



# Cambridge O Level

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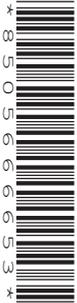
## HISTORY

2147/12

Paper 1 Structured Questions

October/November 2025

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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### INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total:
  - Section A (Core content): answer **two** questions.
  - Section B (Depth studies): 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.

### INFORMATION

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

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This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

**SECTION A: CORE CONTENT**

Answer **two** questions from this section.

**Option A: The nineteenth century**

- 1** It took many years to achieve Italian unification.
- (a) What was the Young Italy movement? [4]
  - (b) Why was Rome important to Italian unification? [6]
  - (c) Who was more important to Italian unification: Victor Emmanuel or Cavour? Explain your answer. [10]
- 2** The Franco-Prussian War (1870–71) was important to German unification.
- (a) What were the consequences of the Franco-Prussian War for Germany? [4]
  - (b) Why was Prussia able to defeat France? [6]
  - (c) How far was Bismarck responsible for the outbreak of war between France and Prussia? Explain your answer. [10]
- 3** Imperial expansion had different causes and inspired a range of reactions.
- (a) Describe the main events of the Philippine–American War. [4]
  - (b) Why was war against Spain in 1898 controversial in the United States? [6]
  - (c) ‘European imperialism was motivated by strategic considerations.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 4** By 1914 there was a great deal of tension between European powers.
- (a) What happened in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914? [4]
  - (b) Why was the Alliance System important in the July crisis of 1914? [6]
  - (c) How far do you agree that Germany was responsible for raising international tensions in the years before 1914? Explain your answer. [10]

**Option B: The twentieth century**

- 5 The Treaty of Versailles had important consequences for Europe.
- (a) What happened in the Ruhr as a consequence of the Treaty of Versailles? [4]
  - (b) Why did Wilson's policy of 'self-determination' have an important impact on Germany? [6]
  - (c) How far do you agree that the Big Three were satisfied by the outcomes of the Treaty of Versailles? Explain your answer. [10]
- 6 The League had some successes but also faced serious challenges beyond its control.
- (a) Describe how the League campaigned to end slavery. [4]
  - (b) Why did the Depression make it difficult for the League to keep the peace? [6]
  - (c) 'The League was a success in the 1920s.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 7 Tensions between the wartime Allies developed quickly from 1945.
- (a) What did the Allies disagree about at Potsdam? [4]
  - (b) Why was Marshall Aid introduced? [6]
  - (c) 'The Soviet Union established communist control of Eastern Europe by crushing opposition parties.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 8 The United States attempted to contain communism with varying degrees of success.
- (a) Describe the involvement of the United States in the Korean War. [4]
  - (b) Why was Vietnamisation important? [6]
  - (c) How far do you agree that the Cuban Missile Crisis was a disaster for Khrushchev? Explain your answer. [10]

**SECTION B: DEPTH STUDIES**

Answer **one** question from this section.

**Depth study A: The First World War, 1914–18**

- 9** Many areas of the world were involved in the First World War.
- (a) What was the role of South African troops in the East Africa campaign? [4]
  - (b) Why was the siege of Tsingtao important? [6]
  - (c) 'The main reason for the Arab Revolt was the rise of Arab nationalism.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 10** The Germans faced a difficult situation on the home front and on the battlefield in 1918.
- (a) Describe Hindenburg's role in the First World War. [4]
  - (b) Why did the United States join the war against Germany in April 1917? [6]
  - (c) 'Germany asked for an armistice in 1918 because of the failure of the Ludendorff Offensive.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

**Depth study B: Germany, 1918–45**

- 11** Hitler acted quickly to consolidate his position.
- (a) What did Hitler gain from the Enabling Act? [4]
  - (b) Why was securing the support of the army important to Hitler? [6]
  - (c) 'Hitler became Chancellor in 1933 because of the electoral success of the Nazis.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 12** The Nazi regime was characterised by persecution.
- (a) Describe Nazi measures against the Jews between 1933 and 1935. [4]
  - (b) Why were the Berlin Olympics of 1936 important to the Nazis? [6]
  - (c) How far do you agree that there was significant opposition to the Nazis? Explain your answer. [10]

**Depth study C: Russia, 1905–41**

- 13** The Provisional Government struggled to establish control in 1917.
- (a) What were Lenin's April Theses? [4]
  - (b) Why were the July Days important? [6]
  - (c) 'The main reason the Provisional Government fell from power was because it did not withdraw Russia from the war.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 14** Stalin's social and economic policies changed the Soviet Union.
- (a) What was Stalin's approach to ethnic minorities? [4]
  - (b) Why did Stalin introduce Five-Year Plans for industry? [6]
  - (c) How far do you agree that the policy of collectivisation was a success? Explain your answer. [10]

**Depth study D: The United States, 1919–41**

- 15** American society changed in the 1920s.
- (a) Describe restrictions placed on immigration in the 1920s. [4]
  - (b) Why was prohibition introduced? [6]
  - (c) 'Gangsterism posed a greater threat to American society in the 1920s than the Ku Klux Klan.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 16** The Depression came as a major shock to most Americans.
- (a) Describe the impact of the Wall Street Crash on the US economy. [4]
  - (b) Why was Hoover criticised for his response to the Depression? [6]
  - (c) How far do you agree that speculation was the main cause of the Wall Street Crash? Explain your answer. [10]

**Depth study E: The Second World War in Europe and the Asia–Pacific, 1939–c.1945**

- 17** Japan took control of much of Southeast Asia in 1941–42.
- (a) Describe relations between the United States and Japan before 1941. [4]
  - (b) Why did the British lose control of Singapore to the Japanese in 1942? [6]
  - (c) ‘The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was a success.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- 18** From 1943, the Allies began to secure victory against the Axis powers.
- (a) Describe the Allied invasion of Sicily in 1943. [4]
  - (b) Why were events on the Eastern Front important to the outcome of the war? [6]
  - (c) ‘De-Nazification was the most important element of the Allies’ consolidation of victory over Germany.’ How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]



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