

GCE
AS and A Level

History

AS exams 2009 onwards
A2 exams 2010 onwards

Unit 2J

Specimen question paper

Version 1.1



HISTORY
Unit 2
Britain and Appeasement, 1919–1940

HIS2J

<DAY> <TIME>

For this paper you must have:

- A 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 HIS2J.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- 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 each question.

HIS2J

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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

Source A On 7 March 1936 Hitler ordered his troops into the demilitarized Rhineland. He breached not only Versailles but also Locarno. With encouragement from Britain, France could have defeated the still small German army. Britain gave no such encouragement. Germany, in the words of the leading Liberal Lord Lothian, ‘had
5 walked into her own back garden’. The Labour Party agreed with the inaction of Baldwin and Eden, and Hitler encouraged this by promising pacts left, right and centre. As one of the few opponents of appeasement, General Sir Edward Spears pointed out:

10 Having invaded the Rhineland this year and having offered a non-aggression Treaty for 25 years, next year Germany will take Austria, then Memel and the Polish Corridor, and we can look forward to peace once France and Britain have disappeared!

Spears was not listened to, the ‘back garden’ argument fitted public opinion.

Adapted from M PEARCE and G STEWART, *British Political History, 1867–2001*, 2002

Source B An extract from a book stating that the British government and public had sympathy for Hitler and that Churchill was alone in calling for resistance to German remilitarization.

This source cannot be reproduced electronically for copyright reasons. Please e-mail history@aqg.org.uk and supply a postal address to receive a printed version, clearly stating **HIS2J**.

Source C Adapted from a book written by Anthony Eden stating that the majority of British people was not against German remilitarization.

This source cannot be reproduced electronically for copyright reasons. Please e-mail history@aqg.org.uk and supply a postal address to receive a printed version, clearly stating **HIS2J**.

(a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source A** differ from those in **Source B** in relation to British reaction to the German remilitarisation of the Rhineland. (12 marks)

(b) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important was public opinion up to 1936 in influencing Britain’s policies towards Nazi Germany? (24 marks)

EITHER 2

- (a) Explain why the attitude of the British government towards Germany changed in the years 1919 to 1924. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'International relations were vastly improved by the British Conservative government in the years 1924 to 1929.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR 3

- (a) Explain why Britain signed the Stresa Front with Italy in April 1935. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'Britain's attempts to maintain good relations with Mussolini and Italy from October 1935 to 1939 were well-intentioned but totally unsuccessful.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.

Question 1 Source A: M PEARCE and G STEWART, *British Political History, 1867–2001*, Routledge, 2002.

Copyright © 2007 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.