Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2017

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level in History (WHI04) Paper 1A

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June 2017
Publications Code

Unit4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

WHI04 1A: The Making of Modern Europe, 1805-71

Introduction

June 1706 was the first time that WHI04 was taken by candidates entered for the IAL History qualification, and was the first time that candidates encountered AO3-focused questions relating to Historical Interpretations. It was pleasing to see that most candidates were well prepared in terms of knowledge and that many responses were both well-informed and well-written. However, the approach of some responses to both Section A and Section B limited the ability of candidates to be rewarded at the higher Levels of the mark scheme.

The paper is divided into two sections. Section A contains a compulsory question relating to the historical issue outlined in Key Topic 1 – Historical Interpretations. The question requires candidates to make a judgement on a stated viewpoint, through the analysis of two extracts from historical works which address the historical issue and their own knowledge of the historical issues. The question assesses AO3 skills - candidate ability to analyse and evaluate, in relation to the historical context, different ways in which aspects of the past have been interpreted - in combination with AO1 skills – candidate ability to demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts.

Section B also targets AO1 skills. Section B provides a choice of essays relating to Key Topics 2-4. Questions set may address more than one topic or relate to a single topic. The essays assess knowledge and understanding of the period in depth – questions may relate to a single event or a longer period – by targeting five possible second order concepts – cause, consequence, change/continuity, similarity/difference and significance. Questions may combine second order concepts, for example, consequence and change. Candidates answer one question from a choice of three. The most common weakness in Section B essays was the lack of a sharp focus on the precise terms of the question and/or the second order concept that was being targeted.

Candidates are, in general, clearly aware of both the structure and the timing of the examination paper; there was little evidence on this paper of candidates having insufficient time to answer questions from Sections A and B.

Candidate performance on each section and individual questions for Paper 1A is considered in the next section. Please note that it is recommended that centres look at a selection of Principal Examiner Reports from across the different routes of the paper to get an a overall sense of examiner feedback, centre approaches and candidate achievement. It is also useful to take note of the indicative content in the mark schemes.

Centres may also wish to refer to the *Getting Started* guide that is to be found on the IAL History Pearson Edexcel website.

Section A

Unit 4 is the first time that candidates have encountered the AO3 skills requirement and most were aware of the need to address the viewpoint given in the question by analysing the interpretations presented in the extracts and drawing on their own knowledge. The viewpoint stated in the question will be represented clearly within one extract with counter-evidence being presented in the other. However, both extracts may include material which can be both compared as well as contrasted. Higher Level responses came to a judgement about how far they agreed with the viewpoint by analysing both extracts and integrating their own knowledge into the overall discussion. These responses often addressed the extracts from the beginning using them to discuss differing arguments in relation to the viewpoint and deploying own knowledge to expand the discussion and where appropriate indicate other areas of debate not covered. Higher Level responses also met the descriptor requirement to reach a judgement based on the views given in both extracts and did not just refer to the general lines of debate within the overall Key Topic area.

The generic mark scheme clearly indicates the three bullet-pointed strands which are the focus for awarding marks and centres should note their progression:

- interpretation and analysis of extracts
- deployment of knowledge of issues related to the debate
- evaluation of and judgement about the interpretations

Some approaches by candidates matched the descriptors in the lower Levels of the mark scheme. Candidates who wrote a Section B AO1 style answer without any explicit reference to the sources found it difficult to achieve a mark beyond low-Level 2 as all the bullet point descriptors require some engagement with the extracts. Also candidates who wrote responses almost entirely based on comprehension and understanding of the extracts rather than discussing the views presented in the extracts were unlikely to achieve beyond Level 2. Some responses wrote very briefly about each extract and then wrote extensively on aspects not included in the extracts. Again these responses were not using the extracts to develop the debate and so could at best reach Level 3. A few candidates seemed to have a prepared response to a generalised debate with regard to the Key Topic which ignored the viewpoint given in the question altogether and so were not able to focus on the question set.

Some candidates viewed this as an AO2 source analysis and evaluated the extracts with regard to aspects of provenance which is not an appropriate approach. There may be some occasions when the title of the book from which the extract is taken furthers the discussion of the viewpoint but it is not intended that the candidates use the information provided to help forward the debate and no instruction is given with regard to this (unlike the AO2 requirements). Candidates should be encouraged to refer to the extracts and to discuss the interpretations to be found within the extracts. Here it is worth noting the guidance given in the *Getting Started* document. *Students are not expected to be familiar with the writing of the selected historians but they should be familiar*

with the issues that make the question controversial. Reference to the works of name historians, other than the material in the extracts provided is not expected but students may consider historians' viewpoints in framing their arguments.

Also many candidates appeared to create their discussion by reference to only the first few lines of each extract and so lost an opportunity to develop key points made later in the extracts. Candidates have sufficient time to consider the extracts carefully and to draw out a variety of different key points in order to compare and contrast the interpretations presented.

Question 1

Most candidates had some knowledge of the contribution of the failure of the Russian campaign of 1812 to the downfall of Napoleon in 1814 and were able to use this to develop key points made in the extracts. Candidates were able to contrast the points made in Extract 1 about Napoleon's declining abilities, the scale of the losses and the international situation with the view in Extract 2 that the Peninsular War was as responsible and that Napoleon himself had regrouped after the retreat. However, there was a tendency for candidates to either paraphrase the extracts or to ignore the extracts altogether. It is important for candidates to be aware that historians sometimes use negative statements to then go on to make positive points. It is important that candidates take the time to read the extracts carefully.

This Level 2 response provides an example where the response has answered the question with implicit reference to the extracts, taking them at face value and with some misunderstandings.

There were several reasons for the downfall of Napoleon in 1814.

As mentioned in extract 2, most historians can agree that the disatrous war on Russia was one of the most prominent factors. Indeed Napoleon's greed for conquest, power and contral was eventually what led Napolean to his down fall. In 1812 Napoleon attempted to further expand his empire into Russia, ~~this was called~~ The Moscow campaign, was the most disastrous part of the ewar, where Napoleon lost ~~lost~~ the largest amount of soldiers. This also injured Napoleon's prestige in his army and in Europe as a whole. The scale of his defeats led to a surge of attacks against Napoleons rule, from countries which he had previously conquered.

The war on Russia had weakened Napoleons control over Europe. His troops troops were simply not prepared to face a Russian winter, moral went down, desertion became common in his troops, many froze to death or starved to death because of lack of preperations. This was the first major defeat of Napoleon. The war on Russia was extremely important for ~~a~~ weakening Napoleon's army and creating a sense of hope that Napoleon could be defeated elsewhere like he had been in Russia.

However there were other important factors which caused Napoleon's ~~do~~ downfall.

It has been argued Napoleon abilities as cunning and vigorous young leader were fading away by 1812. He had gone into decline, gotten fatter, lazier, and surrounded himself with people who didn't critic him even if their abilities in the army were not up to the task. This made Napoleon's army weaker, however

it has been argued that after his defeat in Russia, Napoleon rejuvenated himself, however it might have already been too late because Russia dealt a major blow on his army.

Another reason for countries to stand up against Napoleon was the failure and discontent over Napoleon's Continental system, Heavy taxes on conquered areas, encouraged revolution against monarchs, the Code Napoleon. This created a lot of discontent as well as the fact that Napolleon was a self proclaimed Emperor who insited revolution and to some extent constitutional changes, such as republicanism. Angered nobles across Europe as Napoleon was an illigitimate ruler which contradicted the traditional structures of absolute monarchies through bloodline and papal support or blessing.

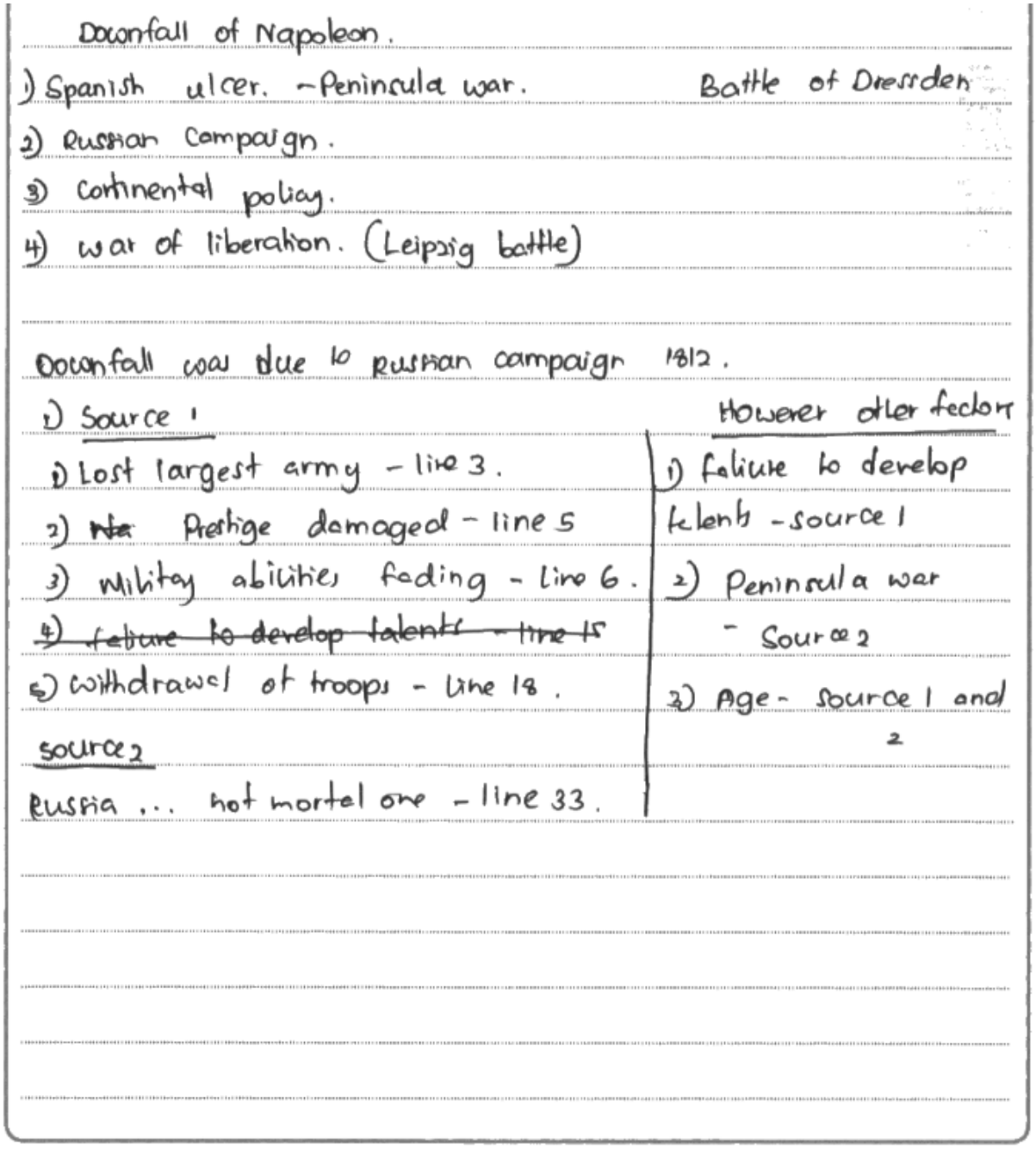
This eventually led to Treaty of Chaumont which was a military Alliance between Austria, Great Britain, Russia and Prussia.

The aim of this treaty was to put down Napoleon and to restore Bourbon monarchs in France. This eventually led to a major defeat of Napolleon in 1914 ~~in~~ with control over Paris and in 1915 in Belgium, also known as the Battle of Waterloo.

Another key reason for Napoleons defeat was that Napoleon had never fully established a proper hold on Spain. This unfinished business led to frequent guerilla warefare attacks on his troops in Spain while his main army was focused on the war on Russia. Casualties for Napoleons troops exceeded 500,000 soldiers and loss of loot. What didn't help Napoleon was Great Britains ~~s~~ military and financial support for countries against Napoleon. The Duke Wellington played a significant part as a military strategist to crush Napoleonic troops in Spain and later in France and Belgium.

Overall it can be assessed that indeed the catastrophic failures of the Russia campaign 1812 led to his downfall, however it can be argued that there were several other important factors which contributed to the atmosphere of revolt against Napoleon, especially from areas controlled by Napoleon, such as his illigitimacy to the throne his continental system, Great Britains success to provide incentives to fight back against Napoleon, and unfinished affairs in Spain.

This is a Level 3 response which takes each extract in turn and then discusses other factors. The judgement reached is based on a general essay response rather than evaluating the key issues raised in the extracts along with other factors.



Downfall of Napoleon.

1) Spanish ulcer. - Peninsula war. Battle of Dresden

2) Russian Campaign.

3) Continental policy.

4) War of liberation. (Leipzig battle)

Downfall was due to Russian campaign 1812.

1) Source 1

1) Lost largest army - line 3.

2) ~~Nta~~ Prestige damaged - line 5

3) Military abilities fading - line 6.

~~4) failure to develop talents - line 15~~

5) withdrawal of troops - line 18.

source 2

Russia ... not mortal one - line 33.

However other factors

1) Failure to develop talents - source 1

2) Peninsula war - Source 2

3) Age - Source 1 and 2

How far can it be agreed that Napoleon's downfall was due to the failure of the Russian campaign in 1812?

Many historians would agree that the Russian campaign acted as the main reason for the downfall, but others might disagree and say maybe it was time that Napoleon's biggest enemy that consequently led to his downfall. Let us first evaluate both extract 1 and extract 2 to formulate a vision to ~~bete~~ what actually led to Napoleon's downfall.

Extract 1 does agree with the view that the downfall of Napoleon was due to the failure of the Russian campaign. As its stated in line 3 'he had lost the largest army of the entire war'. losses ... astounding'. The Russian campaign ~~was~~ can be said to be one of the biggest losses Napoleon was to bear as it led to the loss of his prestidge as a military strategist. Napoleon moreover underestimated the Russian army and was not expecting the war to drag on and expected the war to be done before winter. The Moscow campaign demonstrated how his military abilities were fading and how it was ~~beee~~ soon becoming difficult to maintain his emperor status. Napoleons ~~big~~ aim was to bring Europe as one and make Paris the capital however this dream was soon slipping away after the moscow campaign.

The loss of the Russian campaign gave hope to the other ~~all~~ Allied powers and exposed the French military weakness. The withdrawal of troops from the peninsula

as seen in extract 1 ~~gave to~~ gave opportunity to the British to consequently defeat France in the Peninsula war. ~~The following~~

Extract 2 agrees with the view that the Napoleons downfall was ~~led by~~ due to the Russian campaign because it shows how the war dealt him a huge blow 'but not a mortal one'. Yes it is true that the Russian campaign was a huge blow for Napoleon since it gave an opportunity for all the allied powers to build a strategy to defeat Napoleon. However extract 1 and 2 does ~~not only~~ give other reasons for the downfall of Napoleon.

In extract 1 shows how Napoleon's military abilities were fading and his health was beginning to become trouble some. It can be said that maybe it was his health that led him to the catastrophic failure of the Russian campaign. Extract 1 also shows how Napoleon failed to develop the talents of the officers oreven guide them. This can be demonstrated as another huge weakness that led to his downfall as it became a snowball effect as the trouble for Napoleon soon became greater and greater.

Extract 2 clearly shows two reasons for the downfall of Napoleon and states how the Peninsular war and his age and health played a huge factor that led to his downfall. The Peninsular war yes was

a big mistake for Napoleon as he called it the Spanish ulcer. ~~Stop~~ ~~The~~ This was a never ending war that drained the French army and was becoming a nuisance to Napoleon which ultimately ended in 1814 in which the British ~~defeated~~ under the leadership of Welesly defeated the French troops. Napoleon was known for using his nationalist card but this backfired on him and the Spanish got a sence of nationalism which ultimately ~~the gave an~~ gave problems to Napoleon. It can be said that Napoleons own ideology is one factor which led to his ultimate defeat.

However, both ~~sou~~ extract 1 and 2 fail to show us the initial problem that to the Russian campaign and which was one of the biggest mistakes Napoleon made which was the Continental policy. This is what led to the the Russian campaign and the peninsular war. What is the continental policy? it is a policy in which all countries of Europe were told no to stop trading with the British in order to 'cripple them down economically. This was initially a policy with made by Napoleon and the Tsar but eventually led to many of these countries failing economically. It can be said that this was one Napoleon's biggest mistakes as the whole of Europe began disliking Napoleon policy which led to Russia breaking the agreement and leading to the Russian campaign. In my opinion the continental policy was

the biggest factor for Napoleons downfall as it lead to many of the Allied countries to form a union against the French Emperor.

However, it can be said that after the Russian campaign Napoleon did have a few victories such as the Battle of Dresden. Eventhough Napoleon was ~~old aging~~ old and his health depreciating Napoleon was still able gain a few victory and keep his prestige intact. It can be seen in extract 2 how Napoleon tried to rejuvenate himself and displayed a ~~fee~~ ferocity that none could have expected. ~~It can also be questioned~~ However, the Russian campaign, the peninsular war and the continental policy had already done its damage and eventhough Napoleon rose to the occasion he was unable to avoid his dreaded downfall.

Overall, it can be said that the ~~of~~ Russian Campaign did contribute to the downfall of Napoleon in 1914 since Napoleon lost one his best and largest army and ~~has~~ humiliated him and reduced his military prestige. However the damage was already done when introduced the continental policy to cripple the British economy which ultimately led to the Peninsular war and the Russian campaign. In my opinion the continental policy played a huge role since without that huge mistake Napoleon may ruled europe at a greater length of time.

Section B

Most candidates were clearly aware of the requirements for the essay skills assessed in Section B. Most candidates showed progression from the AS units and were well-prepared to write, or to attempt, an analytical rather than a descriptive response. There was little evidence to suggest that the range and depth of essays were affected by the time taken to consider the two extracts in Section A. Many candidates were able to access Levels 3 , 4 and 5 but weaker responses either did not provide enough factual support for a depth study essay or deal well with the conceptual focus of the question. Centres are reminded that any of the second order concepts listed in the introduction can be addressed in the essay section and candidates need to be aware that not all questions will refer to causation and that not all responses require a main factor/other factors response. Indeed, a persistent number of candidates attempt to respond to all questions by addressing the relative significance of generic causal factors whether appropriate or not.

The generic mark scheme clearly indicates the four bullet-pointed strands which are the focus for awarding marks and centres should note their progression:

- analysis and exploration of key features and characteristics of the period in relation to the second-order conceptual demands of the question
- selection and deployment of knowledge
- substantiated evaluation and judgement
- organisation and communication of argument

At Level 4 and above there is a requirement for the exploration of key issues by an analysis of the relationships between key features of the period and many good responses remained in Level 3 because these relationships were stated rather than explained or because key features were addressed separately e.g. stating that each key feature in turn was the main reason rather than developing a logical argument. It is also important to note that the reference to valid criteria in the third bullet point is not a reference to the different factors/key issues/key features being discussed but to the measurement criteria being used to reach an overall judgement. This is the extent to which students are able to explain and justify their decision to ascribe greater significance to one cause than another, or to judge a development as significant or an action as ineffective etc.

Question 2

This was the more popular of the two questions. Most candidates had sound knowledge of the role of Metternich as an obstacle to nationalism and were able to demonstrate the various methods used by the Austrian Empire to prevent the spread of nationalism. Some candidates suggested that Metternich was responsible for spreading nationalism rather than preventing it. However, the question focus was on the 'main obstacle' and most discussed the relative significance of other obstacles such as divisions amongst the nationalists themselves. It would appear that some candidates had only really been prepared to answer a question with regard to Germany. The question referred to both German and Italian nationalism and so some reference to both areas was required in order to reach the highest Levels.

Question 3

This question required a discussion of the relative contribution of Garibaldi as compared to Cavour in the process of Italian unification in the years 1858-61. This focus of this question was the specific comparison of the two and so discussion of other contributions was not required. There was sound knowledge of the contribution of both Garibaldi and Cavour but the specific time period was not always adhered to. It is very important that candidates read the questions carefully and respond to the specific wording of the question.

This Level 2 response is an example of a response where there is a general awareness of the role of Cavour but it lacks clear relevance to the time period of the question. The response shows some knowledge and understanding but it lacks focus on the time period and is not precise or detailed enough to reach the higher Levels.

Both Garibaldi and Cavour greatly contributed to Italian unification in the years of 1858-61, however the extent of each ~~power~~ influence is debatable. I am going to look at Cavour's and Garibaldi's actions in 1858-61 ~~in order to see to~~ and their consequences in order to see which of these great leaders greater contributed to the Italian unification. I personally believe that Cavour drew together Italians economically and ideologically on the North while Garibaldi was instrumental in actual unification of North and South.

Cavour ~~was a~~ became the first minister of Piedmont in 1852. He was responsible for the escalation of Piedmont importance both in Italy and internationally. Cavour implemented economic a political policies that contributed to unification of Italy in a way that Piedmont would become the ~~political~~ central state of unified Italy. ~~Within the~~

Within the country Cavour implemented policies that made Piedmont a stronger State. ~~also~~ For example Cavour used State investments to ~~promote industr~~

encourage industrial developments. ~~The~~ This decision created jobs and made economy bloom in 1858-1861. ~~The~~ The greater impact of this policy to unification was that investment in military industries such as Alienknupp resulted in production of needle-guns and other military equipment that was instrumental in increasing importance of Piedmont in Europe. In addition these developments ultimately resulted in ~~for~~ Italian success at war which encouraged the national feeling. Therefore, ~~Anoth~~ Cavour's investment in industries resulted in economic growth and growth of nationalism which led to unification of Italian States.

Another way Cavour improved economic position of Piedmont was agricultural developments. Fertilizers such as potash were widely used in agriculture with help of Cavour and that contributed to the fact that lower classes (peasants) were in favour of Cavour and Piedmont as a leading state of unified Italy.

In addition, Cavour developed the Cavourlio in ~~Election~~

the parliament. This resulted in unification of centre-right and centre-left politicians that together laid the basis for Italian unification.

Furthermore, Cavour's implementation of the new Constitution in Italy led to growth of liberalism within the country and unified Italian states.

~~Another way Cavour~~

Apart from piedmontisation, and other economic policies, Cavour was instrumental in gaining Italian supporters by his diplomacy. For instance, he joined the Crimean war in 1855 and this greatly contributed to the fact that both Britain and France saw Piedmont as a leading state within Italy. The growth of international support led to the fact that nationalism in Italy was growing due to pride for Italian successes abroad due Cavour's effort.

Furthermore, Cavour was very significant in establishing relations with ~~Austria~~ France, the Plombiers agreement of ~~1858~~ 1858 between Piedmont and ~~Italy~~ France to have war with Austria. The Italian support of the French cause was really done in order to get Lombardy and

make Italy a greater Empire.
Therefore, ~~the~~ Cavour's ~~international~~ diplomacy led to a more unified Italy both geographically and politically.

As demonstrated above, Cavour's policies greatly contributed to Italian unification. However, another person which is argued to be ~~instrumental~~ vital in achieving a more unified state was Garibaldi. Garibaldi was very important in promoting the ~~nationa~~ image of unified Italy across Italian states. Garibaldi become one of the symbols of Italian unification due to his influence in Italian states. ~~Not only that~~ He encouraged ~~states to go~~ for people to join the movement for the ^ mazzinianism and unified Italy of both North and South diplomatically by organizing meetings.

Another way Garibaldi was significant for Italian unification was his military effort in the South. ~~Comparing~~ Garibaldi did not listen to Cavour and decided to take over

South Italy in 1861. Comming the army of red-shirts (1000) he managed to take over Naples in 1861 and make Italy more unified. The North and South unification was one of the most important steps in unification process of Italy that has in fact ~~another~~ achived by one person whowent against the PM and King and it was Garibaldi. Therefore, Garibaldi was very important in terms of North-South unification as well as promotion of image of unified Italy. ~~However~~, Garibaldi was indeed important in promoting ideological ideas of unified Italy and that was his main impact. In fact, without Garibaldi as a mazzinian, the unification of Italy would be put under question, since Cavour was not in favour of Northern-Southern unification. Cavour did not want South to join the North since South was economically week, since it did not have much industry apart from railroads in Naples. In addition divisions between North and South were great due to the fact that South was politically backward-sticd had absolute monarchies

Therefore ~~Garibaldi's effort to unite the whole of Italy was~~ the fact that North and South Italy became united was mainly due to Garibaldi's success.

In conclusion, ~~while~~ Cavour was important in contributing to Italian unification by means of economic and political improvements. Due to his ~~policies~~ liberal policies and diplomacy Cavour managed to attract supporters from the whole of Italy ~~as~~ with Piedmont as a leading state. However, Cavour was against unification of the whole Italy and it was ultimately ~~only~~ the revolutionary Garibaldi who united the North and the South. Therefore, the factual geographical unification of Italian states was mostly due to Garibaldi's effort. However, Cavour was important in ideological and economic unification of the Italian states as well as unification with Lombardy.

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Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

Section A

- Candidates should use the time available to read and consider both extracts carefully before planning their answer
- Candidates should read the question carefully and make sure that the address the view specifically stated in the question
- Candidates should aim to interpret both extracts by analysing the issues raised and showing an understanding of the arguments presented by both authors
- Candidates should aim to integrate own knowledge with the key points raised in the extracts.

Section B

- Spending a few minutes planning helps to ensure the second order concept is correctly identified
- Candidates must provide more precise contextual knowledge as evidence. Weaker responses lacked depth and sometimes range
- Candidates should avoid a narrative-descriptive approach; this undermines the analysis that is required for the higher levels
- Candidates need to be aware of key dates as identified in the specification so that they can address the questions with chronological precision
- Candidates should try to explore the links between issues in order to make the structure of the response flow more logically and to enable the integration of analysis.