

**ADVANCED GCE**

**2591**

**HISTORY**

Themes in History 1763–1996

**THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2008**

Morning

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Additional materials (enclosed):** Insert

**Additional materials (required):**  
Answer Booklet (12 pages)



**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

This paper contains questions on the following five Options:

- Britain 1793–1921 (page 2)
- Britain 1834–1996 (page 3)
- Europe 1792–1919 (page 4)
- Europe 1855–1956 (page 5)
- America 1763–1980 (page 6)
- Each Option has one or more Themes. Each Theme has three questions.
- Answer any **two** questions.
- Every question is marked out of 60.
- 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.
- Candidates are expected to demonstrate understanding of the issues in **each** of their selected questions over a period of **at least one hundred years** (unless an individual question specifies a slightly shorter period).
- Candidates are reminded of the synoptic nature of this Unit. Answers are required to demonstrate understanding of the processes of historical continuity, development and change across the **full breadth** of the period studied.

This document consists of **7** printed pages, **1** blank page and an Insert.

**Britain 1793–1921**

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**Key Theme: Britain and Ireland 1798–1921**

- 1 How far do you agree that Parnell was the **most** effective leader of constitutional nationalism during the period from 1798 to 1921?
- 2 'Ireland gained far more from Tory, Conservative and Coalition governments than from Whig and Liberal governments in the period from 1798 to 1921.' How far do you agree?
- 3 To what extent did land issues change in Ireland in the period from 1798 to 1921?

**Key Theme: War and Society in Britain 1793–1918**

- 4 How far did the growth of the media hinder or help British governments in their conduct of war in the period from 1793 to 1918?
- 5 To what extent were trade and the Empire the **most** important reasons why Britain fought wars in the period from 1793 to 1918?
- 6 How responsive were British governments and their armed forces to technological developments affecting war in the period from 1793 to 1918?

**Britain 1834–1996**

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**Key Theme: Poor Law to Welfare State 1834–1948**

- 7 Assess the view that the concept of laissez-faire was the **main** influence on government policy towards the problem of poverty from 1834 to 1948.
- 8 'The 1902 Education Act was the **most** important turning point in the development of education in the period from 1834 to 1948.' How far do you agree?
- 9 To what extent were public health reforms influenced mainly by political pressures in the period from 1834 to 1948?

**Key Theme: The Development of Democracy in Britain 1868–1992**

- 10 To what extent was the outcome of elections **mainly** dependent on the strength of party organisation in the period from 1868 to 1992?
- 11 Assess the importance of the role of prime ministers to the development of democracy in the period from 1868 to 1992.
- 12 'The growth in the provision of education was the **main** reason for the development of democracy in the period from 1868 to 1992.' How far do you agree?

**Key Theme: The Development of the Mass Media 1896–1996**

- 13 To what extent did the influence on society of the popular press change during the period from 1896 to 1996?
- 14 How far do you agree that the role of the media was different during the two world wars from its role at other times of national crisis in the period from 1896 to 1996?
- 15 Assess the extent to which the influence of techniques and programmes from the USA changed the mass media in Britain in the period from 1896 to 1996.

## Europe 1792–1919

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### **Key Theme: The Changing Nature of Warfare 1792–1918**

- 16** To what extent did the use of new weapons in the Wars of Unification mark the **most** important turning point in the conduct of war in the period from 1792 to 1918?
- 17** Assess the importance of alliances in the successful conduct of war in the period from 1792 to 1918.
- 18** ‘Superior industrial power always brought victory in war.’ How far do you agree with this view of the period from 1792 to 1918?

### **Key Theme: The Challenge of German Nationalism 1815–1919**

- 19** How far would you agree that the aims of German nationalists were undermined by Prussia in the period from 1815 to 1919?
- 20** To what extent did industrialisation encourage the development of German nationalism in the period from 1815 to 1919?
- 21** Assess the claim that Metternich was more effective in his management of German nationalism than both Bismarck and Kaiser William II in the period from 1815 to 1919.

**Europe 1855–1956**

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**Key Theme: Russian Dictatorship 1855–1956**

- 22** ‘The need to catch up with the West was the **most** important reason why the rulers of Russia introduced reforms.’ How far do you agree with this view of Russia in the period from 1855 to 1956?
- 23** Assess the view that Alexander II did more to improve living and working conditions in Russia than any other ruler in the period from 1855 to 1956.
- 24** How far do you agree that the establishment of Stalin in power was the **most** important turning point in the development of Russian government in the period from 1855 to 1956?

**America 1763–1980**

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**Key Theme: The Struggle for the Constitution 1763–1877**

- 25 Assess the significance of political groupings and parties in the development of the American political system in the period from 1763 to 1877.
- 26 How far do you agree that the Missouri Compromise of 1820 was the **most** important turning point in the development of North-South relations in the period from 1787 to 1877?
- 27 Assess the view that the US Supreme Court was the **most** important factor in the development of the US Constitution in the period from 1789 to 1877.

**Key Theme: Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1980**

- 28 Assess the view that Martin Luther King was the **most** important African American to advance African American rights in the period from 1865 to 1980.
- 29 How far was the New Deal the **most** important turning point in the development of trade union rights in the period 1865 to 1980?
- 30 'Compared to Hispanic Americans, Native Americans faced far greater discrimination in the period from 1865 to 1980.' How far do you agree?



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