



GCE AS/A level

472/06

HISTORY – HI2

UNIT 2

PERIOD STUDY 6

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

P.M. MONDAY, 2 June 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 or part-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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ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF EUROPE, c. 1618-1763

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.

‘Every aspect of Philip IV’s reign was disastrous.’

[E.N. Williams, an academic historian and specialist in seventeenth and eighteenth century European history, writing in a general history book, *The Ancien Régime in Europe* (1970)]

How valid is this interpretation of Spanish government during the reign of Philip IV? [80]

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

‘Mazarin’s only legacy to France was to make the country weaker.’

[G.N. Clark, an academic historian specializing in European history, writing in a general survey of Europe, *The Seventeenth Century* (1929)]

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

3. Peter the Great, 1696-1725.

‘Peter the Great’s policy of westernisation led to very little change in Russia.’

[B.H. Summer, an academic historian specializing in Russian history, writing in an article on Peter the Great, published in a specialist history magazine, *History* (1947)]

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