



**General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary/Advanced**

472/07

**HISTORY – HI2  
UNIT 2  
PERIOD STUDY 7  
ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF  
EUROPE, c. 1815-1917**

P.M. FRIDAY, 11 January 2008  
(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.**

## UNIT 2

### PERIOD STUDY 7

#### ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF EUROPE, c. 1815-1917

*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 Second German Empire under Bismarck, 1871-1890.**

“Bismarck was a conservative revolutionary, willing to overthrow old ideas and to accept new ones in order to preserve greater social and political order.”

[Lothar Gall, an academic historian and specialist in German history, writing in a specialist book on German history, *Bismarck: the White Revolutionary* (1986)]

How valid is this interpretation of the Second Empire under Bismarck from 1871-1890?

[80]

#### **2. Russia under Alexander II, 1855-1881.**

“Alexander II was a great Tsar and deserved a kinder fate.”

[Maurice Paleologue, the French Ambassador to Russia at the outbreak of World War I, and an author of Russian history books, writing in his memoirs, *An Ambassador's Memoirs* (1923)]

How valid is this interpretation of Russia under the rule of Alexander II between 1855-1881? [80]

#### **3. Nationalist tensions in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, 1878-1914.**

“The threat to the Austro-Hungarian Empire’s existence was primarily international and external rather than internal.”

[Paul W. Schroeder, an academic historian and specialist in twentieth century history, writing in a magazine article on the Austro-Hungarian Empire published in the *Journal of Modern History* (1972)]

How valid is this interpretation of the Austro-Hungarian Empire between 1878-1914?

[80]