

472/06

**HISTORY–HI2**

**UNIT 2**

**PERIOD STUDY 6**

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

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 6 June 2007

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

‘Philip III’s reign in Spain was marked by his incompetence as a ruler.’

[Paul Kennedy, an academic historian and specialist in seventeenth century Europe, writing in a general history of Europe, *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers* (1988)]

How valid is this interpretation of the reign of Philip III? [80]

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

‘Cardinal Richelieu’s rule has brought us nothing but enemies, wars and disasters.’

[Mathieu de Margues, an author and a critic of Richelieu, writing in his book, *French Catholicism* (c.1640s)]

How valid is this interpretation of Richelieu’s policies? [80]

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

‘Peter at his death in 1725 left a country that had, in all respects, changed beyond recognition.’

[Paul Bushkovitch, an academic historian and specialist in the reign of Peter the Great, writing in a specialist book, *Peter the Great : The Struggle for Power 1671-1725* (2001)]

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