



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

HISTORY

9697/11

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789–1939

October/November 2013

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.

GERMANY'S POLICIES BEFORE WORLD WAR I

- 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

Germany considers that with its forty million inhabitants, France's claim to be a world power is unjustified. Germans keep claiming that they wish for peace and Kaiser William II does so more than anyone, but they do not understand that peace involves either concessions by both countries or a balance of armaments. They want to be feared and they are at present engaged in making the necessary preparations for war. Even if their national vanity is wounded on some occasions, the confidence which Germans feel in the enormous superiority of their army will lead to a national anger, in the face of which the moderation of the German government will perhaps be powerless. It must be emphasised again that the German government is doing everything to increase patriotic sentiment by celebrating enthusiastically the anniversary of 1813, when German Prussia defeated Napoleon's France. The force of public opinion might result in giving a war a more or less national character. Germany will justify the European war using any excuse. Nothing can prevent the first decisive blows being struck at France.

Report by a French military diplomat in Germany to his government, March 1913.

Source B

31 July: A momentous hour has struck for Germany. Envious rivals everywhere force us to take legitimate defensive actions. The sword has been forced into our hands. I hope that if my efforts to the very last moment do not succeed in persuading our opponents to remain peaceful, we may use the sword, with the help of God, so that we may retain our honour. War will demand enormous sacrifices by the German people, but we shall show the enemy what it means to attack Germany. I commend you to God. Go into the churches, kneel down before God, and implore His help for our brave army.

1 August: I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the expression of your loyalty and your esteem. When it comes to war, all divisions in Germany cease and we are all brothers. Some political parties in Germany have attacked me in peacetime, but now I forgive them wholeheartedly. If our neighbours do not give us peace, then we hope and wish that our good German sword will come victorious out of this war!

Public speeches by Kaiser William II in 1914.

Source C

Throughout the Sarajevo crisis, we believed that it only concerned Austria, and Austria would have to settle with Serbia. We made efforts towards the localising of the war, trying to convince the other powers that Austria was forced to take up arms in justifiable self-defence. We believed strongly that no civilised country possessed the right to criticise Austria in this struggle with barbarism and political crimes, and to shield Serbia against just punishment. Unfortunately, all our proposals were overtaken by the military preparations of Russia and France.

Announcement by the German Foreign Ministry, August 1914.

Source D

Fifteen years of Weltpolitik (World Policy) brought Germany little concrete success. She faced a coalition of Russia, France and Britain. Germany moved back to a strategy based on power in Europe. Germany feared being encircled. Since Russia's defeat by Japan, the Franco-Russian alliance had not given Germany cause for concern. But by 1914 Russia was recovering its military strength. It had huge resources of manpower. The Duma (Russian Parliament) had voted massive funds for a military programme. This aimed to increase the size of the army to almost two million men by 1917. A larger railway network was being built to make mobilisation more efficient. Naval expansion was rapid. The new Russian fleet in the Baltic Sea threatened Germany's northern coastline. Naval talks between Russia and Britain were revealed. Moltke, the German Chief of Staff, called for a pre-emptive strike against Russia and France before their rearmament programmes were complete. He said, 'To wait any longer means our chances become weaker. We cannot enter into competition with Russia over manpower.'

A view of German policy before World War I by a British historian, published 1987.

Source E

In 1961, Fischer published an important book, 'Grasp for World Power: Germany's Aims in the First World War'. He declared that Germany bore a large part of the responsibility for the outbreak of the war – which was not new for people in other countries, but was dynamite in Germany. He argued that important groups within the German ruling class (military officers, landowners, industrialists, bankers, leaders of nationalist societies and university professors) had long held expansionist views, and were willing to go to war to fulfil them. He maintained that in the Sarajevo crisis the German government was prepared to risk a general European war arising out of a local war between Austria and Serbia. It systematically encouraged Austria to go ahead with an attack on Serbia even when it became clear that the conflict could not be localised. He discovered a particularly explosive piece of evidence in a memorandum by the German Chancellor, Bethmann-Hollweg, from September 1914, setting out a programme of war aims which amounted to complete German domination of Europe, west and east.

A summary by a British historian of the views of Fritz Fischer, a German historian, published 1994.

Now answer the following question.

'Germany's policies before World War I were defensive.' Use Sources A–E to show how far the evidence confirms this statement.

Section B

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

- 2 Assess the problems faced by the French revolutionaries from 1789 to the execution of Louis XVI in 1793.
- 3 Assess the advantages that Britain enjoyed over France and Germany in developing an Industrial Revolution.
- 4 Explain why nationalists in Germany and Italy failed to achieve their aims in 1848–49.
- 5 ‘The most important reason why continental countries engaged in “New Imperialism” in the late nineteenth century was to compete with Britain.’ How far do you agree with this claim?
- 6 Assess Lenin’s qualities as a revolutionary leader from 1905 to 1917.
- 7 How far had Hitler changed society and the economy in Germany by 1939?
- 8 How effectively did the rulers of Russia deal with the problems of the economy from 1900 to 1939?

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Source E © P Hayes; *Themes in Modern European History 1890-1945*; Routledge; 1994.

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