

# Examiners' Report November 2008

IGCSE

IGCSE History (4380)

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## Paper 1F

### General comments

The standard of work completed in the November 2008 series was, once again, of a high standard, showing, in many cases, a very good knowledge and understanding of the topic areas answered. However, there are a few areas for improvement. Firstly, candidates who wrote at length for 1F often struggled to complete 2H, the source question, in sufficient depth. For question (c), give two reasons, candidates should make it clear that they are writing about two different reasons.

For question (d), answers should focus on the key words in the question to secure maximum (4) marks for each part. Finally, centres are reminded that in (e), candidates must use both the sources and their own knowledge if they are to be awarded high marks. Candidates who only use the sources were generally given Level 1/2 marks.

### Questions

#### A1

1. No answers.
2. No answers.

#### A2

3. No answers.
4. No answers.

#### A3

5. No answers.
6. No answers.

#### A4

7. No answers.
8. No answers.

#### A5

9. Quite popular. (c) and (d) generally well answered although (e) less so. More own knowledge needed.
10. Quite popular with generally sound answers to all questions especially (d) and (e).

#### A6

11. A few answers. Lacking in detail for (e) question. Quite good on (d)
12. No answers.

**A7**

13. Most popular question. Well answered for (c) and (e) but some confusion with (a) terms of Treaty and lacking in specific knowledge for (e).

14. No answers.

**A8**

15. Popular and well answered.

16. Quite popular. Lacking in specific own knowledge for (d) and (e).

**A9**

17. Popular and well answered.

18. Popular and well answered.

**A10**

19. Quite popular. Generally brief answers to (e) due to lack of specific own knowledge.

20. No answers.

**A11**

21. No answers.

22. No answers.

**A12**

23. No answers.

24. No answers.

**A13**

25. Popular and very well answered.

26. Popular and very well answered.

**A14**

27. Quite popular. Strong answers for (e) but often lacking development for (d).

28. No answers.

**A15**

29. No answers.

30. No answers.

**A16**

31. A few answers. Sound on all sections except (d) where generally lack of development.

32. No answers.

**A17**

33. Quite popular. Sound answers to all sub-questions.

34. A few answers. Especially strong on (d) and (e).

**A18**

35. No answers.

36. No answers.

## Paper 2H

### General comments

The paper worked well with many candidates scoring high marks on all three types of questions.

For the first sub-question, few candidates displayed good cross referencing skills and were unable to compare and contrast the tone and contents of the two sources. There were a few candidates who summarised each source before making any attempt to cross reference and/or explained the provenance of the source without relating it to the question. In addition some cross reference the content and made no reference to tone or attitude.

For the second sub-question, again there were a few high level responses with candidates making inferences and using their own knowledge to explain the purpose of the source. A small minority ignored the provenance and wrote, often at length, about their own knowledge on the given theme without relating this to the specific question. Others speculated without any reference to their own knowledge.

Many candidates wrote at great length for the last question making confident use of the sources and integrating often very precise own knowledge. Answers were often well balanced, providing both sides of the question and well constructed with an introduction and conclusion. A number however either made no reference to the sources or relied exclusively on them and made no explicit judgement on the interpretation. The sources themselves should be used to stimulate own knowledge.

### B1

No answers.

### B2

No answers.

### B3

No answers.

### B4

Generally sound cross referencing contents for (a) but not tone. Good answers to (b) with candidates able to relate it to morale in Britain. Most answers to (c) relied too much on sources.

### B5

Quite popular and generally sound cross referencing for (a). Good on purpose for (b) but often lacking in developed contextual knowledge. Answers to (c) often lacked focus and own knowledge.

### B6

A handful of answers. Generally good cross referencing but lacking in contextual knowledge for both (b) and (c).

**B7**

Very popular and generally well answered. Sound cross referencing and good own knowledge applied to (b) and (c). (c) sometimes lacked sharp focus.

**B8**

No answers.

**B9**

A handful of weak answers on all three sub-questions.

**B10**

Quite popular with good answers to all three sub questions. Sound own knowledge.



## Paper 03

### General comments

The Paper seemed to work well with candidates generally performing well on all types of questions and each of four themes and displaying a sound grasp of the idea of change. There were no rubric offences and the majority were able to complete their questions in the time allocated.

Parts (a) and (b) were very well answered with candidates able to use the sources effectively to stimulate three answers. There were some excellent answers to part (c) although some did not develop their answers sufficiently to achieve the higher marks. Although helped by the sources, candidates should be encouraged to use their own knowledge.

There were a number of strong answers to (d) although some lacked depth of knowledge, failed to focus on the idea of change. Indeed a small number of candidates wrote more for part (c), worth 8 marks, than part (d), worth 10 marks.

### C1

Only a few answers. (a) well answered. Over dependence on sources for (b) and (c). Sound answers to (d).

### C2

No answers.

### C3

A small number of answers.

- (a) well answered. Little own knowledge for (b) and (c). One or two sound answers but most gave generalised survey of twentieth century developments without specific reference to particular conflicts.

### C4

The most popular section.

- (a) Well answered with candidates able to identify several failures.
- (b) Again generally well answered although some did not go beyond the source.
- (c) Some very strong explanations using the sources especially Source D to stimulate their own knowledge of the activities of the Secretary-Generals.
- (d) Many strong answers with candidates focusing well on changes brought about by UN intervention. Some wrote about two or more conflicts while a handful confused this with other UN agencies.

## Paper 04

### General comments

Coursework that was submitted in November 2008 was completed by centres and students to a high level. Centres clearly followed administrative procedures, completed the necessary paper work and submitted samples on time. Moreover, candidates work had been clearly marked and annotated, and levels were indicated. Application of the assessment criteria was clearly applied and marks awarded were at the correct level and within tolerances. Students clearly devoted time and effort to their coursework and produced work that was interesting and demonstrated the skills they had acquired. At the top level students were able to describe and explain, as well as evaluate evidence and reach their own judgments about historical questions.

## 4380 Grade Boundaries

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Unit/Component	Maximum Mark(Raw)	% Contribution to Award
Paper 1F	50	75
Paper 2H	75	75
Paper 03	25	25
Paper 04	60	25

### Option 1: 03, 1F

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Mark				50	41	32	24	16

### Option 2: 04, 1F

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Mark				48	39	30	21	12

### Option 3: 03, 2H

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Mark	74	65	56	47	36	30		

### Option 4: 04, 2H

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Mark	75	65	55	46	35	29		

**Note:** Grade boundaries may vary from year to year and from subject to subject, depending on the demands of the question paper.

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