

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname

Other names

**Pearson Edexcel**  
**International**  
**Advanced Level**

Centre Number

Candidate Number

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Time 2 hours

Paper  
reference

**WH104/1B**

**History**

**International Advanced**

**PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations**

**Option 1B: The World in Crisis, 1879–1945**

**You must have:**

Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

## Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets  
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

## Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.
- Good luck with your examination.

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SECTION A

Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1 How far do you agree with the view that war between the Great Powers broke out in 1914 as a result of the international rivalries that had developed during the crises and confrontations of 1905–13?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS**



**SECTION B**

**Answer ONE question in Section B.**

**You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.**

**EITHER**

- 2** How far do you agree that the treaties of the Versailles Settlement (1919–23) had a mainly negative impact on international relations in the years 1923–33?

**(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)**

**OR**

- 3** How far do you agree that the Russian victory in Eastern Europe (1943–45) was due mainly to the impact of German mistakes?

**(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)**

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2**  **Question 3**

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS**  
**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS**



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# Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Time 2 hours

Paper  
reference

**WH104/1B**

## History

International Advanced

**PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations**

**Option 1B: The World in Crisis, 1879–1945**

**Extracts Booklet**

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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### Extracts for use with Section A.

**Extract 1:** From A Mombauer, *The Origins of the First World War: Controversies and Consensus*, published in 2013.

In the years preceding the outbreak of war, a number of international crises and localised wars endangered the peace of Europe.

At the time of the Moroccan crisis of 1905–6, Germany’s military planners developed the so-called Schlieffen Plan. The Plan was based on the assumption that Russia, having been recently defeated by Japan, would not pose a real threat to Germany in the near future. At the heart of the crisis was Germany’s desire to prove that the newly-formed Entente Cordiale between Britain and France was useless. However, Germany’s bullying tactics did not succeed. The newly-formed Entente emerged from the crisis strengthened and Germany found itself isolated, with support only from its ally, Austria–Hungary. 5 10

It was no great surprise that a European war would eventually result from such tensions. It was equally no surprise that a Balkan crisis would provide a trigger for such a conflict. The years before 1914 saw frequent crises in the Balkans which threatened to escalate, and a general European war was only narrowly avoided on several occasions. 15

As a result of the Balkan Wars (1912–13), Serbia posed a greater threat to Austria–Hungary, externally and internally. The background of the Balkan Wars is essential for an understanding of Austria’s reaction to the Serbian-supported assassination on 28 June 1914. This was a threat to the Austrian Empire’s international reputation that Vienna could not ignore and seemed to provide an opportunity to dispose of the Serbian threat once and for all. 20

**Extract 2:** From C Bloch, *The Causes of the World War*, published in 1966.

Despite the state of tension between the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente, it was not inevitable that a general war should break out in the summer of 1914, whatever may have been the grievances or anxieties of the nations involved. 25

Germany, although it had maintained neutrality during the recent Balkan wars, was fully aware of the unpreparedness for war of the Triple Entente. In 1914, Germany believed that the moment for aggression had come and decided to seize the first favourable opportunity to adopt a policy of force. Also, Vienna, encouraged by Berlin, favoured an attack on Serbia, even at the risk of provoking European tensions. 30

Austria–Hungary proposed to take advantage of the ‘opportunity’ presented by the assassination at Sarajevo to finally deal with the hated Serbia. Before finalising the decision, Vienna sought the advice and agreement of the German Government. Berlin was at this time free to advise either peace or war. Without hesitation, Berlin assured Vienna of absolute and unconditional support, even if a European war should break out. Strengthened by this definite support and encouragement on the part of Germany, nearly four weeks after the Sarajevo outrage, Austria–Hungary sent an ultimatum to Serbia containing conditions deliberately worded to be unacceptable. 40

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