



# Examiners' Report

## June 2019

### GCSE History 1HI0 P4

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# Introduction

The Period Study focuses on an understanding of the unfolding narrative of a time period, with candidates required to answer three questions targeted at Assessment Objective 1 (Knowledge and Understanding) and Assessment Objective 2 (Analysis of Second Order Concepts).

As of the 2019 series, the Period Study forms a separate booklet to the British Depth Study sat during the same examination. Candidates should be reminded not to answer the British Depth Study questions in the Period Study booklet, or vice versa, and where extra paper is used, to ensure that separate sheets are used for the Period Study and the Depth Study, with each attached to the relevant booklet.

Q1 will always focus on consequence, requiring candidates to explain two valid consequences, giving equal attention to both. It is deliberately designed to be accessible to the entire ability range. However, some candidates provided more detail than was necessary, leaving less time to address higher tariff questions.

Q2 focuses on analytical narrative. The analytical narrative will always focus on a period containing events or ideas that can be perceived as a sequence; this could cover a number of years or a much shorter period. Candidates should be clear about the time span of the question to ensure they cover an acceptable range and what it is the narrative is designed to analyse. It is vital they understand the narrative concept, with the sense of a beginning, development and end, rather than produce three paragraphs which do not directly link. These stimulus points serve a different purpose to those on other questions: they will be useful reminders to candidates of sign posts along the narrative and not things they need to develop. Candidates do not need to use these stimulus points but there is an expectation that there will be some depth of knowledge, shown by three discrete points in the narrative being covered, although this does not mean candidates need to identify three different events.

For Q3 candidates are required to analyse the importance of an event/person/development. The question focuses on what difference the event/person/development made in relation to situations and unfolding developments. They have to answer two topics out of a selection of three. Responses ranged from impressive analysis focused on the appropriate second-order concept (AO2), which were supported with accurate, relevant and good knowledge (AO1), to those from candidates that offered simple comment with limited knowledge for support.

Progression in AO1 is shown by a candidate's increasing ability to select information precisely and to show wide-ranging knowledge and understanding. Progression in AO2 is shown by a candidate's response moving from simple or generalised comments to analytical explanations which show a line of reasoning that is coherent, logical and sustained. Centres are reminded that the indicative content in the mark scheme does not imply what must be included in a response nor does it give any expectation as to how candidates are expected to structure their responses.

In this series there was a noticeable increase in the number of responses with difficult handwriting. Candidates should be made aware that examiners can only credit what they can read.

## Question 1

The consequences of the Cuban Revolution most frequently explained were the straining of relations between Cuba and the USA or the development of Cuba-Soviet relations. These identified consequences were then supported with specific information such as the US trade embargo of the Cuban sugar industry, the nationalisation within Cuba of US assets, the USA launching the Bay of Pigs episode, and the nature of economic, military and technological aid from the USSR.

Responses that cited the development of the hotline or even détente as a consequence were not credited. Weaker responses were often generalised information about the topic showing limited knowledge such as 'the USSR helped Cuba'.

### Consequence 1

One consequence of the Cuban revolution was that it had ~~the~~ significantly increased tensions with America. This because the revolution was a communist one that declared ~~all things~~ everything - property, ~~lands~~<sup>wealth</sup>, business and industry - ~~was~~ belonged to the government to be equally distributed to all of society. As such, this had meant that American businesses and landowners, whom had invested heavily into Cuba - was expelled. - This subsequently, without a doubt angered many Americans and subsequently subsequently increased tensions with ~~the country~~ between the two nations.

## Consequence 2

Another consequence of the Cuban revolution was that trade with the Soviet Union had dramatically increased, ~~this is due to~~ between Cuba and the Soviet Union. This is due to the fact that, Cominform and Comecon had prevented ~~trade and agreements~~ communist countries from building trade relations with non-communist nations. However, due to Fidel Castro's successful ~~the~~ communist revolution, Khrushchev had no qualms ~~of~~ and protests against the new communist states. As a result, the Soviet Union had become trading partners with Cuba, promising to ~~buy~~ buy all Cuban sugar and also secretly, shipping nuclear weaponry to the south American nation.

(Total for Question 1 = 8 marks)



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Examiner Comments

Two consequences have been clearly identified and analysed. Specific information about the topic is added to support the explanation, showing good knowledge and understanding of the period. This response is awarded 8 marks.

## Question 2

A significant number of candidates were able to produce an analytical narrative response on the key events of the Hungarian Uprising in 1956 with good knowledge and understanding. In addition to the stimulus points provided, candidates frequently offered relevant information at the start of their narrative on Rakosi's brutal rule or at the end of the period in question on the re-imposition of Soviet control under Kadar and the lack of support for Hungarian resistance shown by the UN and the USA. The overall narrative was well-known of a regime that attempted reforms in the context of Khrushchev's de-Stalinisation, a Hungarian leader who went too far in his reforms by rejecting Hungary's membership of the Warsaw Pact and an enraged Khrushchev seeing this as a betrayal and as a step too far in the loss of Soviet control of one of its satellite states.

Mid and low Level 2 responses often had accurate and relevant knowledge but were more limited in their analysis of the linkage between events or had an element of confusion in their narrative such as Nagy's immediate demands for Hungary to leave the Warsaw Pact or his reforms as a consequence of the Soviet invasion. Level 1 responses were often very general assertions on the invasion leading to casualties (often grossly overstating the extent of Soviet military intervention) and many at this level believed that Stalin was still the leader of the USSR. There were also some responses that could not be credited as candidates were clearly confusing events in Czechoslovakia during the Prague Spring or the very occasional response which wrote about Hungary in the summer of 1989 before the opening of the Berlin Wall or saw events in 1956 as a response to Gorbachev's policies of Glasnost and Perestroika.

There were a few candidates that wrote responses in the first person, as an eye-witness account of events in Hungary which may have included some knowledge and understanding of events during the Hungarian Uprising but invariably did not have any analysis for AO2.

During 1956, the Soviet Union were facing difficulty in managing the Warsaw pact/~~some~~ satellite states. Eventually, some countries like Hungary started starving to death due to the limited supplies and food that the Soviet Union had provided. This saw a large amount of people setting up a revolt and this led to the Hungarian Uprising of 1956. Chaos and massacre spread everywhere, as people ripped down Stalin's head from a statue, emphasising their hate towards the deceased tyrant. It was also a message for the Soviet Union as they had to keep the Eastern bloc countries alive and well. This was important for the USSR as if this event ~~was~~ repeated itself in other areas, the world would surely witness the collapse of the Soviet Union.



This response is low Level 2 for AO2 as there is some sense of events leading to an outcome. Some accurate information is added showing some knowledge and understanding of the events for A01 to also be awarded at Level 2. The overall award is therefore mid Level 2.

Kruschev appointed Imre Nagy as the president of Hungary, <sup>in 1956</sup> Nagy was a more liberal president of whom believed in more personal freedoms than the last leader of Hungary, and as a result of this he ended one party rule in Hungary, Kruschev agreed to overlook this if he managed to control the protests in Hungary, although Kruschev was not too happy about the situation. ~~Nagy~~ Nagy however did not conform to this and announced his want to leave the Warsaw pact - resulting in ~~crisis~~ Kruschev being extremely angry.

After Imre Nagy announced his one-party rule, anti-Communist revolts ~~partly~~ started to emerge in a period of 'destalinisation'. During this period ~~revolts~~ protests were common and a statue of Stalin was knocked down by the public, the public were doing this because they wanted to be freed from the harm dictatorship of being ~~in the~~ a Soviet satellite state.

After both 'de-Stalinisation' and Nagy announcing his want to leave the Warsaw Pact, set up in 1955, Khrushchev decided to take action with a Soviet invasion in Hungary. 200,000 Soviet troops were sent into Hungary to fight resulting in 5,000 Hungarians killed and 1,000 Soviet troops killed. Nagy was ~~executed and~~ ~~sent to~~ executed and his team deported, and Khrushchev used this win as a symbol of what would happen if other Soviet satellite states wanted to leave the Warsaw Pact. After the Soviet invasion also it put Khrushchev in a stronger position than the USA as after the USA's funding to help Hungary they were defeated causing Kennedy to appear weaker.



This response is Level 3 for both AO2 and AO1. The narrative is organised and shows a clear sequence of events leading to an outcome. The account shows linkage between them. Accurate and relevant information is included showing good knowledge and understanding. The misunderstanding at the end of the response regarding US funding is noted but does not detract from the final award of high Level 3.



## **Question 3**

### **The importance of the Potsdam Conference for early Cold War tension between the USA and the Soviet Union.**

High-scoring responses were able to draw on specific and relevant information on the Potsdam Conference such as the death of Roosevelt leading to Truman becoming President, the USA's successful development of the atomic bomb, the presence of the Red Army in eastern Europe, issues regarding Poland's borders, the question of reparations and the previous promise of free elections that had been made at Yalta. At Level 3 candidates used various combinations of these aspects to analytically explain their importance in creating tension between the USA and the Soviet Union whereas in Level 2 the same content was primarily used to describe or narrate the discussions at Potsdam with a more limited attempt to analyse the importance of the Conference for early Cold War tension. Level 1 responses were simpler comments on early Cold War disagreements between the USA and the Soviet Union or on the Conference itself. A significant number of responses commented on the Tehran and Yalta Conferences or saw the Marshall Plan, decisions regarding the 1948-9 Berlin crisis, as a part of the Potsdam Conference. A relatively common misunderstanding was that the USA had already used the atomic bomb on Japan. A few candidates asserted that Hitler was present at the Conference.

### **The importance of the refugee problem in Berlin for increasing tensions between East and West in the years 1958-61.**

Level 3 responses focused on the time frame within the questions and analysed the importance of the refugee problem in the years 1958-61 for increasing tension between East and West. The use of East and West in the question meant that candidates could focus on relations between the USA and the USSR and/or relations between East and West Germany. These responses supported their analysis of the refugee problem in Berlin with accurate and relevant information on the various summit meetings and the hostility at these conferences with frequent references to the U2 incident, relations between Kennedy and Khrushchev and the nature of Khrushchev's 'ultimatum.' Most responses also included the problems facing East Germany with the attractions of the West, the reasons for Ulbricht's decision to construct the Berlin Wall and its immediate effects on East-West relations, including the propaganda opportunities the construction of the Wall presented. Level 2 responses tended to focus on mainly describing the different standards of living between East and West Germany, the 'brain-drain' to the West, the building of the Berlin Wall and accounts of the various methods and attempts made by individuals to cross the border. There were a significant number of responses which had little to credit that were entirely outside the time frame of the question with accounts of the Berlin Blockade, the Airlift, Kennedy's visit to Berlin or the fall of the Berlin Wall. A few candidates wrote about the refugee problem in the years 1958-61 as one of German Jews trying to escape the capital in order to emigrate or a problem of the German Home Front during the Second World War.

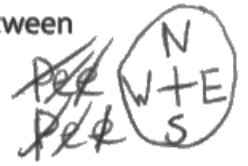
### **The importance of the 'Second Cold War' for relations between the Superpowers.**

High Level 2 and Level 3 responses invariably made references to the effects of Reagan's 'Evil Empire' speech, US resolve in terms of military spending and the Strategic Defence Initiative on relations between the Superpowers and set this within the context of the USSR's disintegrating economy and collapsing technical efficiency. Some candidates also referenced US actions in central America and the placement of Cruise missiles in western Europe. Although many candidates saw SDI as a 'reality' rather than a pipe-dream, credit could be awarded for the obvious threat that the initiative posed to the USSR. Responses at this level clearly explained the importance of the 'Second Cold War' as a significant reason for Gorbachev's reforms. Lower Level 2 responses were more descriptive and/or narrative accounts or gave responses which were primarily focused on the

ending of détente.

Level 1 responses were general statements or assertions about conflict between the Superpowers. A misunderstanding by some candidates was that the 'Second Cold War' led to SALT 1 and Helsinki.

- The importance of the Potsdam Conference for early Cold War tension between the USA and the Soviet Union.
- The importance of the refugee problem in Berlin for increasing tensions between East and West in the years 1958-61.
- The importance of the 'Second Cold War' for relations between the Superpowers.



The refugee problem in Berlin increased tensions between East and West in the years 1958-61. Germans in ~~east Germany~~ ~~was~~ ~~the east~~ the Soviet Sector would every day see the tri-zonia state of Germany with the shop windows piled up with food and then when they came home they would walk past Soviet Sector shops and there would be nothing in them. This would have made the Germans in the Soviet Sector sometime flee the Soviet Sector and go to tri-zonia Germany.

The refugee problem in Berlin increased tensions between East and West in the years 1958-61. The Germans in the Soviet Sector were fleeing and this angered Stalin because most of the people leaving were people the Soviet Union needed. This would have made the USSR panic.

because if all their skilled workers left to go to Capitalist countries the Soviet economy will collapse.

- ☒ The importance of the 'Second Cold War' <sup>made</sup> relations between the Superpowers <sup>more difficult</sup>

~~the~~

~~The importance~~ The 'Second Cold War' made relations between the Superpowers more difficult. This started when the USSR decided to invade Afghanistan to destroy the Islamic ideals the Afghanistan people believed in and so they could establish a Communist government in Afghanistan. This made relations between the Superpowers more difficult because the USSR had invaded Afghanistan when Afghanistan had offered ~~as~~ them no hostility.

The 'Second Cold War' made relations between the Superpowers more difficult. This happened because ~~the USSR~~ America supplied the resistance fighters with weapons to fight the USSR (funny enough these resistance fighters turned into the al Qaeda who attacked the twin towers). This made relations difficult because the USA were openly resisting the USSR in warfare.



Both responses are awarded mid Level 2. The response for the refugee problem in Berlin attempts an explanation and some of the knowledge is accurate and relevant. The response for the 'Second Cold War' is quite generalised and is initially predominantly focused on Afghanistan.

- ☒ The importance of the Potsdam Conference for early Cold War tension between the USA and the Soviet Union.
- ☒ The importance of the refugee problem in Berlin for increasing tensions between East and West in the years 1958–61.
- ☒ The importance of the 'Second Cold War' for relations between the Superpowers.

Potsdam occurred in July 1945 and there was immediate unrest in relations due to a change of leadership. This was because Roosevelt died so was replaced with Harry Truman who was strongly anti-communist and was determined to show the strength of the USA to Stalin. This was important in increasing tensions as Truman deliberately delayed Potsdam in order for the USA to successfully test their first atomic bomb which made Stalin feel incredibly weakened due to the Soviet Union's lack of nuclear weaponry. There was also tension evident at Potsdam due to the fact that in an act to increase his sphere of influence, Stalin rigged the free elections held in eastern European countries in order to spread communism which angered Truman as he had strong beliefs in the



ideas of containment and putting an end to communism. Also, during this conference Stalin had high tensions due to his zone of Berlin being the poorest zone and as a result demanded the allies for reparations. Even though one quarter of industrial outputs was <sup>from each allied zone,</sup> ~~aimed~~ <sup>↑</sup> ~~to the~~ <sup>Stalin still felt</sup> soviet zones, ~~weakened~~ ~~because~~ due to not having enough controls & ~~power~~ to easily manipulate the allies so this was important for increasing tensions between the allies and the Soviet Union. Potsdam was also responsible for the increase of tension as it was the trigger of the arms race due to USA dropping 2 A bombs on the 9th and 6th August on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in order to end war. This was important for increase in tension as it was the first steps of an ongoing military arms battle between the Soviet Union and the United States and in this case, the US was always one step ahead.



- The importance of the 'Second Cold War' for relations between the Superpowers.

Ronald Reagan's second cold war was important in causing immense deterioration within Soviet and USA relations as in 1983 Reagan introduced SDI (strategic defence initiative) which was also known as Star Wars. This program showcased how the US was developing new technology in the form of which had the capability of destroying and disarming nuclear war heads which were facing them. This was important for relations to become soved as once again the US had the upper hand over the Soviet Union and this argued them as they did not have enough defence spending to keep up with the US in order to protect themselves with new development of nuclear weapons. As a result, Reagan also increased the US defence spending to demonstrate to the Soviet Union that they had enough American capability and

weaponry to defeat them. The second world war was also important for relations as it introduced NUTS which increased US arms spending and their capacity for more nuclear weapons and this weakened the Soviet Union and heavily humiliated them which resulted in anger as despite their efforts to retaliate, they were not capable of living up to the US standards. Therefore the second world war which was instigated by Reagan played a key role in causing relations between the two superpowers to worsen as it started yet another arms race in which the Soviet Union was incapable of funding due to being economically disadvantaged.



Both responses clearly show analysis of importance and focus clearly on the set question. Accurate and relevant information is included, showing good knowledge and understanding of the features and characteristics of the period studied. Both responses fulfil the level criteria for AO1 and AO2 and therefore 8 marks are awarded to both responses.

## Paper Summary

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

- Share the knowledge that you have learned: if you are not sure how to answer the question, pick out the topic specified and write down what you can remember about it. Aim to write something for every question.
- When tackling Q1, ensure the explanation shows the link between the event and the consequence and don't simply describe something that happened after the event.
- On Q2, make sure that you focus on the date range specified in the question and don't waste time writing about things that happened before or after.
- On Q2, make sure your narrative response has a beginning, middle and end. Don't write it in the first person or as a story – a historical narrative is like a television documentary, as opposed to a drama, and it needs to be clear that the events you're writing about actually happened.
- On Q3, read the question really carefully to make sure you are selecting the correct content for your answer.
- Good answers on Q3 will explain why the development/event/person specified was important, but better answers explain the impact they had on the second development/event/person named in the question. So try to ensure that you can explain the impact **for** the second development/event/person, rather than keeping it general.

## Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

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