

472/08

HISTORY – HI2

UNIT 2

PERIOD STUDY 8

ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF EUROPE, c. 1878-1980

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 7 June 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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*Answer **one** question.*

Candidates in their response 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. Revolution in Russia, civil war and the rule of Stalin, 1917-1941.

‘The Soviet state was run at the expense of the Soviet people.’

[John Traynor, an academic historian and specialist in European history, writing in a general history of Europe, *Europe 1890-1990* (1991)]

How valid is this interpretation of the nature of Communist rule in Russia between 1917-1941?

[80]

2. Fascist Italy, 1922-1939.

‘Mussolini’s talents and successes lay only in the areas of acting and propaganda.’

[Martin Clark, an academic historian and specialist in modern Italian history, writing in a specialist book on Italy, *Modern Italy, 1871-1995* (1984)]

How valid is this interpretation of the impact of Fascist rule upon Italian society between 1922-1939?

[80]

3. Nazi Germany, 1933-1939.

‘Hitler was a highly effective dictator.’

[Robert Waites, an academic historian and specialist in twentieth century German history, writing in a specialist book on Nazi Germany, *Adolf Hitler – The Psychopathic God* (1977)]

How valid is this interpretation of Nazi rule in Germany between 1933-1939?

[80]