bush was simply not what Americans wanted in 1992. Bush could not be as likeable and get to society as strongly as Reagan did.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

The introduction considers both presidents and outlines the direction which the answer will take. Four clear points are made; on the religious right, relations with Congress, the role of the media and the opposition which the presidents faced, (though with little development on Reagan's opposition). Analytical overall, with a close comparison made between Reagan's strengths and Bush's failings.

Question 14

The question's scope gave candidates a wide spread of material to select from, but it presented problems of focus for some. Some weaker candidates interpreted the question as asking why society became more racially tolerant, rather than asking for a judgment on the extent to which it became so. Stronger candidates were able to do this by providing evidence not only of greater tolerance, but also of surviving pockets of prejudice. They were also able to use evidence from across a wide range of different racial groups.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

Firstly, they would be ill-advised to restrict their revision by not giving the same weight to all four bullet points: such an approach may mean that they will only have one or two questions in each option to answer.

Secondly, they must be aware of what the question is asking them to focus on, especially of the timescale in the question.

Finally, it is possible, indeed very likely, that the question they choose is not one they would have seen before. They should always prepare for the unexpected.

Grade Boundaries

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