GCE AS MARKING SCHEME

SUMMER 2023

HISTORY - UNIT 1
PERIOD STUDIES 5–-8: NON-BRITISH HISTORY

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INTRODUCTION

This marking scheme was used by WJEC for the 2023 examination. It was finalised after detailed discussion at examiners' conferences by all the examiners involved in the assessment. The conference was held shortly after the paper was taken so that reference could be made to the full range of candidates' responses, with photocopied scripts forming the basis of discussion. The aim of the conference was to ensure that the marking scheme was interpreted and applied in the same way by all examiners.

It is hoped that this information will be of assistance to centres but it is recognised at the same time that, without the benefit of participation in the examiners' conference, teachers may have different views on certain matters of detail or interpretation.

WJEC regrets that it cannot enter into any discussion or correspondence about this marking scheme.

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Marking guidance for examiners

Summary of assessment objectives for Unit 1

The questions in this examination assess assessment objective 1. This assessment objective is a single element focused on the ability to analyse and evaluate and reach substantiated judgements. In Section A, candidates choose one question from a choice of two. In Section B, candidates again choose one question from a choice of two. The mark awarded to each question is 30. The paper has a maximum tariff of 60.

The structure of the mark scheme

The mark scheme has two parts:

- An assessment grid advising the bands and marks that should be given to responses that demonstrate the qualities needed in assessment objective 1.

- Advice on each specific question outlining indicative content that can be used to assess the quality of the specific response. This content is not prescriptive and candidates are not expected to mention all the material listed. Assessors must credit any further admissible evidence offered by candidates.

Deciding on the mark awarded within a band

The first stage for an examiner is to decide the overall band. The second stage is to decide how firmly the qualities expected for that band are displayed. Thirdly, a final mark for the question can then be awarded.

Organisation and communication

This issue should have a bearing if the standard of organisation and communication is inconsistent with the descriptor for the band in which the answer falls. In this situation, examiners may decide not to award the highest mark within the band.

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AO1: Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.

		Analysis and evaluation	Judgement	Knowledge	Communication
Band 6	**26–30 marks**	The learner is able to effectively analyse and evaluate the key issues in relation to the set question.	A focused, sustained and substantiated judgement is reached.	The learner is able to demonstrate, organise and communicate accurate knowledge which shows clear understanding of the period studied.	The learner is able to communicate clearly and fluently, using appropriate language and structure with a high degree of accuracy in a response which is coherent, lucid, concise and well-constructed.
Band 5	**21–25 marks**	The learner is able to clearly analyse and evaluate the key issues in relation to the set question.	There is a clear attempt to reach a substantiated judgement which is supported.	The learner is able to demonstrate and organise accurate and relevant historical knowledge of the period studied.	The learner is able to communicate accurately and fluently using appropriate language and structure with a high degree of accuracy.
Band 4	**16–20 marks**	The learner is able to show understanding of the key issues demonstrating sound analysis and evaluation.	A judgement is seen but lacks some support or substantiation.	There is evidence of accurate deployment of knowledge.	There is a good level of written communication with a reasonable degree of accuracy.
Band 3	**11–15 marks**	The learner is able to show understanding through some analysis and evaluation of the key issues.	There is an attempt to reach a judgement but it is not firmly supported and balanced.	Some relevant knowledge on the set question is demonstrated.	There is a reasonable level of written communication which conveys meaning clearly though there may be errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.
Band 2	**6–10 marks**		There is an attempt to provide a judgement on the question set.	The learner provides some relevant knowledge about the topic.	There is a reasonable level of written communication which conveys meaning though there may be errors.
Band 1	**1–5 marks**		There is little attempt to provide a judgement on the question set.	The learner provides limited knowledge about the topic.	There is an attempt to convey meaning though there may be errors.
Award 0 marks for an irrelevant or inaccurate response.					

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Unit 1 – 2100UE0-1

Period study 5 Political and religious change in Europe c.1500–1598

SECTION A

0 1 To what extent did France develop into an absolute monarchy during the reign of Francis I? [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of the extent to which France developed into an absolute monarchy in the context of the period specified. Candidates are expected to debate the extent of that development, considering a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest France became an absolute monarchy during the specified period may include the following.

- The centralisation of government and the rising importance of the royal court in government through the Conseil du Roi and the Conseil des Affaires.
- The number of royally appointed regional governors increased from 11 to 16 to increase royal control over the localities.
- There were several financial reforms, and the importance of the Treasury and the ability to tax at will gave the monarchy more direct control over royal finances than it had ever had.
- The 1516 Concordat of Bologna gave the French king direct control over Church appointments.

Arguments that suggest France did not become an absolute monarchy during the specified period may include the following.

- There was religious conflict within France; the early stirrings of Protestantism would lead to the Affair of the Placards and signalled a move from a policy of toleration to one of persecution.
- There were arguments with regional governments, ongoing arguments with the Paris Parlement, and the shutting down of the Rouen Parlement in 1540.
- Francis gained money by selling offices to the nobility. While this provided financial benefits, it increased the influence of the nobility relative to the monarchy.
- The frequent need to pay for foreign wars was a constant drain on the Treasury and a distraction from domestic affairs.
- There were significant financial imitations to the power of the King of France: by 1547, a mercenary army for a foreign war cost more than the total income of the French monarchy.

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Unit 1 – 2100UE0-1

Period study 5 Political and religious change in Europe c.1500–1598

0 2 **"The growing power of nation states had the most significant influence on the development of Europe between 1516 and 1556." Discuss. [30]**

Candidates will offer a supported evaluation of the growing power of nation states in Europe in the context of the period specified. Candidates are expected to debate that growing power, considering a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest that the growing power of nation states was significant during the specified period may include the following.

- The centralisation of the monarchies in Spain and France enabled increasingly large-scale conflict for control of central Europe and Italy; centralisation was also necessary to be able to fund these wars.
- Charles V was looking to create more of a unified nation state in the Holy Roman Empire as he had done in Spain, and this led to conflict with the German princes.
- Rivalry or alliances with the Ottomans also contributed to this competition between the nation states that were competing for European supremacy.
- The increasing power of nation states grew from new ideas such as Renaissance Monarchy and absolutism.

Arguments that suggest the growing power of nation states was not significant during the specified period may include the following.

- Religious division and conflict went beyond national boundaries as Protestantism spread from Germany, followed by Calvinism from Geneva.
- Spain's power was only significant while it was supported by its proceeds from discovery of gold and silver in the Americas; however, this led to crippling inflation.
- Religious and political conflict within France as well as economic issues limited France's abilities to influence European events.
- The defeat of the Ottoman threat in the east came not from an individual nation state but from an international alliance of states.

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Period study 5 Political and religious change in Europe c.1500–1598

SECTION B

0 3 Evaluate the reasons for the success of Ottoman expansion into Eastern Europe between 1520 and 1566. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of the reasons for the success of Ottoman expansion into Eastern Europe in the context of the period specified. Candidates will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments regarding the reasons for the success of Ottoman expansion into Eastern Europe during the specified period may include the following.

- Ottoman attacks on eastern Europe in the 1520s were very successful as a result of the ferocity of their attack, the strength of their military organisation and the weakness of the European defenders.
- Leadership provided by the Sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent, on land, and Admiral Barbarossa at sea helped the success of Ottoman expansion in this period, although Barbarossa's death in 1546 and Suleiman's death in 1566 undermined the Ottoman cause later in the period.
- Further Ottoman alliances with France in the 1530s and 1540s, prolonged the Hapsburg/Valois rivalry as Charles V was drawn away from France to deal with the Ottoman threat in the east.
- Charles V had other several significant issues to attend to. Among these was the growing Protestant threat in Germany in the 1530s. Having to deal with such disparate issues led to concessions one way or another, for example the compromise at Augsburg in 1531.
- Religious issues in Germany continued to distract Charles V through the 1540s until the 1555 Peace of Augsburg settled religious issues in Germany.
- While France continued to fight with Charles V, it was not interested in tackling the Ottoman threat to Hapsburg lands in eastern Europe.
- The Ottoman threat to Europe had not been decisively ended by 1559 because of a lack of European unity.
- Increased European unity after the Treaty of Cateau-Cambrésis finally resolved the Hapsburg/Valois conflict, and began to shift the balance of power in favour of the Europeans.

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Period study 5 Political and religious change in Europe c.1500–1598

0 4 **"The Peace of Augsburg had more impact on religion in Europe than any other development." Discuss with reference to the period from 1500 to 1564. [30]**

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of the impact on religion in Europe of the Peace of Augsburg in the context of wider developments during the period specified. Candidates are expected to debate that impact, considering a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest the Peace of Augsburg had more of an impact on religion in Europe than any other development during the specified period may include the following.

- The Peace of Augsburg ended the nearly 40-year religious dispute in Germany that had led to significant political and social change throughout the region.
- The settlement limited the expansion of other religious offshoots in Germany by allowing for only Catholicism or Lutheranism.
- The settlement enabled individual rulers to decide the religion of their territory.
- In theory, the settlement allowed people to follow their conscience by choosing to remain in, or move to, an area in which they could follow their beliefs.
- Augsburg effectively gave official recognition to a Christian denomination outside of Catholicism in a significant European region, which may have provided impetus for other denominations to pursue their faith.

Arguments that suggest the Peace of Augsburg did not have more of an impact on religion in Europe than any other development during the specified period may include the following.

- Luther's original protest may be seen as a cornerstone in the development of independent religious thought in Germany.
- The impact of Lutheranism outside of Germany was fairly limited, and other Protestant reformers, especially Calvin, had a more widespread effect on the development of faith.
- The Catholic Reformation also did more than Augsburg to stem the tide of religious dissent, with developments ranging from the emergence of the Jesuits to the convening of the Council of Trent.

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Unit 1 – 2100UF0-1

Period study 6 Europe in the age of absolutism and revolution c.1682–1815

SECTION A

0 1 Evaluate the impact of Peter the Great's policies to modernise Russia. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of the impact of Peter the Great's policies to modernise Russia. Other relevant issues may – but do not have to – be drawn upon to provide comparison where relevant. Candidates are expected to debate that impact, considering a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments regarding Peter the Great's policies to modernise Russia may include the following.

- The policy of westernisation can be considered successful in that he sought out high-quality technical knowledge during his great embassy to the West. This enabled him to improve the Russian navy, shipbuilding, and to facilitate trade.
- Following the defeat of Swedish forces, he was able to build a new city on the banks of the Neva – St Petersburg – which offered a window on the West and was the catalyst for development of trade in the Baltic. Architecture in a modern European style characterised the new city suggesting the Tsar was embracing western material culture.
- Peter challenged the power tradition and innate conservatism of the Russian Orthodox Church by abolishing the Patriarchy and replacing it with a Holy Synod.
- The introduction of the Table of Ranks in 1722 was aimed to deprive the power of the hereditary nobility and create a system whose members were loyal to the Tsar.
- Peter supported efforts to industrialise Russia and was successful in improving several areas of industry. Russia became one of the largest exporters of iron in Europe.
- However, the vast bulk of the population continued live at near-subsistence levels and many were shackled to the yoke of serfdom.
- Peter's attempts to enforce more modern forms of dress code and grooming (a beard tax) were resented by the nobility.
- It is arguable that a number of Peter's reforms were rather synthetic and did not become deeply entrenched. The Orthodox Church was compelled to accept change and did so only rather grudgingly.

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Unit 1 – 2100UF0-1

Period study 6 Europe in the age of absolutism and revolution c.1682–1815

0 2 How effective were Frederick the Great's domestic reforms? [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal that determines the effectiveness of Frederick the Great's domestic reforms, possibly – although not necessarily – in relation to other relevant issues. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest Frederick domestic reforms were effective may include the following.

- In 1763, Frederick issued a Decree on Education calling for a national system of state schools to be set up and attended by all children between 5 and 13. There was a central curriculum and teachers were recruited from the ranks of former soldiers.
- Frederick boosted the Prussian economy by encouraging immigration from many groups, except Jews. The population doubled by 1786, and by the end of his reign, a fifth of the population were non-German. Many new villages were created and agricultural, production increased substantially.
- A new legal structure was created, laws were codified, and a common legal system was adopted over all Prussian lands.
- Frederick was also enlightened – up to a point (noting the Jews) – regarding religion and followed a policy of religious toleration which he extended to embrace non-Christian groups such as Muslims.
- Noble power was restored to an extend as Frederick came to rely on the nobility to fill the upper levels of the army and civil service. Agricultural reforms helped them to prosper.

Arguments that suggest Frederick domestic reforms were ineffective, or perhaps of lesser efficacy, may include the following.

- The vast majority of the population were peasants and on crown lands many were serfs. Frederick did nothing to improve the lot of Prussian serfs who continued in many instances to be treated very harshly.
- Frederick tended to distrust his own ministers and civil servants, working them hard for low pay. Despite the fact that his civil service was the envy of Europe, Fredericks distrust meant that initiative was discouraged and stifled he tended to bypass the General Directory in case it became too powerful and created new ministries and departments directly answerable to him.
- Frederick was not a supporter of his universities or Academies, largely because of his cynical attitude towards German intellectuals and culture. Funds were restricted to two important universities – at Halle and Konigsberg, and they struggled to survive. Under Frederick the overall quality of education, it can be argued, fell.

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Unit 1 – 2100UF0-1

Period study 6 Europe in the age of absolutism and revolution c.1682–1815

SECTION B

0 3 **"The structure of the ancien régime was responsible for the outbreak of the French Revolution." Discuss with reference to the period from 1715 to 1789.** **[30]**

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of the assertion that structure of the ancien régime was responsible for the outbreak of the French Revolution. They will consider this in relation to other relevant issues and in the context of the period specified. Candidates will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that the structure of the ancien régime was responsible for the outbreak of the French Revolution may include the following.

- There were deep-rooted problems within the structure of the absolute state, which preceded Louis's accession, particularly in relation to issues of finance, where the two privileged estates were exempt from direct taxation and the burden fell on the Third Estate.
- Although an absolute ruler, Louis was unable to drive through the reforms that might have averted the revolution because he needed support from the nation. Powerful vested interests in the ancien régime among the nobility and the Church were against reform.
- Louis was unable to deal with the growing demand from the bourgeoisie for reform and some measure of political representation. The rigid structure of the ancien régime restricted any representation with the exception of the Estates General, which had last been summoned in 1614

Arguments that suggest the structure of the ancien régime was not responsible for the outbreak of the French Revolution may include the following.

- The increasing amount of public debt meant that only structural change to the system of tax collection could secure more funds. The failure to do this brought about the bankruptcy of the state.
- The spread of ideas by the philosophes of the French Enlightenment (Voltaire and Rousseau), undermined the pillars of the ancien régime – the Church and monarchy – and offered the bourgeoisie an alternative for the future.
- There were issues relating to Louis's character and personality, which made him unsuitable for the role of an absolute monarch, his indolence and indecisiveness for example.
- Louis's failure to fully support minsters and their reform programmes, for example Calonne's attempt to deal with government finances.
- There were strong perceptions that Louis was manipulated by his wife, Marie-Antoinette, and that he failed to rein in her extravagance.

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Unit 1 – 2100UF0-1

Period study 6 Europe in the age of absolutism and revolution c.1682–1815

0 4 Evaluate the impact of conflict on Great Power relations between 1756 and 1815. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of the impact of conflict on Great Power relations in the context of the period specified. They may – but will not necessarily – consider this in the context of the impact of other effects on Great Power relations. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments regarding the impact of conflict on Great Power relations between 1756 and 1815 may include the following.

- The Seven Years' War, which was a consequence of the Diplomatic Revolution, can lay claim to being the first truly global conflict, and had a great impact of Great Power relations.
- The French Revolutionary war saw mass resistance to the threat posed to the Bourbon monarchy in France. This was led by former enemies Austrian and Prussia in 1792.
- The defeat of Austria in Italy, which was confirmed by the Battle of Marengo, ensured that in the short term, French power in Europe was on the ascent. The scale and scope of this conflict, it could be argued, was enormous.
- The outbreak of the Napoleonic War was a titanic struggle to prevent French hegemony over Europe. Under Napoleon, the map off Europe was being redrawn and long-standing institutions such as the Holy Roman Empire were abolished. Napoleon sought to create new dynastic systems and imposed family members of thrones which were vacated as a result of conquest.
- However, it can also be argued it was the changing relationships that often led to conflict: the devastating events of the French Revolution itself brought Austria and her former enemy Prussia together in alliance and this resulted in the outbreak of a war with France in 1792.
- During the wars against France, there were numerous alliances mostly against France and funded by Britain. It was indicative of the gravity of the conflict that former enemies fought together in a common cause until Napoleon prised them apart.
- Ideology and the need to uphold Absolutism and constitutional monarchies were sufficient to bury differences in the face of the threat presented by democratic republicanism and the ideal of exporting the revolution to all of Europe.
- The French Revolutionary war of 1792 widened in 1793 when Britain joined Austria and Prussia and declared war on France – ostensibly to defend her trading interests but in also to check French power which, when Napoleon invaded Egypt, presented a direct challenge to British interests and trade in India.

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Unit 1 – 2100UG0-1

Period study 7 Revolution and new ideas in Europe c.1780–1881

SECTION A

0 1 "Nationalism was the main cause of revolution in Europe between 1830 and 1848." Discuss. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of nationalism, which determines its significance as a cause of revolution in Europe; in relation to other relevant issues and in the context of the period specified. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest that nationalism was the main cause of revolution in Europe during the specified period may include the following.

- The 1830 Revolution in Belgium, which was prompted by a desire to break away from Holland. It was successful, and Belgium became independent with a newly recognised monarchy in 1831.
- In Poland, the 1830 uprising against Russian Rule was crushed, as was the one in northern Italy against the Hapsburg Empire.
- The uprisings that broke out in the German states in 1848 certainly had elements of nationalism as causal factors, with many promoting the cause of German unity.
- The 1848 Revolution that shook the Hapsburg Empire saw Hungary achieve a measure of self-government within the Empire and was certainly nationalistic in origin.
- Other nationalist revolutions in 1848 occurred in Galicia and Romania. Neither was successful.

Arguments that suggest that Nationalism was not the main cause of revolution in Europe during the specified period may include the following.

- The 1830 Revolution in France was motivated by the desire to overthrow the Bourbons, while the 1848 revolution, which brought in the Second Republic, nationalism had no real impact.
- The 1848 Revolution in Denmark was largely against Absolutism, although there was evidence in German-speaking Schleswig of support for pan-German nationalism.
- In Switzerland, tensions in 1848 were largely of a religious nature between the Catholic and Protestant cantons.

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Unit 1 – 2100UG0-1

Period study 7 Revolution and new ideas in Europe c.1780–1881

0 2 Evaluate the impact on France of Napoleon III's domestic and foreign policies. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of Napoleon III's domestic and foreign policies that ascertains their impact on France. Other relevant issues may – but do not have to – be drawn upon to contextualise the impact of those policies on France. Candidates will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest the impact on France of Napoleon III's domestic and foreign policies was significant and/or positive during the specified period may include the following.

- The French economy was modernised and support was given to a range of projects and new institutions, such as railway development and access to banking.
- A number of public works schemes were initiated and these provided much-needed jobs. The most important was the redevelopment of Paris, which transformed the city and symbolised the Second Empire's desire to create a modern, forward-looking country.
- There were improvements for ordinary people from such changes as allowing workers to strike and improving education opportunities, particularly for girls and young women.
- Napoleon III restored pride and confidence in the country. If not quite *la gloire*, then his support for causes such as Italian nationalism was popular with many.
- Napoleon III's alliance with Britain, and France's intervention in the Crimean War, hinted at an end to the amity between the two countries that had defined his uncle's reign.

Arguments that suggest the impact on France of Napoleon III's domestic and foreign policies was not significant and/nor positive during the specified period may include the following.

- The rebuilding of Paris resulted in massive displacement of poor people as houses were demolished.
- The decision to compel French industry to modernise by freeing up trade for example, caused short-term unemployment and hardship, and the banking system was far from robust.
- Napoleon III's adventurism – in the case of the Mexico fiasco –damaged his prestige, and it is arguable that he failed to take sufficient notice of the emerging power of Prussia, with ultimately disastrous consequences.

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Period study 7 Revolution and new ideas in Europe c.1780–1881

SECTION B

0 3 "During the period from 1815 to 1871, the most significant contribution to the unification of Italy was made by King Victor Emmanuel II." Discuss. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of the contribution made by King Victor Emmanuel II to the unification of Italy, determining its significance in relation to other relevant issues and in the context of the period specified. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest Victor Emmanuel II's contribution to the unification of Italy was the most significant factor during the specified period may include the following.

- His deep commitment to the cause Italian unification is evident from early on when he took part in the, unsuccessful, First War of Italian Independence that took place between 1848 and 1849, during the reign of his father.
- Following the abdication of his father in 1849, Victor Emmanuel II became King of Piedmont: he appointed Cavour as his prime minister and sought to acquire the support of larger powers in favour of Italian unification.
- His participation in the Crimean War, as well as his courting of Napoleon III suggests an adept political operator willing to offer Savoy and Nice to France in return for their support.
- Victor Emmanuel II was willing to take the risk to support Garibaldi and his Expedition of the Thousand to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

Arguments that suggest Victor Emmanuel II's contribution to the unification of Italy was not the most significant contribution during the specified period may include the following.

- The role of Cavour as prime minister of Piedmont should be emphasised as he was responsible for overseeing the policies that facilitated unification.
- Garibaldi and his red shirts carried out the unification of southern Italy and Victor Emmanuel intervened against him when he threated to march on Rome.
- The role of Giuseppe Mazzini and the role played by him and the Carbonari in inspiring Young Italians to dream of unification should not be underestimated. In many ways he prepared the foundations for unification.
- The emergence of nationalism as a potent political force in the Italian peninsula after 1815 fuelled the desire of individuals such as Victor Emmanuel, Mazzini and others to press for unification.

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Period study 7 Revolution and new ideas in Europe c.1780–1881

0 4 To what extent did the weakness of German nationalism prevent the achievement of German unification before 1871? [30]

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of the weakness of German nationalism that determines its significance as a factor in preventing German unification; in relation to other relevant issues and in the context of the period specified. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest that the weakness of German nationalism was the main factor in preventing German unification during the specified period may include the following.

- The power of Austria, as the premier German-speaking state, was a clear barrier to unification, and under Metternich all attempts at nationalism were suppressed.
- Only when Prussia gained power and confidence within the Zollverein did German unity became more than an illusory concept.
- Intense political rivalries – and particularist forces within the German confederation –inhibited the cause of unification.

Arguments that suggest that the weakness of German nationalism was not the main factor in preventing German unification during the specified period may include the following.

- The post-Napoleonic War settlement created in Germany a confederation under the leadership of the Hapsburg Empire. There was much rivalry between the states, which served to weaken the impact of nationalism.
- After 1815, there was considerable rivalry and tension between Prussia and Austria, and this served to weaken the impact of nationalism.
- Both Prussia and Austria saw themselves as being the main drivers behind German unity and this tended to weaken the impact of grassroots nationalism.
- Although improved communications helped spread ideas, the weak economic position of many small German states in the 1840s tended to emphasise the need to raise living standards as a priority over unification.
- For many ordinary citizens in the various German states, many nationalists were seen as too middle class, too elitist and espousing a cause that would do little to improve the quality of their lives.

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Unit 1 – 2100UH0-1

Period study 8 Europe in an age of conflict and cooperation c.1890–1991

SECTION A

0 1 To what extent did political extremism pose a threat to the stability of the Weimar Republic between 1919 and 1933? [30]

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of political extremism, which determines its significance as a threat to the stability of the Weimar Republic; in relation to other relevant issues and in the context of the period specified. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest view that political extremism was the main threat to the stability of the Weimar Republic during the specified period may include the following.

- Post-war feeling towards Weimar was problematic due to the political influence of different factions: Communists, Socialists, Nationalists, the Military.
- The Spartacist threat and rebellion forced the new Assembly to move to Weimar for its own safety while the right-wing threat materialised in the form of the Kapp Putsch of 1920.
- The communist revolt in the Ruhr led to violent scenes and much bloodshed.
- The Munich Putsch of 1923 was a further extremist threat to the stability of the Weimar Republic, as was the rise of the popularity of Hitler following the putsch.

Arguments that suggest political extremism was not the main threat to the stability of the Weimar Republic during the specified period may include the following.

- The nature of the Weimar Constitution – a highly decentralised system with proportional representation – was a significant step towards stability in Germany.
- The violent revolts from the left and the right were quashed using the might of the military and never spread across Germany.
- The Weimar Republic faced a larger threat due to economic difficulties, which caused hyperinflation and economic hardship.
- The Versailles treaty and reliance on foreign money also put the Republic in a perilous financial situation.
- Political disunity in the period and following the Wall Street Crash and the fall of parliamentary democracy may have contributed to the fall of the Weimar Republic.

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Unit 1 – 2100UH0-1

Period study 8 Europe in an age of conflict and cooperation c.1890–1991

0 2 How significant was the contribution of the League of Nations to international co-operation between 1918 and 1939? [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of the contribution of the League of Nations to international cooperation, possibly – although not necessarily – in relation to other relevant issues, but in the context of the specified period. Candidates will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest that the League of Nations made a significant contribution to international co-operation during the specified period may include the following.

- Developed from Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points (1918), the League was intended to enable countries' collective action on pressing world issues such as reducing the likelihood of war and encouraging disarmament.
- In the 1920s, the League enjoyed several humanitarian successes: the restoration to their homeland of some half a million prisoners of war; support for Turkish refugees in the early 1920s; in 1926, its member states approved the Slave Convention, which freed approximately 200,000 slaves; in 1936, half of its constituent countries passed a convention to work against the trade in illegal drugs.
- The League was also successful in several border disputes, including Sweden ceding the Åland Islands to Finland in 1921, and the discouragement of Greece's incursion into Bulgaria (1925).

Arguments that suggest that the League of Nations did not make a significant contribution to international co-operation during the specified period may include the following.

- British and French reservations about US President Wilson's Fourteen Points was an indication of the disparate aims of these three powers that were reflected in the Treaty of Versailles, from which the League emerged.
- The League's association with the much-detested Treaty of Versailles, gave it a poor start in international cooperation. Versailles was seen as severe on Germany and too difficult to uphold in the mid to long term.
- Several key players did not join the League, for example, the US and the Soviet Union (although the former engaged with its decisions on several occasions, for example the Manchurian Crisis), and Germany was prevented from joining until 1926.
- When faced with a determined state, there was little the League could do, for example, the Corfu Incident in 1923 when the League was unable to prevent Italy's invasion of the island.
- In the 1930s it was evident that states who elected to ignore the League of Nations could do so with relative impunity: the League had no army, and it required the unanimity of its member states for decision making. Thus, the League was inefficient in its response to Japan's invasion of Manchuria in 1932, it could not prevent Germany's withdrawal under Hitler in 1933, nor Italy's invasion of Abyssinia in 1935.

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Period study 8 Europe in an age of conflict and cooperation c.1890–1991

SECTION B

0 3 "Stalin's collectivisation policy had the most significant impact on the lives of the Russian People between 1905 and 1945." Discuss. [30]

Candidates will offer a supported analysis of collectivisation under Stalin that determines its significance as a change affecting the lives of the Russian people; in relation to other relevant issues and in the context of the period specified. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest that collectivisation under Stalin was the most significant change affecting the lives of the Russian people during the specified period may include the following.

- Russian agriculture was inefficient. The collectivisation of agriculture would improve efficiency and food production.
- Food production increased thereby benefiting all and allowing surplus food to be sold abroad for the good of all.
- The policy of collectivisation helped the industrialisation of Russia and gave the economy a boost.
- By 1939, 99% of farms had been collectivised and agricultural output was used to feed the population.
- However, collectivisation was despised by Russian farmers and was never popular. Nor was it embraced, which led to harsh repression in its enforcement. Indeed, the sheer brutality of collectivisation had a substantial negative impact on the people.
- Further, agricultural production actually fell massively in the early phase (1929–1932) resulting in famines that caused millions of deaths. There were also huge losses of livestock.

Arguments that suggest collectivisation under Stalin was not the most significant change affecting the lives of the Russian people during the specified period may include the following.

- Lenin's New Economic Policy had a wide-ranging effect on the economy and society.
- The use of repression, terror and purges throughout the post-1917 period may be considered as having a more significant affect.
- Stalin's five-year plans saw Russia emerge as an industrial power on the world stage, but it could be argued that the treatment of different social groups in the post-1917 period meant that change was wide in its extent – being both positive and negative, depending on your status in Russia at the time.

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Period study 8 Europe in an age of conflict and cooperation c.1890–1991

0 4 How effective were attempts to improve relations in Europe between 1945 and 1991? [30]

Candidates will offer a supported appraisal of attempts to improve relations in Europe, measuring the strengths and limitations of the approaches taken in the context of the period specified. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate, before reaching a substantiated judgement.

Arguments that suggest attempts to improve relations in Europe between 1945 and 1991 were effective during the specified period may include the following.

- The setting up of the United Nations in 1945 was a step in the right direction and led to more unity and a joint purpose in improving relations.
- The post-war division of Europe and creation of a stable European economy proved an effective means of getting countries to work together for the common good.
- The search for European economic co-operation as a means of reducing tensions and creating economic ties was to last throughout the period.
- Curbing Russian expansionism may be considered an effective policy that united the European powers in a common cause, as did the policy of the relative effectiveness of détente in the 1970s.

Arguments that suggest attempts to improve relations in Europe between 1945 and 1991 were not effective during the specified period may include the following.

- The division of Europe and continued mistrust expanded into a Cold War, which saw a breakdown of relations throughout the period and heightened tensions in Europe and beyond. This led to issues such as the Berlin Blockade, the building of the Berlin Wall and the Cuban Missile Crisis.
- The formation of two blocs in the form of NATO and the Warsaw Pact split Europe into military camps and did little to foster trust between the East and West.
- The reaction to the Korean war caused tensions in Europe.
- Attempts at dealing with the problem of Berlin led to distrust and political conflict in the period.

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