



AS HISTORY

The Quest for Political Stability: Germany, 1871–1929

Paper1L

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER

1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is **1L**.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 or 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.
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Section AAnswer Question 01

Extract A

A manically active Emperor in charge of the mightiest military machine in the world; a clique of generals and courtiers who dress up as ballerinas and poodles to amuse him; a Chancellor, Bülow, who changes his trousers to please him because he knows how dependent his control over the administration is upon the Kaiser's continuing support. Wilhelm II's whole style of kingship was his own invention, for his grandfather would not and his father could not be a 'Kaiser'. The task he had set himself, of rallying the nation behind his throne, was wildly ambitious from the start and he failed as much because of its inherent impossibility as because of his personal weaknesses.

Adapted from J.C.G. Röhl, **Kaiser Wilhelm II, New Interpretations**, 1982

Extract B

The German power pyramid lacked an apex. Both in real terms and in terms of atmosphere, a power vacuum arose, which diverse personalities and forces tried to fill. Since neither they nor the Reichstag succeeded for any length of time in so-doing, there arose in Germany, behind the facade of a grandiose personal regime, a permanent crisis of state which led to a multitude of rival power centres. The Kaiser was incapable of ruling the Reich personally. It was not Wilhelm II who impressed his stamp on government policy but the traditional ruling elites. Their power was sufficient even without a semi-dictator.

Adapted from H.U. Wehler, **The German Empire, 1871–1914**, 1985

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of Wilhelm II's political authority in the years 1888 to 1914?

[25 marks]

Section BAnswer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03

EITHER

0	2
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‘The transformation of the German economy, in the years 1871 to 1914, was due to government action.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

OR

0	3
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‘Left-wing opposition did not pose a serious threat to the governments of Germany in the years 1890 to 1929.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Question 1 Extract A: J C G Rohl, Kaiser Wilhelm II, New Interpretations, Cambridge University Press, 1982

Question 1 Extract B: H U Wehler, German Empire 1871–1914, Berg Publishers, 1985. An imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

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