



Cambridge Pre-U

HISTORY

9769/22

Paper 2b European History Outlines, c.1461–c.1774

For examination from 2022

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours 15 minutes



You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

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.

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.1461–c.1516

- 1 'Louis XI's reign was highly beneficial for France.' Discuss.
- 2 What best explains the outbreak and continuation of the Italian Wars in the years 1461–1516?
- 3 'Dominated by purely worldly considerations.' How valid is this judgement on the Papacy c.1458-c.1513?
- 4 'A purely destructive force.' Discuss this view of the Ottoman Empire in this period.
- 5 How successfully did Ferdinand and Isabella deal with the internal challenges to their authority?

Section 2: c.1516–c.1559

- 6 What best explains why Luther's protest in 1517 developed into the German Reformation?
- 7 How prosperous was Spain in the reign of Charles V, 1516–1556?
- 8 Who achieved more for France: Francis I or Henry II?
- 9 'Greed was the principal motive for European overseas expansion in this period.' Discuss.
- 10 'Gustavus Vasa of Sweden was little more than a tyrant.' Discuss.

Section 3: c.1559–c.1610

- 11 To what extent did Philip II achieve his foreign policy aims?
- 12 Why did the French civil wars last so long?
- 13 What best explains why Spain failed to suppress the Dutch Revolt in this period?
- 14 'The Catholic Reformation was limited in both scope and impact.' Discuss.
- 15 How effectively had Henry IV restored royal authority by 1610?

Section 4: c.1610–c.1660

- 16 'He simply carried on the work of Richelieu.' Assess the validity of this comment on Mazarin.
- 17 'Involvement in wars was the principal reason why Spain's decline accelerated.' Discuss with reference to the period 1598–1659.
- 18 Was Habsburg unwillingness to compromise the principal reason for the long duration of the Thirty Years War?
- 19 'A golden age.' Is this an appropriate description of the Dutch Republic in the period c.1609–c.1660?
- 20 What best explains the extent of persecution for witchcraft in this period?

Section 5: c.1660–c.1715

- 21 'He created order out of chaos.' Discuss this judgement on the rule of Frederick William, the Great Elector.
- 22 How great an impact did Louis XIV personally have on the way France was governed?
- 23 'By 1700, Louis XIV's foreign policy had clearly failed.' Had it?
- 24 'The accession of Charles II was the decisive factor in the decline of Spain in the seventeenth century.' Was it?
- 25 How successful was Peter the Great's attempt to modernise Russia?

Section 6: c.1715–c.1774

- 26 Why was it so difficult to reform French government in the period 1715–1743?
- 27 'Her reign lacked real achievements.' Assess this judgement on Maria Theresa.
- 28 Had Prussia attained 'great power' status by 1786?
- 29 How well ruled was Russia in the period 1725–1762?
- 30 Did Spain experience a period of revival in the years 1715–1774?

Section 7: Themes

- 31** Was there greater innovation in naval warfare, or in land warfare, in the later-fifteenth and sixteenth centuries?
- 32** 'The importance of women in the cultural life of the eighteenth century was restricted to the field of literature.' Discuss.
- 33** 'The greatest advances were made in mathematics and physics.' Discuss this view of the Scientific Revolution in the seventeenth century.
- 34** How significant was patronage in the development of the arts in the eighteenth century?
- 35** Assess the impact of the thinking of the Enlightenment on European political and economic life.

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