

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced Subsidiary GCE**

**HISTORY**

**2586**

Period Studies – European and World History 1789–1989

Wednesday

**7 JUNE 2006**

Afternoon

45 minutes

Additional materials:

One 8-page answer booklet.

**TIME** 45 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer book.

Write your answers on the separate answer book provided.

This question paper contains questions on the following five Options:

- Europe 1789–1849 (page 2)
- Europe 1825–1890 (page 3)
- America 1846–1919 (page 4)
- Europe 1890–1945 (page 5)
- Europe and the World 1919–1989 (page 6)

Each Option has eight questions, two for each of its Study Topics.

Answer **one** question.

Teachers may indicate to candidates in the examination room the part(s) of the paper which cover(s) the Option(s) studied.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Every question is marked out of 45.

You should write in continuous prose and are reminded of the need for clear and accurate writing, including structure of argument, grammar, punctuation and spelling.

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**This question paper consists of 6 printed pages and 2 blank pages.**

**Europe 1789–1849****1 The French Revolution 1789–1795**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent do economic problems explain the course of events in France from 1789 to 1792?

**or**

(b) 'The costs of the Reign of Terror outweighed any benefits.' How far do you agree with this view?

**2 Napoleon and Europe 1799–1815**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent did French people benefit from Napoleon's reforms during the Consulate (1799–1804)?

**or**

(b) To what extent was Napoleon's generalship the **main** reason for his military success in Europe to 1807?

**3 France 1814–1848**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent should Louis XVIII's reign be considered a failure?

**or**

(b) How successful were Louis Philippe's domestic policies? Explain your answer.

**4 Revolution and Repression in Europe 1815–1849**

Answer **either**

(a) How far do you agree that Metternich's repressive policies were the **main** reason for his success in containing revolutionary forces in the Austrian Empire before 1848?

**or**

(b) Assess the reasons why revolutions broke out in the German Confederation in 1848.

**Europe 1825–1890****5 Italy 1830–1870**Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons for the failure of the revolutions in Italy during 1848 and 1849.

**or**

(b) 'Cavour's diplomacy was the **main** reason for the creation of the Kingdom of Italy by 1861.' How far do you agree with this view?

**6 Germany c.1862–1890**Answer **either**

(a) How far do you agree that Bismarck's diplomacy was the **main** reason Germany was unified in the period to 1871?

**or**

(b) Assess the reasons why Bismarck pursued anti-Catholic and anti-socialist policies in the period from 1871 to 1890.

**7 France 1848–1875**Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons for the overthrow of the July Monarchy in 1848.

**or**

(b) How successful was Napoleon III's foreign policy? Explain your answer.

**8 Russia 1825–1881**Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons for the growth of opposition to Tsarist rule from 1825 to 1881.

**or**

(b) How successful were Alexander II's domestic reforms to 1881? Explain your answer.

**Europe 1846–1919****9 The American Civil War 1861–1865**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent were the North's superior resources the **main** reason for the defeat of the South in the Civil War?

**or**

(b) Assess the strengths and weaknesses of Lincoln's political leadership of the North during the Civil War.

**10 Politics and Reform 1877–1919**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent was civil service reform the **main** issue facing US presidents in the period from 1877 to 1896?

**or**

(b) How progressive was President Wilson's domestic policy from 1913 to 1919? Explain your answer.

**11 Western Expansion 1846–1900**

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the impact of mining and cattle farming on the West in the period from 1846 to 1900.

**or**

(b) How important were railways in opening up the West? Explain your answer.

**12 Race Relations in the South 1863–1912**

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons why, despite Reconstruction, the position of Blacks had improved so little by 1877.

**or**

(b) To what extent were the rights gained by Blacks during Reconstruction eroded by 1912?

## Europe 1890–1945

## 13 Russia 1894–1917

Answer **either**

(a) How serious were the problems facing Tsar Nicholas II in the period from 1894 to 1914? Explain your answer.

or

(b) Assess the reasons for the February Revolution in 1917.

## 14 The Causes and Impact of the First World War c.1890–1920

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the economic impact of the First World War on Britain and Germany to 1920.

or

(b) 'Revenge on Germany was the **sole** motive in the making of the Treaty of Versailles (1919).' How far do you agree with this view?

## 15 Italy 1919–1945

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent can the rise of Mussolini to power in 1922 be explained by his own talents and abilities?

or

(b) How far did Mussolini succeed in establishing a full dictatorship in Italy in the period from 1922 to 1928?

## 16 Germany 1919–1945

Answer **either**

(a) How far was the impact of the Depression the **main** reason for the rise of Hitler to power by January 1933?

or

(b) How successful was Hitler's economic policy in the period from 1933 to 1939? Explain your answer.

**Europe and the World 1919–1989****17 International Relations 1919–1941**

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons why there were no major international conflicts during the 1920s.

**or**

(b) How far was British foreign policy to blame for the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939?

**18 The USSR 1924–1953**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent was Stalin's position secure by the early 1930s?

**or**

(b) How effectively did the USSR control Eastern Europe from 1945 to 1953? Explain your answer.

**19 The Cold War in Europe 1945–1989**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent was mutual distrust between the wartime Allies shown in the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences of 1945?

**or**

(b) How important were the Warsaw Pact (1955) and the building of the Berlin Wall (1961) in strengthening Soviet control in Eastern Europe in the 1950s and 1960s? Explain your answer.

**20 The Cold War in Asia and the Americas 1949–1975**

Answer **either**

(a) To what extent was the United Nations successful in the Korean War from 1950 to 1953?

**or**

(b) Assess the reasons why the USA failed to prevent a communist victory in Vietnam.



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