

## Teacher Resource Bank

GCE History

Candidate Exemplar Work:

- Unit 1 – Average Level Response



**Unit 1 –January 2009 –average script containing responses to:**

- **HIS1A The Crusading Movement and the Latin east, 1095–1204**
- **HIS1K Russia and Germany, 1871–1914**

**HIS1A**

**1 (a)** Explain why the Seljuk Turks were unable to resist the First Crusade. (12 marks)

The main reason for the weakness of the Seljuk Turks was the division between Sunni and Shia Muslims regarding the authenticity of the four caliphs following Muhammad.

In 1071 the Turks won a great victory at the Battle of Manzikert, yet this meant that although their territory looked impressive on the map, their manpower was spread very thinly making it easier for others to threaten them. One such threat came from the Danishmends in Anatolia. Furthermore, in Syria and Palestine, the Turks were hated by Arabs which caused disunity and weakness in the empire.

Time was needed for consolidation, but just 21 years later in 1092 disaster struck. The vizier Nizam-Al-Mulk and the sultan, Malikshah, both died. Familiar political entities fell into disorientation forming new autonomous states governed by Atabegs like Ridwan in Aleppa, his brother Duqaq in Damascus and Arslan in Nicaea. The splitting of territories made it easier for crusaders. The divisions culminated in severe splits within the Seljuk territory between rival emirates, between Sunnis and Shias and between Turks and Arabs. At one point General Kerbogha, emir of Mosul, gathered a large force yet still lost because the Arab leaders he led refused to fight for a Turk who they themselves had fought against.

Such was the division in Seljuk territories that when the crusaders finally reached Jerusalem in 1099, they found themselves fighting Fatamids not Abbasids as they had expected.

***Examiners Comments:***

*This contains some good detail but the reasons are not explicitly addressed after the first sentence.*

*There is rather too much description with little attempt to differentiate between factors or to offer any inter-linkage. Overall this answer shows some understanding but is too content-based.*

*Level 3 (8 marks)*

**1 (b)** How important was spiritual motivation for participants in the First Crusade? (24 marks)

There are a variety of reasons as to why people participated in the First Crusade, such as spiritual motivation but there were also other motivations.

Firstly, religion played a dominant part in medieval life. The Pope promised indulgence and the repentance of sins to anyone who went on crusade. This was important as in medieval society they were very interested in eschatology, which is what happens when you die. They believed that your sins had to be cleansed in purgatory before you could enter heaven. Therefore this was an opportunity to get straight into heaven and particularly appealed to people such as Raymond of Toulouse who had been excommunicated twice. Furthermore, this appealed to the poor through the idea of eschatology as it gave the hope of something better after death. Also if you died fighting on crusade you would become a martyr and get straight into heaven. This was all particularly important because of Millenarianism, the fear that in 1100 Jesus would rise again and bring about the apocalypse.

There are also economic motives as to why people went on crusade. The first being to do with primogeniture. This was the idea that the first son of a family inherited everything, the second went into the church and the rest trained to become knights. Medieval society had too many bored, landless knights and thus the East was an opportunity to gain new land and wealth. People who stayed in the East after the pilgrimage, such as Bohemund of Taranto who became Bohemund of Antioch, prove that some went for economic gain. Moreover, there had been bad harvests in the west at this time and the East had been described as the 'land of milk and honey' in the Bible. The Pope has said that if you killed a man on crusade you could take his land and possessions. Some people, therefore, went on crusade for a better lifestyle. A criticism of the economic argument was that it cost too much to go on crusade, meaning that some knights had to sell or mortgage land to do so.

People also went on crusade for social reasons such as the feudal system. This meant that when a Lord went on crusade his underlings, such as the local peasants, had no choice but to accompany him. Another example is chivalry. Due to the knights' sense of duty they felt they had to protect those who were weaker and less powerful than them.

Although it has been shown that people went on crusade for economic reasons such as Bohemund of Antioch and Baldwin of Jerusalem, I agree that spiritual motivation was the most important motivation for going on the First Crusade.

**Examiners Comments:**

*This contains some good detail and shows some understanding of factors. However, the opening is rather bland and there is no attempt to state a case to be proved. The rest of the answer is well focused but tends to be a list of reasons for going on crusade with little attempt to link these reasons together or to evaluate their relative importance. The final statement that spiritual motivation was the most important factor is never proven. There is insufficient argument here to take this above Level 3 although the detail raises it slightly within the level.*

Level 3 (15 marks)

**HIS1K**

- 1 (a)** Explain why the SPD (German Socialist Party) grew in strength between 1875 and 1890.  
(12 marks)

The SPD were in the Reichstag. The main supporters of the SPD were the working class and the democratic Marxists (those who followed the political teachings of Marx). The SPD wanted to create greater equality and democracy for the workers.

After his break with the Liberals, Bismarck launched an attack on the Socialists as he feared that they were a threat to German unity. The Socialists wanted to improve working conditions including wages and working hours. This appealed to the working class as conditions were poor because of population growth and the increase in the size of the workforce, as a consequence of industrialisation.

In an attempt to neutralise the threat posed by the Socialists, Bismarck introduced two measures: state socialism and the Anti-Socialist Laws. The Anti-Socialist Laws prevented Socialists from meeting and banned them from producing literature in Germany. However, the Socialists then began to publish material outside Germany and they still had seats in the Reichstag as Bismarck could not ban them from it. As a result his repressive measures served to increase the SPD's popularity and over time they secured half a million votes in the Reichstag elections.

***Examiners Comments:***

*The first two paragraphs of this answer are descriptive and do not answer the question directly, although mention of the Socialists' policies implicitly explains reasons for growth. It is only in the last sentence that the candidate addresses the question explicitly and even then there is limited explanation for growth. There is insufficient attempt to respond to the question to rise above Level 2.*

*Level 2 (5 marks)*

**1 (b)** How successful was Bismarck in dealing with internal opposition in the years 1871 to 1890?  
(24 marks)

On the unification of Germany, Bismarck faced a divided Germany and it was his intention to create a sense of unity within the newly formed country as soon as possible.

Bismarck saw a threat to unity from the Catholics, as they saw the Pope as the highest source of authority rather than the German government. The Pope at that time often interfered in the governments of Europe, and this is shown by his 'doctrine of Papal Infallibility'. To combat this opposition Bismarck began the Kulturkampf. This attack on Catholicism was intended to reduce the power of the Pope by banning excommunication and enforcing government control over the education and appointment of the clergy. It was also intended to reduce Catholic numbers by expelling the Jesuits and similar orders. This policy was, overall, a failure as the Catholic threat was probably overestimated and the policy led to support and sympathy for them. This can be seen in the increase in the number of seats held in the Reichstag by the Catholic Centre Party.

Bismarck brought the Kulturkampf to an end and then took on a new threat, that of Socialism. He broke from the Liberals and sided with the Conservatives over the policy of protectionism. This gained him the support of the Conservatives for his attacks on Socialism. Bismarck passed the Anti-Socialist Laws which were intended to stop the growth of Socialism by banning the publication of Socialist literature in Germany and banning meetings. This, however, only drove the Socialists underground and forced them to publish material elsewhere and smuggle it into the country. The Anti-Socialist Laws also failed to prevent the Socialists from being active in the Reichstag. This meant that they still had influence over the passing of legislation and some power over how the country was run. Finally, another failure of this policy was that, like the Catholics at the time of the Kulturkampf, the Socialists came to be seen as victims and thus support for them grew.

Bismarck had some successes and some failures. He avoided strikes and a revolution. However, there were a number of significant failures seen by how his repressive policies created support for first the Catholics and then the Socialists. Bismarck was not that successful in dealing with internal opposition within these years.

**Examiners Comments:**

*This is rather descriptive in style, although it shows understanding of the demands of the question and provides some balanced comment on Bismarck's success in addressing the threat of the Catholics and Socialists. It is fairly narrow in range (no ethnic minorities for example) and there is a little uncertainty –as in 'banning excommunication' and the slightly contradictory opening. The answer contains sufficient for Level 3 but is insufficiently analytical for higher. It is also placed lower in the level because of its failure to use dates.*

Level 3 (13 marks)