

472/06

**HISTORY – HI2**

**PERIOD STUDY 6**

**UNIT 2**

**ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY  
OF EUROPE, c. 1618-1763**

A.M. THURSDAY, 12 January 2006

(45 minutes)

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **one** question.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question.

The quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

**You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.**

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**UNIT 2**

*Answer **one** question.*

*Candidates in their responses to the interpretation question should consider the validity of the interpretation using their knowledge of the period and other possible interpretations. Candidates should also consider the factors which may have influenced the way in which the interpretation has been formed – such as the type of historian/author, the evidence available to the historian/author and the date of the publication.*

**1. The reigns of Philip III and Philip IV, 1614-1665.**

‘If the King does not die, the Kingdom will. He is the cause of all Spain’s problems.’

[Antonio Dominguez, a political opponent and critic of Philip IV, writing in a private letter to his sister (May 1660)]

How valid is this interpretation of the problems facing Spain during the reign of Philip IV? [80]

**2. France, 1624-1661: Richelieu and Mazarin.**

‘Cardinal Mazarin has shown by seeking to continue the war that he does not care for the future and has exhausted the supplies of soldiers and money in France. We now see that he has caused such disorder that we are in both a foreign and civil war.’

[A magistrate in the French Parliament, writing in a Memorandum to Louis XIV (March 1652)]

How valid is this interpretation of Mazarin’s policies during the Frondes? [80]

**3. Peter the Great, 1696-1725.**

‘The extent to which Peter the Great ‘westernised’ Russia should not be exaggerated.’

[M. S. Anderson, an academic historian and specialist in eighteenth century European history, writing in a biography of the Russian Tsar, *Peter the Great* (1969)]

How valid is this interpretation of Peter the Great’s domestic policy? [80]