



# Cambridge Pre-U

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## HISTORY

9769/57

Paper 5g Special Subject: Napoleon and Europe, 1795–1815

For examination from 2020

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
  - Section A: answer Question 1.
  - Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- You will be marked on analysis and critical evaluation in your answers. You should also show an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods, where appropriate.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This specimen paper has been updated for assessments from 2020. The specimen questions and mark schemes remain the same. The layout and wording of the front covers have been updated to reflect the new Cambridge International branding and to make instructions clearer for candidates.

## Section A

**Nominated topic: Napoleon's military campaigns in Europe, 1800–1814**

- 1 Study all the following documents and answer the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting on the documents, it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

- A** *Napoleon's published proclamation to his army on the eve of the Battle of Austerlitz (1805) encourages his men.*

Soldiers, the Russian army is facing you to avenge the defeat of the Austrians at Ulm. These are the same battalions you defeated before, and I have pursued them here. The position we occupy is a formidable one; while the enemy marches to turn my attack on the right, he will expose his flank to me. The victory will end our campaign and we can go into winter quarters where we will be reinforced by new armies being raised in France. Then the peace I shall make will be worthy of the French people, of you, and of me.

Napoleon, proclamation to his army, 1 December 1805.

- B** *A Prussian aristocrat and reformer recalls Prussian tactics at the Battle of Auerstädt (1806) in a biography of the Prussian general, Blücher.*

General Blücher's old tactics of charges following each other in succession, and skirmishing on all sides, trying to throw the enemy into disorder and then launching one heavy final charge to break through, were of no use here at the Battle of Auerstädt. The new tactics of Napoleon, drawing up alternate formations of infantry squares and light artillery, frustrated each of Blücher's desperate attempts to make any impression on the French defences. He felt at a loss. As he was making his last charge, his horse was killed under him. He then had to withdraw his cavalry in good order. The French tactics had foiled him.

Count von Gneisenau, *The Life and Campaigns of Field Marshal Blücher*, 1815.

- C** *A French soldier writes home about a visit of Napoleon to his regiment in Italy.*

We have enjoyed the presence of our Sovereign. He inspected our troops in the midst of rain, mud and snow; I don't think I have ever been as cold as I was that day, and I don't know how the Emperor could bear it. The soldiers could hardly keep hold of their weapons, but it seemed as if the Emperor's very presence warmed us. Repeated shouts of '*Vive l'Empereur!*' must have convinced him how much he was cherished by us. Time did not allow him to go through all the ranks and he spoke only to the officers, but those soldiers who wanted to say something to him could approach him with confidence, certain of warm welcome.

Trooper Danserville, letter to his uncle, 20 December 1807.

- D** *In his memoirs, dictated in his exile on St Helena, Napoleon reflects on his leadership qualities.*

A gesture by a beloved general, esteemed by his troops, is as good as any fine speech in the world. When I used to say, as I rode through the ranks amidst the fire, 'Unfurl those flags! The moment has now arrived', my gesture and manner filled the French soldiers with ardour and confidence. Every war ought to be methodical because war ought to be conducted in conformity with the principles and rules of the art of war with a clear aim. There are two sorts of wars, one that is well-understood and conforms to the principles of science, and one that is ill-understood and which violates those principles. Unity of command is the first necessity of war. The greatest number of forces must be concentrated on the field of battle. The favourable opportunity must be seized, for Fortune is female – if you reject her today, you should not expect to meet with her again tomorrow. My manoeuvre at Austerlitz, to engage the Russian army and prevent it joining with the enemy forces in Italy, conformed to all the rules of war. It succeeded and deserved to succeed.

Las Cases, *Memorial of St Helena*, 1823.

- E** *A modern historian reflects on the Prussian campaign of 1806.*

The war of 1806 was an unnecessary campaign caused by a reckless disregard for other countries' rights and feelings. Bonaparte awoke to the danger of Prussia so late that the campaign had to be organised in a driving hurry. Napoleon's plan was familiar and predictable – another broad sweep round the enemy. In 1805, his soldiers had crossed the Rhine with only one pair of shoes; in 1806, they marched on Prussia without overcoats, with the autumn and winter ahead of them. The enemy was formidable in reputation, but little else. It remained just as it was in the days of Frederick the Great in the last century, like an antique weapon in a glass case, and the army was inefficiently led by a committee. The Prussians discarded plans like diners in a restaurant bewildered by an unaccustomed menu, and settled for a compromise which was the worst possible choice.

Correlli Barnett, *Bonaparte*, 1978.

- (a)** To what extent does Document B corroborate the evidence given in Document E about Napoleon's Prussian campaign of 1806? [10]
- (b)** How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that the main element in Napoleon's military success was his ability to inspire and motivate his men? In making your evaluation, you should refer to contextual knowledge, as well as to all the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

**Section B**

Answer **one** of the following questions. Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied, as well as contextual knowledge.

- 2 What best explains Napoleon's rise to power as First Consul by 1799? [30]
- 3 'The greatest contribution made by Britain to the defeat of Napoleon was the Peninsular Campaign.' How far do you agree? [30]
- 4 'In the rule of his European Empire outside France, Napoleon should be seen as more of an oppressor than a liberator.' How valid is this judgement? [30]

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