

**HISTORY (SPECIFICATION B)**

**40454**

**Short Course**

**Modern World History**

**Unit 4: International Relations: Conflict and Peace in the Twentieth Century**

<DAY> <TIME>

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12 page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is 40454.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The topics are on the following pages:

The Origins of the First World War	Page 2
Peacemaking 1918-1919 and the League of Nations	Page 2
Hitler's foreign policy and the origins of the Second World War	Page 3
The Origins of the Cold War 1945-1955	Page 3
Crises of the Cold War 1955-1970	Page 4
Failure of Detente and the collapse of communism 1970-1991	Page 4
- The maximum mark for this paper is 46.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.
- Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar will be assessed in questions 03, 06, 09, 12, 15 and 18. The marks available for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (**SPaG**) are shown in *italics* for each question.

Choose **two** topics.

Answer **all** questions on the **two** topics you have chosen.

There are 23 marks for each topic.

### Topic 1: The origins of the First World War

Answer questions **01**, **02** and **03**.

**01** In 1914, two armed camps existed in Europe, the Triple Alliance and the alliances between Britain, France and Russia.  
Describe the main features of this alliance system. (4 marks)

**02** Explain the main aims of Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany's foreign policy in the years leading to the First World War. (6 marks)

**03** Which was the most important reason for Great Britain joining the First World War in 1914:

- the Naval Race with Germany, 1906–1914;
- the Schlieffen Plan?

You must refer to **both** reasons when explaining your answer.

SPaG (10 marks)  
3 marks

**TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS TOPIC:**

**(23 marks)**

### Topic 2: Peacemaking 1918-1919 and the League of Nations

Answer questions **04**, **05** and **06**.

**04** The French leader, Clemenceau, saw the Treaty of Versailles as an opportunity to cripple Germany so that it could not attack France again.  
Describe how the Treaty of Versailles weakened Germany. (4 marks)

**05** Explain the main weaknesses of the League of Nations. (6 marks)

**06** Which was the most important reason for the failure of the League of Nations:

- its handling of the Manchurian Crisis 1931–1933;
- its handling of the Abyssinian Crisis 1935–1936?

You must refer to **both** reasons when explaining your answer.

SPaG (10 marks)  
3 marks

**TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS TOPIC:**

**(23 marks)**

**Turn over ▶**

**Topic 3: Hitler's foreign policy and the origins of the Second World War**

Answer questions **07**, **08** and **09**.

**07** In March 1938, Hitler entered Vienna and was cheered by large crowds. Describe how Hitler took control of Austria in 1938. (4 marks)

**08** Explain why Neville Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister, signed the Munich Agreement with Hitler in 1938. (6 marks)

**09** Which was the bigger threat to European peace in the 1930s:

- the re-militarisation of the Rhineland 1936;
- the Nazi-Soviet Pact 1939?

You must refer to **both** threats when explaining your answer.

SPaG (10 marks)  
3 marks

**TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS TOPIC:**

**(23 marks)**

**Topic 4 The origins of the Cold War 1945-1955**

Answer questions **10**, **11** and **12**.

**10** In 1946 Winston Churchill claimed that Europe had been divided by an 'Iron Curtain'. Describe how Europe became divided in the years 1945–1946. (4 marks)

**11** Explain the reasons why the USA introduced the Marshall Plan in 1947–1948. (6 marks)

**12** Which was the most important reason for the development of the Cold War in the years 1948 to 1955:

- the Berlin Blockade 1948–1949;
- the Korean War 1950–1953?

You must refer to **both** reasons when explaining your answer.

SPaG (10 marks)  
3 marks

**TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS TOPIC:**

**(23 marks)**

**Turn over for the next question**

**Turn over ▶**

**Topic 5: Crises of the Cold War 1955-1970**

Answer questions **1 3** **1 4** and **1 5** .

**1 3** The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 is often regarded as the closest the world has come to nuclear war.  
Describe how the USA and USSR almost went to war over Cuba in 1962. *(4 marks)*

**1 4** Explain why Khrushchev, the Soviet leader, ordered the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961. *(6 marks)*

**1 5** Which event was the greater threat to the Soviet control of East Europe:

- the Hungarian Rising of 1956;
- the Prague Spring in Czechoslovakia in 1968?

You must refer to **both** threats when explaining your answer.

SPaG *(10 marks)*  
*3 marks*

**TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS TOPIC:** ***(23 marks)***

**Topic 6: Failure of Détente and the collapse of communism 1970-1991**

Answer questions **1 6** **1 7** and **1 8** .

**1 6** In 1980 President Carter of the USA withdrew the USA from the Moscow Olympics. In 1981 President Reagan became the United States President.  
Describe how the Cold War was renewed by Reagan in the 1980s. *(4 marks)*

**1 7** Explain why the Soviet Union failed in the war in Afghanistan between 1979 and 1989. *(6 marks)*

**1 8** Which was the most important reason for the collapse of communism in Central and Eastern Europe:

- 'Solidarity' in Poland;
- The policies of Mikhail Gorbachev?

You must refer to **both** reasons when explaining your answer.

SPaG *(10 marks)*  
*3 marks*

**TOTAL MARKS FOR THIS TOPIC:** ***(23 marks)***

**END OF QUESTIONS**