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# History

## Higher level and standard level

### Paper 2

5 May 2025

Zone A afternoon | Zone B afternoon | Zone C afternoon

1 hour 30 minutes

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#### Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different topic.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[30 marks]**.
- Where the word “region” is used, it refers to the following four regions: Africa and the Middle East, the Americas, Asia and Oceania, and Europe.

**Topic 1: Society and economy (750–1400)**

1. Evaluate the role of rulers in the spread of religion in **two** societies, each chosen from a different region, in the period 750–1400.
2. “Methods of transportation changed little in the period 750–1400.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

**Topic 2: Causes and effects of wars (750–1500)**

3. To what extent was demographic change the most significant effect of **two** wars in the period 750–1500?
4. Compare and contrast the causes of **two** wars in the period 750–1500.

**Topic 3: Dynasties and rulers (750–1500)**

5. Evaluate the importance of the administration of law for the effective government of **two** dynasties/kingdoms in the period 750–1500.
6. “Non-violent methods were crucial to the expansion of power.” With reference to **two** dynasties/kingdoms in the period 750–1500, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

**Topic 4: Societies in transition (1400–1700)**

7. Examine the impact of changing patterns of trade on **two** societies, each chosen from a different region, in the period 1400–1700.
8. “Religious change led to discrimination and persecution.” Discuss with reference to **two** societies in the period 1400–1700.

**Topic 5: Early Modern states (1450–1789)**

9. Evaluate the reasons why one state ascended, while another declined, in the period 1450–1789.
10. “The most important rationale for expansion was economic.” Discuss with reference to **two** states in the period 1450–1789.

**Topic 6: Causes and effects of Early Modern wars (1500–1750)**

11. To what extent did technological developments determine the outcome of **two** wars in the period 1500–1750?
12. “Demographic changes and population movements were the most important effects of wars in the period 1500–1750.” Discuss with reference to **two** wars, each chosen from a different region.

**Topic 7: Origins, development and impact of industrialization (1750–2005)**

13. To what extent did the origins of industrialization in **two** countries in the period 1750–2005 depend upon developments in energy and power?
14. Evaluate the impact of transportation on the development of industrialization in **two** countries in the period 1750–2005.

**Topic 8: Independence movements (1800–2000)**

15. “Non-violent as well as violent methods were essential to the success of independence movements in the period 1800–2000.” Discuss with reference to **two** countries.
16. “States responded effectively to social and economic challenges in the first 10 years of independence.” Discuss with reference to **two** states that gained independence between 1800 and 1990.

**Topic 9: Emergence and development of democratic states (1848–2000)**

17. Evaluate the relative importance of factors that led to the emergence of democracy in **two** states in the period 1848–2000.
18. “Domestic crises had significant political impact.” With reference to **two** democratic states in the period 1848–2000, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

**Topic 10: Authoritarian states (20th century)**

19. To what extent was social division the most significant factor in the emergence of **two** 20th century authoritarian states, each chosen from a different region?
20. “Attempts to establish authoritarian control were unsuccessful.” With reference to **two** 20th century authoritarian states, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

**Topic 11: Causes and effects of 20th century wars**

21. Evaluate the significance of economic causes to the outbreak of **two** 20th century wars.
22. “Post-war peacemaking was rarely successful.” With reference to **two** 20th century wars, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

**Topic 12: The Cold War: Superpower tensions and rivalries (20th century)**

23. Examine the social and cultural impact of the Cold War on **two** countries, each chosen from a different region.
  24. “The impact of Cold War leaders was to increase, rather than reduce, superpower tensions.” Discuss with reference to **two** leaders, each chosen from a different region.
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