

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W
Alternative J: The Holocaust, 1938–1945

HS6J

Friday 22 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS6J.
- Answer **all** questions.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly, and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part (c).

Answer **all** questions.

1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Nazi Jewish policy from September 1939 to early May 1941 seems to have been largely improvised. Little had been planned before 1939; given the constantly changing conditions thereafter, nothing was inevitable.

Adapted from A FARMER, *Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust*, 1998

Source B Adapted from the Wannsee Protocol, 20th January 1942

Persons of mixed blood of the first degree who are exempted from evacuation will be sterilised in order to prevent any offspring and to eliminate the problem of persons of mixed blood once and for all. Such sterilisation will be voluntary. But it is the precondition for remaining in the Reich. The sterilised 'person of mixed blood' is thereafter free of all restrictions to which he was previously subjected.

SS-Gruppenführer Hoffmann is of the view that sterilisation will have to be widely used, since the person of mixed blood who is given the choice whether he will be evacuated or sterilised would rather undergo sterilisation.

Source C Adapted from the testimony of Adolf Eichmann during his trial in 1961

According to the practice until then, all the officials were always trying, for departmental reasons, to delay things and make known their reservations. In other words, there was always a whole series of individual discussions as part of the long-drawn-out deliberations that had been held. Those were dragging on, and there was never a clear-cut solution achieved right away. This was the reason why Heydrich convened this Wannsee Conference, in order, as it were, to press through, on the highest level, his will and the will of the Reichsführer-SS and Chief of the German Police, Heinrich Himmler.

Source D Mass murder of Jews in Europe in autumn 1941 preceded rather than followed on from a central decision to carry out the genocide of European Jews. Death was in the air, but it was not yet decided that the final solution meant murder alone. At Wannsee, Himmler and Heydrich were seeking to assert their primacy in a genocidal programme that was just taking shape. In short the Wannsee Conference, which once seemed far distanced from the moments of decision, is regaining its importance in the process of turning mass murders into genocide.

Adapted from M ROSEMAN, *Cognac and Genocide*, 2002

- (a) Use **Source A** and your own knowledge.

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about Nazi Jewish policy from September 1939 to early May 1941. *(10 marks)*

- (b) Use **Source B** and your own knowledge.

How useful is **Source B** as evidence of Nazi racial policies? *(10 marks)*

- (c) Use **Sources B, C and D** and your own knowledge.

‘The Wannsee Conference was held to assert Heydrich and Himmler’s control over the Final Solution.’
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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