



# Cambridge Pre-U

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## HISTORY

9769/21

Paper 2a European History Outlines, c.300–c.1461

For examination from 2022

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours 15 minutes



You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

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## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- All questions are worth equal marks.

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This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document has 4 pages. Blank pages are indicated.

**Section 1: c.300–c.700**

- 1 What best explains Diocletian's achievements as Roman Emperor?
- 2 How strong was the Church in the fifth century?
- 3 How far do barbarian incursions explain the fall of the Roman Empire?
- 4 Did the successes of Clovis owe more to his personality or to circumstances?
- 5 'Justinian ruled by coercion.' Did he?

**Section 2: c.700–c.1085**

- 6 What best explains the spread of Islam in Spain up to 1002?
- 7 How substantial were the achievements of Charles Martel?
- 8 How effective was the 'cultural renaissance' under Charlemagne?
- 9 How important is trade in explaining Viking expansion into mainland Europe?
- 10 Did the Papacy win the Investiture Contest?

**Section 3: c.1085–c.1150**

- 11 How effective a ruler was Otto III?
- 12 To what extent do favourable circumstances explain the survival of the early Capetian kings?
- 13 'The most successful Norman ruler of Sicily was Roger II'. Was he?
- 14 How serious were the problems facing Alexius I on his accession in 1081?
- 15 Was profit more important than piety for those who fought in the First Crusade?

**Section 4: c.1150–c.1250**

- 16 How successfully did Frederick Barbarossa achieve his aims in Italy?
- 17 To what extent does the weakness of the Angevins explain the success of Philip II against them?
- 18 Why did Innocent III find it so difficult to obtain obedience from the rulers of Western Europe?
- 19 Assess the reasons why Frederick II's rule was more successful in Sicily than in Germany.
- 20 How substantial were intellectual developments in the twelfth century?

**Section 5: c.1250–c.1378**

- 21 'The popularity of the friars owed more to their positive appeal than to disillusionment with monasticism.' Discuss this view.
- 22 What best explains why the War of the Sicilian Vespers lasted so long?
- 23 How far did Louis IX succeed in achieving his aims?
- 24 Why was Philip IV able to strengthen the Capetian monarchy so significantly?
- 25 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Italian city states in the fourteenth century.

**Section 6: c.1378–c.1461**

- 26 How substantial were the achievements of the conciliar movement?
- 27 What best explains the success of Valois Burgundy up to 1467?
- 28 'An event of only symbolic importance.' Assess this view of the fall of Constantinople in 1453.
- 29 How successful was Charles VII in bringing about a recovery in France?
- 30 How important was Florence in the development of the Italian Renaissance up to c.1461?

**Section 7: Themes**

- 31** 'More important in theory than in practice.' Assess this view of chivalry in the medieval period.
- 32** Who won and who lost from the development of feudal society in the Middle Ages?
- 33** How important were towns in the medieval economy?
- 34** Was Gothic architecture designed solely for the glory of God?
- 35** 'The contribution of women to medieval society has often been under-estimated.' Assess this view.

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