

Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2022

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level In History(WHIO1) Paper 1C

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Principal Examiner Report

WHI01 1C : Germany: 1918-45

The entry for this paper was the largest of the four papers that make up WHI01 and saw an increase on previous series. Candidates chose two questions from four.

Question 1

This was a generally well answered question. Many candidates were very knowledgeable about the many challenges faced by the Weimar Republic and balanced them with consideration about the challenges faced by the military restrictions imposed by the Treaty of Versailles. Those candidates who determined criteria for their overall judgement scored the highest.

Question 2

Some candidates who answered this question completely ignored the date range of 1924-28, which was specifically given in the question. As a consequence some answers focused on Wall Street Crash 1929 and its impact on Germany and the Nazi Party 1930-32, the Reichstag Fire, Presidential elections, and the Night of the Long Knives. Those that focused on the date range were able to consider the role of the SA and balance it with the role of Hitler, party re-organisation, the role of Goebbels, Bouhler and Schwarz.

Question 3

This question was popular with candidates. Candidates were very knowledgeable in relation to the consequences of Nazi rule for the German people, with many considering that while Volksgemeinschaft was created to an extent, other consequences, e.g. repression, the economy, employment, and the impact on women and youth were more important. Those that established criteria to support their judgement scored the highest.

Question 4

There were varied responses to this question. However, those that focused on the two factors in the question and considered with was mor significant scored the highest marks. Some candidates wanted this to be a more open question about why Germany lost the war and listed as many reasons as they could remember, which meant that their answers lacked focus on the issue raised in the question.

Points to consider:

- This is a 'Depth study with Interpretations' which means that knowledge on it own is not enough. Knowledge needs to be applied to the interpretation that is raised by the question and judgements made.
- The time allowed for this examination is sufficient to allow a small amount of planning time for each answer.
- When judgments are made they need to be supported with criteria it is not sufficient to state that a factor or consequence/effect/impact is the most 'important' or 'significant' without explaining the basis upon which that judgment has been made.