
HISTORY

9697/12

Paper 1 Modern European History, 1789–1939

October/November 2014

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 an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

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

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

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.

FRANCE AND GERMANY

- 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

Bismarck maintained that the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 had not been caused by Prussia. It arose from the intolerance of the French, who regarded the prosperity of other nations as an insult to themselves. He maintained that the same feeling would continue. He said, 'We must not deceive ourselves. We must soon expect a new attack. We cannot look forward to a lasting peace, and this is quite independent of the conditions we might impose on France. It is a defeat which the French nation will never forgive. If we were to withdraw from France now without taking any territory and without any financial contribution, the French would have the same hatred, the same spirit of revenge, because of their vanity and love of power.' He believed that Germany must be protected from the danger of French attack. Germany would never be safe so long as Alsace and Lorraine were in French hands. France had made war on Germany twenty times in the past, but no threat to the peace of Europe was to be feared from Germany. If France had been successful it would have taken much territory from Germany. What claim had France to be treated with a leniency which she had never shown to any conquered enemy? France assumed that she was a privileged country; that she had freedom to conquer and divide the land of her neighbours, and that every proposal to win back from her what she had taken from others was a crime against humanity.

A British historian writing about Bismarck's attitude towards France after the Franco-Prussian War, published in 1899.

Source B

After the establishment of the unified state in 1871, Bismarck considered Germany to be a fully satisfied country. German policy in Europe remained very cautious. It had to be, considering the deep and lasting hatred the loss of Alsace and Lorraine had caused among the French, the difficulty of remaining on good terms with both Austria and Russia, and the growing reluctance of Britain towards continental alliances. Germany wanted time to consolidate itself and her gains. Her interest was to maintain peace.

A British historian describing German foreign policy after unification, published in 1979.

Source C

It has been usual to meet Germans who declare that France's military plans are unjustified. A member of the German Parliament, who is not a fanatic, talked to his friends of the new three years' military service in France. He said, 'It is a provocation; we will not allow it.' Other people state that France with her forty million inhabitants has no right to compete in this way with Germany. Germany considers that our place in the sun is too large for our forty million inhabitants. Germans keep on claiming that they wish for peace (William II more than anyone), but they do not understand that peace involves either concessions or a balance of armaments. They want to be feared.

A French military diplomat reporting from Germany to the French Minister of War, March 1913.

Source D

From observations which contacts in Germany have been able to collect from many different people, two feelings sway and irritate most Germans' minds: (1) The outcome of the Balkan crisis in 1912 was a disappointment for Germany; (2) France is a new France undreamed of before 1911. Germany is a warlike country and wants war. Members of all the parties in the German Parliament, from the Conservatives to the Socialists, are unanimous on these two points. They represent the different districts and all the social groups in Germany.

From a report on German public opinion prepared by French diplomats in Germany for the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, July 1913.

Source E

France has a clear conscience about the outbreak of the war in 1914. She had nothing to do with the disputes between Austria and Serbia, or between Austria, Germany and Russia. Once war proved inevitable, France accepted the responsibilities of the Russian alliance. Germany was an obvious aggressor against France. Germany's plans for the quick annihilation of France, before attacking Russia, are well known to the world. Everybody is aware how scrupulously France avoided every hostile measure, and, during the critical days preceding the war, withdrew all troops ten kilometres from the frontier to prevent a clash. In order to justify their advance, Germany invented preposterous tales of bombs dropped by aeroplanes or of the violation of Belgian neutrality by French officers in cars. France had no idea of invading Belgium. All the French military plans aimed at the protection of its frontier, and they were defeated by the dishonest move of Germany through Belgium. In 1914 France was not even prepared for war. No nation ever looked forward with more horror and dread to military conflict than the French. They had been the last victims of a great European war, of which the memories were still alive. However much the loss of Alsace-Lorraine saddened them, they knew too well the madness of war to seek it again. A new generation had grown up reconciled to fate and willing to let bygones be bygones. But Germany would not. It dreamed of world supremacy.

An American historian, published in 1916.

Now answer the following question.

'France was a greater threat to international peace from 1871 to 1914 than Germany.' 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 view that, from 1799 to 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte's main aim was to preserve the achievements of the French Revolution.
- 3 Analyse the main differences between the Industrial Revolutions in Britain and **either** France **or** Germany.
- 4 Assess the problems facing the movement for Italian unification from 1849 to 1871.
- 5 'Winning popular support was the main aim of European countries in "New Imperialism" at the end of the nineteenth century.' How far do you agree with this judgement? (You should refer to **at least two** of Britain, France and Germany in your answer.)
- 6 Analyse the reasons why Lenin became a successful revolutionary leader.
- 7 'Authoritarian but not totalitarian.' Assess this judgement on Mussolini's government of Italy up to 1939.
- 8 How different were the economies of Britain and Russia by the end of the nineteenth century?

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