



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

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HISTORY

9697/11

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789–1939

October/November 2011

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Paper



READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
You may use a soft pencil for any rough working.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.



Section A: The Origins of World War I, 1870–1914

You **must** answer Question 1.

THE TRIPLE ENTENTE OF BRITAIN, FRANCE AND RUSSIA

- 1 Read the Sources, and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1**, candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the Sources both individually and as a group.

Source A

An attempt is being made to bring together the countries in the Triple Entente for a concentrated attack on Germany and Austria. At an agreed time, the drawbridges will be let down, the doors will be opened and the million-strong armies of the Triple Entente will be let loose, ravaging and destroying across the borders of Germany and Austria. The danger seems gigantic.

Field Marshal Count Alfred von Schlieffen, German Military Chief of Staff until 1905, in an article written in 1909.

Source B

Serbia and Rumania have become the most dangerous enemies of Austria and are supported by Russia and France. The Triple Entente has therefore achieved superiority. With a combination of Britain, France, Russia, Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro on the one hand, and Austria, Germany and Italy on the other, military superiority lies on the side of the Triple Entente in terms of numbers and geographical advantage.

Conrad von Hötzendorf, Austrian Military Chief of Staff, memorandum to the Austrian government, 16 January 1914.

Source C

We must attempt to limit the conflict between Austria and Serbia. Whether we succeed in this will depend first on Russia, and then on the moderating influence of Russia's allies. There is certainly some agitation in St. Petersburg, the capital of Russia, but, on the whole, Russia is not ready to declare war at present. Nor are France and Britain anxious for war at the present time. According to well-informed experts, Russia will be prepared to fight in a few years. Then she will crush us by the number of her soldiers. She will have built her Baltic Sea fleet and her extensive railway system. Meanwhile, the Triple Alliance becomes weaker. I believe the Russian Ambassador to Britain when he told you that Russia does not want war at present. The Russian government is half-friendly to Germany today. I still hope and believe, even today, that the conflict can be localised between Austria and Serbia. In this matter, the attitude of Britain will be very significant. Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Secretary, is always talking of the balance of power between the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente. Therefore, it should be perfectly obvious to him that this balance of power would be completely destroyed if Germany deserted Austria and if Austria were destroyed by Russia. Therefore, if Grey is honest and logical, he must support Germany in trying to localise the conflict.

Traugott Jagow, German Chief of Police, in a letter to Prince Karl Max Lichnowsky, German Ambassador to Britain, 18 July 1914.

Source D

The crisis has been cunningly planned by Russia. While giving assurances that she was mobilising, she has been preparing for war so that, when she officially mobilises, she will be prepared to move her armies forward in a few days. Russia assures Germany that she does not want to take action against us. However, she knows perfectly well that Germany could not remain inactive if war breaks out between Austria and Russia. So Germany too will be forced to mobilise and Russia will say to the world, 'We did not want war, but Germany brought it about.' Germany does not want to bring about this frightful war. France is also preparing to mobilise her armies. It is clear that Russia and France are cooperating closely in their plans. Every day, the military situation is becoming more unfavourable for us.

Count Helmuth von Moltke, German Military Chief of Staff, in a letter to Theobald Bethmann Hollweg, German Chancellor, 29 July 1914.

Source E

Last week I stated that we were working to preserve the peace of Europe. Events have now moved so rapidly that it is clear that the peace of Europe cannot be preserved. Russia and Germany have declared war upon each other. We have worked for peace up to the last moment, and beyond the last moment. We have always done so. It is generally agreed that we worked for peace throughout the Balkan crisis in 1912. In the present crisis it has not been possible to secure the peace of Europe: because there has been little time and there has been a tendency – at any rate in some countries which I will not name – to force things rapidly to a crisis with a great risk to peace.

The present crisis began with a dispute between Austria and Serbia. I can say with the most absolute confidence that no government and no country has less desire than France to be involved in war over a dispute with Austria. France is involved in it because of their obligation of honour under an alliance with Russia. That obligation of an alliance cannot apply in the same way to Britain. We are not part of the Franco-Russian alliance. We do not even know the terms of the alliance. For many years we have had a long-standing friendship with France [Shout from an MP: 'And with Germany!']. I remember the warm and friendly feeling in this Parliament because these two nations, who had had perpetual differences in the past, had cleared away these differences. But people must decide for themselves how far this friendship obliges us to support France.

Sir Edward Grey, British Foreign Secretary, speaking to Parliament, 3 August 1914.

Now answer the following question.

'The Triple Entente was a serious threat to peace before World War I.' Use Sources A–E to show how far the evidence confirms this statement.

Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

- 2 'His main aim was to keep himself in power.' How far do you agree with this view of Napoleon Bonaparte from 1799 to 1815?
- 3 How far were Britain and France industrialised by the middle of the nineteenth century?
- 4 Explain the most serious problems that faced Italian nationalists in achieving unification from 1848 to 1870.
- 5 'Few Europeans gained anything from "New Imperialism" in the later nineteenth century.' How far do you agree with this claim?
(You should refer to Britain and **at least two** other European countries in your answer.)
- 6 Why did the Provisional Government come to, and then lose, power in Russia in 1917?
- 7 How far had Germany become a totalitarian state by the end of 1934?
- 8 Examine the claim that the Industrial Revolution was the most important cause of 'New Imperialism' in the later nineteenth century.