

GCE
AS and A Level

History

AS exams 2009 onwards
A2 exams 2010 onwards

Unit 2K

Specimen question paper

Version 1.1



HISTORY

HIS2K

Unit 2

A New Roman Empire? Mussolini's Italy, 1922–1945

<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 HIS2K.
- 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.

HIS2K

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 Adapted from a discussion on the Corporate State from Mussolini's autobiography

Five years of harmonious work have transformed the economic life, and in consequence the moral life of Italy. Let me add that the control that I imposed is not a forced one and not in the selfish interests of classes. Our discipline has one vision and one need – the welfare and good name of the Italian nation. The collaboration of classes is the basis for
5 our power. We do not lose time in strikes which threaten the strength of the economy.

Source B An extract from a book which states that the Italian Corporate State was used by Mussolini to hide the corruption of his regime.

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 **HIS2K**.

Source C Economically Fascism was a failure. The Corporate State did nothing to improve economic conditions; in fact it never existed at all except on paper. Italy became almost self-sufficient in wheat production at the expense of the rest of her agriculture. The Fascist regime did more to hinder than to aid economic growth and modernisation. Even
5 before the disastrous losses of the Second World War, growth in national income was held back by restrictive cartels, discouragement of urban growth, the Battle of Grain, the spread of autarky and the promotion of war industry.

Adapted from ER TANNENBAUM, *Fascism in Italy*, 1973

(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 the Corporate State. (12 marks)

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

How successful were Mussolini's economic policies between 1922 and 1940? (24 marks)

EITHER 2

- (a) Explain why Mussolini signed the Pact of Steel with Nazi Germany in May 1939. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'In June 1940, Mussolini was forced into a war which he did not want.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR 3

- (a) Explain why there was a March on Rome in October 1922. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'From 1929 the Catholic Church was a loyal partner of the Fascist State.'
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 C: E R TANNENBAUM, *Fascism in Italy: Society and Culture 1922–1945*, Basic Books Inc., 1972.

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