



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

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**HISTORY**

2138/01

2158/01

Paper 1 World Affairs, 1917–1991

October/November 2007

2 hours 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper



**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

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 diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **five** questions.

**Section A**

Answer at least **one** question from this Section.

**Section B to F**

Answer questions from at least **two** of these Sections.

The first part of each question is worth 14 marks and the last part is worth 6 marks. Answer each part of the questions chosen as fully as you can.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **7** printed pages and **1** blank page.



## Section A

## International Relations and Developments

- 1 Write an account of the main features of international relations during the course of the 1920s.
- To what extent did the events of the Manchurian crisis of 1931 mark the end of a generally peaceful period?
- 2 Show how Hitler in his foreign policies was successful against:
- (a) Austria in 1938;
  - (b) Czechoslovakia in 1938–39;
  - (c) Poland in 1939.
- Why did he meet such little resistance in his moves against each of these countries?
- 3 Describe what you understand by the term 'Cold War'. With reference both to Europe and the rest of the world, outline the main features in the development of the Cold War during the years 1945–55.
- Why did the Cold War become so intense during these years?
- 4 Describe the ways in which the United Nations Organisation (UNO) intervened in:
- (a) the Korean peninsula in the early 1950s;
  - (b) the former Belgian Congo in the early 1960s.
- Why did the UNO prove to be a more forceful organisation than the League of Nations had been?
- 5 Describe the international crises that took place in the early 1960s concerning:
- (a) Germany;
  - (b) Cuba.
- To what extent were relations between the United States and the Soviet Union more relaxed later in the 1960s?
- 6 With reference to any **two** parts of the world that suffered poverty and starvation in the second half of the twentieth century, describe:
- (a) the circumstances that helped bring this about;
  - (b) the attempts that were made to relieve the suffering.

Why were the attempts to relieve suffering not always successful?

## Section B

## Western Europe

7 Show how Mussolini as leader of Italy during the 1920s and 1930s was able to:

- (a) overcome his political opponents in Italy;
- (b) establish good relations with the Church;
- (c) enlarge Italy's overseas empire.

Why did people within Italy in the 1920s and 1930s have differing views about fascist government?

8 **Either**

(a) Describe the circumstances in Britain that led to the formation of:

- (i) the first Labour government in 1924;
- (ii) the National government in 1931;
- (iii) the post-war Labour government in 1945.

Select **one** of these governments and assess the value of its domestic policies.

**Or**

(b) Give an account of the main political changes and developments within Britain during the 1960s and 1970s.

Why did the Conservative party win the general election of 1979?

9 Give an account of each of the following features of the Spanish Civil War:

- (a) the leadership of General Franco;
- (b) the involvement of Germany and Italy;
- (c) the international brigades.

Why did Franco's forces eventually win the war?

10 Outline the events that led to the creation of the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) in 1949 and describe its internal history during the 1950s and 1960s.

How do you explain its stability and success during these years?

11 Give an account of the developments which:

- (a) in the 1950s helped create closer union between countries in Western Europe;
- (b) in the 1960s and 1970s strengthened union between countries in Western Europe.

Why, during these years, was there tension between Britain and France on the issue of European union?

**Section C****The Americas**

**12** Describe each of the following features of Woodrow Wilson's time as President of the United States:

- (a) the entry of the United States into the First World War in 1917;
- (b) the Fourteen Points of 1918;
- (c) Wilson's role at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919.

Why, by 1921, had many in the United States become critical of Wilson as their President?

**13** Describe how each of the following played an important part in the history of the United States during the 1920s:

- (a) the activities of the Ku Klux Klan;
- (b) the policy of prohibition;
- (c) the growth of big business.

Why did the Great Crash of 1929 have such deep impact in the United States?

**14** Outline the main features from the 1930s to the 1980s in the internal history of:

**Either**

- (a) Argentina;

**Or**

- (b) Brazil.

In the case of the country which you have chosen, explain why its relationship with the United States was important for its progress during these years.

**15** Describe the development of the 'Watergate' scandal in the United States in the early 1970s, leading to the resignation of President Nixon in 1974.

Why was President Ford (1974–77) unable to revive the fortunes of the Republican party?

**16** Outline the main developments in the domestic and foreign policies of the United States during the time of President Reagan (1981–89).

To what extent was the United States more secure in its position in world affairs at the end of his presidency than it had been at its start?

## Section D

## The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

17 Describe each of the following features of Russian history:

- (a) the February Revolution of 1917;
- (b) the October Revolution of 1917.

Why were the Bolsheviks able to establish their power so successfully during the years 1917–21?

18 Describe each of the following features of Stalin's rule in the Soviet Union during the years 1929–39:

- (a) collective farms;
- (b) five-year plans;
- (c) purges.

How successfully did Stalin rule the Soviet Union during these years?

19 Give an account of each of the following military engagements that took place in the Soviet Union during the Second World War:

- (a) the Nazi invasion (1941);
- (b) the siege of Leningrad (1941–44);
- (c) the battle of Stalingrad (1942–43).

Why were Soviet forces eventually victorious in the Second World War?

20 Describe the following features in the history of Hungary:

- (a) the establishment of Soviet control in the 1940s;
- (b) the revolt against Soviet control in 1956;
- (c) the collapse of Soviet control in the late 1980s.

How important for Hungary during the years 1940–90 were the policies of the Western powers?

21 Explain what you understand by the terms 'perestroika' and 'glasnost'. Show how Gorbachev tried to develop these policies in the Soviet Union during the second half of the 1980s.

Why did he fall from power in 1991?

## Section E

## Africa and the Middle East

**22** Describe each of the following features in the history of Palestine:

- (a) the Balfour Declaration (1917);
- (b) Jewish immigration in the 1920s and 1930s;
- (c) the creation of the state of Israel (1948).

Why did the creation of the state of Israel lead to warfare in the late 1940s?

**23** With reference to the Suez Crisis:

- (a) outline the events of 1954–56 that led to the outbreak of hostilities in October 1956;
- (b) outline the course of the hostilities in October – November 1956.

To what extent was the position of Nasser in the Middle East strengthened as a result of the Suez Crisis?

**24** With reference to the history of Nigeria during the 1960s:

- (a) outline the events which led to the outbreak of Civil War in 1967;
- (b) outline the events of the Civil War (1967–70).

Why was the period of the 1970s also a troubled time for the Nigerian people?

**25** Describe each of the following features in the history of central Africa:

- (a) the Central African Federation (1953–63);
- (b) the government of Ian Smith in Rhodesia (1965–80).

Why was the Smith government much criticised both within and outside Rhodesia (later Zimbabwe)?

**26** Show how each of the following achieved independence in the early 1960s:

- (a) Kenya;
- (b) Uganda;
- (c) Tanzania.

Why did attempts at closer union between these newly independent countries eventually fail?

## Section F

## Asia

- 27** Describe the main stages by which the Communist party increased its power within China during the 1930s and 1940s.

To what extent was there a period of social change in China during the 1950s?

- 28** Give an account of the main developments in China's relations with the following countries during the time that Mao Zedong was its ruler (1949–76):

**(a)** the Soviet Union;

**(b)** the United States.

Why during this time did relations with the United States get better and relations with the Soviet Union get worse?

- 29** Describe the main features of:

**(a)** Japan's victories and success during the years 1937–42;

**(b)** Japan's failures and defeat during the years 1942–45.

Why has the use of atomic weapons against Japan in 1945 been a matter of controversy?

- 30** Outline the course of events that led during the years 1939–47 to the independence and partition of the Indian sub-continent.

Why was the country of Bangladesh created from Pakistan in 1971?

- 31** Describe the domestic history and foreign relations of Indonesia during the rule of:

**(a)** Sukarno (1949–67);

**(b)** Suharto, during the years 1967–91.

To what extent was the rule of both men dictatorial in style?

