



GCE MARK SCHEME

SUMMER 2015

HISTORY - UNIT HY4
PERIOD STUDY 5

ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF EUROPE
c. 1515-1621

1234/05

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HY4
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ASPECTS OF THE HISTORY OF EUROPE c.1515-1621
SECTION A

Distribution of marks within each level for each question, explaining the weighting for each assessment objective.

	AO1a	AO1b	Total
Level 1	1 mark	1-3 marks	4
Level 2	2-3 marks	4-11 marks	14
Level 3	4-6 marks	12-16 marks	22
Level 4	7-10 marks	17-22 marks	32
Level 5	11-12 marks	23-28 marks	40

Marking guidance

Deciding on the mark point within a level

The first stage for an examiner is to decide the overall level and then whether the work represents high, mid or low performance within the level.

Quality of written communication

This issue is determined by the quality of written communication as described in the level descriptor in which the answer has been placed. Examiners should place the response at the appropriate sub-level. If the quality of the written communication descriptor is warranted, then the highest mark within that sub-level should be awarded.

ASSESSMENT GRID FOR SECTION A ESSAYS

Target: AO1

Total mark: 40

Focus: *Recall, selection and deployment of appropriate historical knowledge; demonstrate understanding of the past through explanation, analysis and arriving at substantiated judgements about key concepts*

Level 1

Generally at this level, the candidate's response will be brief and / or irrelevant to the question set. They may recall some historical knowledge and they will show some accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar

Award 0 for incorrect or incomplete answers.

Level 1	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(1 mark)	(1-3 marks)
	The candidate is able to recall some historical knowledge and there is some accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	<p>Low Level 1: 1 mark</p> <p>The answer will be limited to generalised comments on the topic with little understanding of the concept set in the question and is generally irrelevant.</p> <p>High Level 1: 2 -3 marks</p> <p>The answer will be limited to some comments on the topic with little understanding of the concept set in the question.</p>

Level 2

Generally at this level, candidates will show evidence of understanding in their explanation of the key concept set in the question. They will show evidence of understanding through limited analysis and explanation. They will offer some judgement about the key concepts. They will be able to recall, select and deploy some relevant historical knowledge appropriately. The candidates will convey meaning with some clarity and with appropriate vocabulary, although there may be errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Level 2	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(2-3 marks)	(4-11 marks)
	<p>Low Level 2: 2 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy some general knowledge of the period with some appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> <p>High Level 2: 3 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy general knowledge of the key issues in the period set with mostly appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>Low Level 2: 4-7 marks</p> <p>The answer will begin to show some evidence of limited understanding and explanation of factors. It will offer some comments about the relationships between the key issues and features of the historical period. The answer will be generally focussed on the topic area and has some basic explanation of something in the question; these answers may well be a narrative account with little attempt to provide a judgement on the question set.</p> <p>High Level 2: 8-11 marks</p> <p>The answer will begin to focus on the set question and will show some limited analysis and explanation of the concept set in the question. It will offer some judgement about the relationship between the key historical features and characteristics in relation to the question set. The answer will be relevant and valid but with a weak or sketchy focus on the key concept in the question; a largely topic based response with little specific judgement offered on the question set.</p>

Level 3

Generally at this level, candidates will show evidence of understanding through analysis and explanation. They will reach a judgement about the key concepts supported by the arguments they deploy. Candidates will recall, select and deploy relevant historical knowledge and will convey meaning clearly and with appropriate vocabulary, organisation and spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Level 3	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(4-6 marks)	(12-16 marks)
	<p>Low Level 3: 4 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy some relevant historical knowledge with some appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> <p>Mid Level 3: 5 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy some relevant historical knowledge with reasonable organisation and with appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>Low Level 3: 12 marks</p> <p>The answer has some focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer some valid discussion about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer may well be a largely narrative account but with some attempt to provide a judgement on the question set. The judgement, though present at some point in the response, tends not to be supported by the argument being made though it may well have factual support.</p> <p>Mid Level 3: 13-14 marks</p> <p>The answer has an appropriate focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid discussion about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer may well contain some narrative but there will be an attempt to provide supporting arguments to reach a judgement on the question set. The judgement, though present at some point in the response, tends to be partially supported by the argument being made in the response. The responses may follow a listing approach but there will be some focus and judgement on the key concept in the question set.</p>

	<p>High Level 3: 6 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy generally relevant historical knowledge and the response will be clearly expressed with appropriate language and structure and appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>High Level 3: 15-16 marks</p> <p>The answer has a clear focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and broadly balanced discussion about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer may well contain some narrative but there will be an attempt to provide supporting arguments to reach a broadly balanced judgement on the question set. The judgement, though present at some point in the response, is generally supported by the argument being made in the response. These responses may well discuss the key issue in the question set when coming to a judgement by considering factors for and against, often as two half essays.</p>
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Level 4

Generally for this level, candidates will show understanding through analysis and explanation to reach a substantiated and mostly sustained judgement about the key concepts. They will recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge. Candidates will communicate accurately and fluently with appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Level 4	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(7-10 marks)	(17-22 marks)
	<p>Low Level 4: 7 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy mostly accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge; the answer shows organisation, appropriate language and structure and appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p> <p>Mid Level 4: 8 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy mostly accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge; the answer communicates clearly with appropriate language and structure and appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>Low Level 4: 17-18 marks</p> <p>The answer has a focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and meaningful discussion about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer will include specific supporting arguments to reach a substantiated judgement on the question set so that the judgement is substantially supported by the arguments being made in the response. These responses will demonstrate valid analysis and explanation of the key issues to reach a substantiated judgement regarding the key concepts though there may be some lack of focus in sustaining the judgement.</p> <p>Mid Level 4: 19-20 marks</p> <p>The answer has a focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and balanced discussion about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer will include specific supporting arguments to reach a substantiated and sustained judgement on the question set. The judgement is substantially supported by the arguments being made in the response. These responses will demonstrate valid analysis and explanation of the key issues to reach a substantiated and sustained judgement regarding the key concepts.</p>

	<p>High Level 4: 9-10 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge; the answer communicates accurately, clearly and fluently, using appropriate language and structure, using spelling, punctuation and grammar generally with a high degree of accuracy.</p>	<p>High Level 4: 21-22 marks</p> <p>The answer has a focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of a thorough understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and balanced discussion about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer will include specific supporting arguments to reach a substantiated and sustained judgement on the question set. The judgement is substantially supported by the arguments being made in the response. These responses will demonstrate valid analysis and explanation of the key issues to reach a substantiated, supported and sustained judgement regarding the key concepts.</p>
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Level 5

Generally for this level, candidates will show understanding through analysis and explanation to reach a substantiated and fully sustained judgement about the key concepts. They will recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge. Candidates will communicate accurately and fluently using appropriate language and structure, and using spelling, punctuation and grammar with a high degree of accuracy

Level 5	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(11-12 marks)	(23-28 marks)
	<p>Low Level 5: 11 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge. Answers will be fluent and well-organised with a high degree of accuracy in the use of spelling, punctuation and grammar, and showing appropriate language and structure.</p> <p>High Level 5: 12 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge is recalled, selected and deployed. Answers will be lucid and coherent, fluent and well-organised with a high degree of accuracy in the use of spelling, punctuation and grammar and demonstrating appropriate language and structure.</p>	<p>Low Level 5: 23-25 marks</p> <p>The answer has throughout a specific focus on discussing the key concepts in the question set. The answer will include supporting arguments covering most of the period set in the question. Understanding is further shown through well focussed analysis and evaluation of the key features and characteristics of the historical period which leads to a substantiated, sustained and integrated judgement regarding the key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance.</p> <p>High Level 5: 26-28 marks</p> <p>The answer sustains a specific focus on discussing the key concepts in the question set. The answer will include supporting arguments covering the whole of the period set in the question. Understanding is further shown through well focussed analysis and evaluation of the key features and characteristics of the historical period which leads to a substantiated, sustained and integrated judgement regarding the key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance.</p>

INDICATIVE CONTENT FOR SECTION A QUESTION 1

NOTE: This content is not prescriptive and candidates are not expected to mention all the material referred to below. Each answer will be assessed on its merits according to the generic mark scheme as well as the indicative content.

How far was religion the main influence on Philip II's foreign policy?

Candidates are expected to consider and debate, over and within the given period, the full range of issues that affected the key concept in the question – in this case, the influences on Philip II's foreign policy. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance where appropriate and also the relationship between the key characteristics and features associated with the issue in the question.

Candidates will offer an analysis and evaluation of religion as an influence on Philip II's foreign policy in the context of other influences on his foreign policy during his reign which were significant. In order to reach a substantiated judgement about Philip II's foreign policy, candidates may consider and debate a range of issues such as:

- the relationship between the key characteristics influencing Philip's foreign policy in such areas as the Netherlands, against the Ottoman Empire, England and Portugal.
- the extent to which there was continuity as well as change in Philip's foreign policy during and over this period.
- that he inherited problems in the Netherlands which demanded his early attention which were influenced by religious changes. He needed to stamp his authority, to preserve his income and uphold Catholicism in the Spanish Netherlands. By the end of his reign it could be argued that in the Netherlands religion was an important influence as his prime concern was to prevent the loss of protestant provinces and the protection of the catholic faith in the Low Countries.
- the Protestant English Queen Elizabeth was a thorn in Philip's side and his failed Armadas were influenced by religious motivation. However, it could be argued that there was also the influence of political ambition for rule over an area he had previously had hopes of continued Spanish control. Another area of foreign policy which could be argued as being influenced by religion and some significance was his inherited conflict with the Ottoman Turk. Philip's close involvement with the Catholic Reformation made him the obvious candidate to join the Holy League which successfully defeated the Ottoman Empire off Cyprus at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571.
- however, the influences which were political and economic as this astute acquisition politically united the Iberian Peninsula and provided Philip with the economic wealth of Portugal's overseas possessions.
- the significance of religion as an influence for much of Philip's foreign policy should not be in dispute but this should be balanced by a consideration of the wider range of factors that influenced this important aspect of his reign.

INDICATIVE CONTENT FOR SECTION A QUESTION 2

NOTE: This content is not prescriptive and candidates are not expected to mention all the material referred to below. Each answer will be assessed on its merits according to the generic mark scheme as well as the indicative content.

To what extent did the Edict of Nantes have the most significant impact on France in the period 1562-1610?

Candidates are expected to consider and debate, over and within the given period, the full range of issues that affected the key concept in the question – in this case, the impact of the Edict of Nantes. They will consider a range of key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance where appropriate and also the relationship between the key characteristics and features associated with the issue in the question.

Candidates will offer an analysis and evaluation of the Edict of Nantes in the context of other developments which had an impact on France. In order to reach a substantiated judgement about whether the Edict of Nantes was the most significant development in France, 1562-1610, candidates may consider and debate a range of issues such as:

- that the Edict of Nantes was a significant religious settlement of sorts, although its causation was more war weariness than the desire for a long lasting religious peace for the French
- that there was significant religious faction in France, between Huguenots and Catholics, before and during the French Wars of Religion
- that religious faction was mirrored in political conflict between aristocratic families. This was a significant development which continued throughout this period of conflict
- that there was also a weak monarchy and regency of Catherine de Medici which escalated the conflict and was therefore a significant development to add to religious and political faction
- also of significance was the accession of a strong king, Henry IV with an able first minister, Duc de Dully who were prepared to compromise
- possible judgements which could be reached will centre around a discussion of how significant this settlement between the rights of French Catholics and French Protestants of 1598 was. This needs to be evaluated against the relevant significance of weak monarchy, political faction and religious affiliation of the leading aristocratic families in France, in the development of the long running French civil wars of this period.

SECTION B

Distribution of marks within each level for each question, explaining the weighting for each assessment objective.

	AO1a	AO1b	Total
Level 1	1 mark	1-3 marks	4
Level 2	2-3 marks	4-11 marks	14
Level 3	4-6 marks	12-16 marks	22
Level 4	7-10 marks	17-22 marks	32
Level 5	11-12 marks	23-28 marks	40

Marking guidance

Deciding on the mark point within a level

The first stage for an examiner is to decide the overall level and then whether the work represents high, mid or low performance within the level.

Quality of written communication

This issue is determined by the quality of written communication as described in the level descriptor in which the answer has been placed. Examiners should place the response at the appropriate sub-level. If the quality of the written communication descriptor is warranted, then the highest mark within that sub-level should be awarded.

ASSESSMENT GRID FOR SECTION B ESSAYS

Target: AO1

Total mark: 40

Focus: Recall, selection and deployment of appropriate historical knowledge; demonstrate understanding of the past through explanation, analysis and arriving at substantiated judgements about the relationships between key features and characteristics of the period studied

Level 1

Generally for this level, the candidate's response will be brief and / or irrelevant to the question set. They may recall some historical knowledge and they will show some accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar

Award 0 for incorrect or incomplete answers.

Level 1	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(1 mark)	(1-3 marks)
	The candidate is able to recall some historical knowledge and there is some accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar.	<p>Low Level 1: 1 mark</p> <p>The answer will be limited to generalised comments on the topic with little understanding of the concept set in the question and is generally irrelevant.</p> <p>High Level 1: 2-3 marks</p> <p>The answer will be limited to some comments on the topic with little understanding of the concept set in the question.</p>

Level 2

Generally for this level, candidates will show appropriate evidence of understanding in their explanation of the key concept set in the question. They will show evidence of understanding through limited analysis and explanation. There will be some attempt at an historical overview. They will offer some judgement about the key concepts. They will be able to recall, select and deploy some relevant historical knowledge appropriately. The candidates will convey meaning with some clarity and with appropriate vocabulary, although there may be errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Level 2	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(2-3 marks)	(4-11 marks)
	<p>Low Level 2: 2 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy some general knowledge of the period with appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar although there may be errors seen</p> <p>High Level 2: 3 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy general knowledge of the key issues in the period set with some appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>Low Level 2: 4-7 marks</p> <p>The answer will begin to show some evidence of limited analysis and explanation of factors. It will offer some judgement about the relationships between the key issues and features of some of the historical period. The answer will be generally focussed on the topic area and has some basic explanation of something in the question; the answer may well be a narrative account with little attempt to provide a judgement on the question set.</p> <p>High Level 2: 8-11 marks</p> <p>The answer will begin to focus on the set question and will show some limited analysis and explanation of the concept set in the question. It will offer some judgement about the relationship between the key features and characteristics of some of the historical period. There will be some attempt at an historical overview. The answer will be relevant and valid but with a weak or sketchy focus on the key concept in the question; a largely topic based response with little specific judgement offered on the question set.</p>

Level 3

Generally at this level, candidates will show appropriate evidence of understanding through analysis and explanation. There will be some attempt at an historical overview. There will be some attempt to make historical connections and show an appreciation of change and continuity over time. They will reach a judgement about the key concepts supported by the arguments they deploy. They will reach a judgement about the relationships between the key features and characteristics of the period studied. Candidates will recall, select and deploy relevant historical knowledge and will convey meaning clearly and with appropriate vocabulary, organisation and spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Level 3	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(4-6 marks)	(12-16 marks)
	<p>Low Level 3: 4 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy some relevant historical knowledge with some appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>Low Level 3: 12 marks</p> <p>The answer has some focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer some valid discussion, covering some or most of the period set, about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. There will be an attempt at an historical overview. The answer may well be a largely narrative account but there will be some attempt to provide supporting arguments for the judgement made.</p>
	<p>Mid Level 3: 5 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy some relevant historical knowledge with reasonable organisation and with appropriate vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>Mid Level 3: 13-14 marks</p> <p>The answer has an appropriate focus on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid discussion and judgement, covering some or most of the period set, about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. There will be an attempt at an historical overview. The answer may well be a largely narrative account but there will be some attempt to provide supporting arguments for the judgement made.</p>

	<p>High Level 3: 6 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy generally relevant historical knowledge and the response will be clearly expressed with appropriate language and structure and appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.</p>	<p>High Level 3: 15-16 marks</p> <p>The answer is focussed on the key concept in the question set and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and broadly balanced discussion covering some or most of the period set, about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. There will be a clear attempt at an historical overview. The answer may well contain some narrative but there will be an attempt to provide supporting arguments to reach a broadly balanced judgement on the question set.</p>
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Level 4

Generally for this level, candidates will show understanding through analysis and explanation to reach a substantiated and mostly sustained judgement about the relationships between the key features and characteristics of the period studied. There will be a mostly sustained attempt at an historical overview. There will be a mostly sustained focus to make historical connections and show an appreciation of the complexities of change and continuity, drawing together developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives. They will recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge. Candidates will communicate accurately and fluently using appropriate language, structure, spelling, punctuation and grammar with a high degree of accuracy.

Level 4	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(7-10 marks) Low Level 4: 7 marks The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy mostly accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge; the answer shows organisation, appropriate language and structure and appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.	(17-22 marks) Low Level 4: 17-18 marks The answer has a clear focus on the key concept in the question set, drawing together some developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives, and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and meaningful discussion covering most of the period set about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer will include specific supporting arguments to reach a substantiated judgement on the question set so that the judgement is substantially supported by the arguments being made in the response.
	Mid Level 4: 8 marks The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy mostly accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge; the answer communicates clearly with appropriate language and structure and appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar.	Mid Level 4: 19-20 marks The answer has a focus on the key concept in the question set, drawing together developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives, and is able to show evidence of understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and balanced discussion covering most or all of the period set about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer will include specific supporting arguments to reach a substantiated and sustained judgement on the question set. The judgement is substantially supported by the arguments being made in the response.

	<p>High Level 4: 9-10 marks</p> <p>The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge; the answer communicates accurately, clearly and fluently, using appropriate language and structure, using spelling, punctuation and grammar generally with a high degree of accuracy.</p>	<p>High Level 4: 21-22 marks</p> <p>These responses will reach a mostly substantiated, supported and sustained judgement regarding the key concepts. The answer has a focus on the key concept in the question set, drawing together developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives and is able to show evidence of a thorough understanding by valid analysis and explanation. The candidate is able to offer a valid and balanced discussion covering most or all of the period set about the relationships between key features and characteristics in relation to the key concept set in the question such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance. The answer will include specific supporting arguments to reach a mostly substantiated and sustained judgement on the question set. The judgement is substantially supported by the arguments being made in the response.</p>
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Level 5

Generally for this level, candidates will show understanding through analysis and explanation to reach a substantiated and fully sustained judgement about the relationships between the key features and characteristics of the period studied. Candidates will use an evaluative synoptic approach which draws together developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives, as appropriate. There will be a fully sustained focus on providing an historical overview, to make historical connections and show an appreciation of the complexities of change and continuity throughout the full period set. Candidates will recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge. Candidates will communicate accurately and lucidly using appropriate language, structure, spelling, punctuation and grammar with a high degree of accuracy.

Level 5	Assessment Objective 1(a)	Assessment Objective 1(b)
	(11-12 marks)	(23-28 marks)
	<p>Low Level 5: 11 marks The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge. Answers will be fluent and well-organised with a high degree of accuracy in the use of spelling, punctuation and grammar, and showing appropriate language and structure.</p> <p>High Level 5: 12 marks The candidate is able to recall, select and deploy accurate, relevant and precise historical knowledge is recalled, selected and deployed. Answers will be lucid and coherent, fluent and well-organised with a high degree of accuracy in the use of spelling, punctuation and grammar and demonstrating appropriate language and structure.</p>	<p>Low Level 5: 23-25 marks The answer has throughout a specific focus on discussing the key concept in the question set, drawing together developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives. Understanding is shown through well focussed analysis and evaluation of the key concepts, such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, which leads to a substantiated and sustained judgement regarding the set question. The answer will include supporting arguments covering change and continuity and other key characteristics and concepts to reach a substantiated and sustained judgement covering most of the period set.</p> <p>High Level 5: 26-28 marks The answer has throughout a specific focus on discussing the key concept in the question set, drawing together developments from across the period study and from across a range of different perspectives. Understanding is shown through well focussed analysis and evaluation of the key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, which leads to a substantiated and sustained judgement regarding the set question. The answer will include supporting arguments covering change and continuity and other key characteristics and concepts within the period set to reach a highly substantiated and sustained judgement. The response offers a meaningful discussion of the key issue in the question and comes to a balanced judgement that is sustained and integrated; fully focussed on the key issue in the question and covering the full period set.</p>

INDICATIVE CONTENT FOR SECTION B QUESTION 1

NOTE: This content is not prescriptive and candidates are not expected to mention all the material referred to below. Each answer will be assessed on its merits according to the generic mark scheme as well as the indicative content.

‘The Ottoman challenge was the greatest problem faced by Europe in the period 1515-1621.’ Discuss.

Candidates are expected to analyse, evaluate and explain over and within the given period, the interconnections and relationships between the full range of key features and issues that affected the key concept in the question – in this case, the problems faced by Europe 1515-1621. This will include a range of historical perspectives and key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate. In order to reach a substantiated judgement, candidates should discuss and debate the extent to which there was continuity as well as change during and over this period.

Candidates will be required to consider the relationship between the main themes, key features, influences and characteristics which challenged Europe in this period. Candidates will be required to discuss the extent, pace and rate of change in the challenges faced by Europe as well as continuity over and within the set period.

Candidates may consider some of these issues, historical perspectives, key characteristics and themes in their discussion:

- the impact made by the threat of the Ottoman Turks throughout the period both on land and at sea.
- the nature of the problem as perceived by Europe that the Ottomans were a superior empire which threatened their religion, wealth and political power.
- the relative importance of the Protestant Reformation and the Catholic Reformation in Europe in creating problems for Europeans in this period.
- the relative importance of Renaissance Monarchy, Imperial power and religious conflict in France on Europe in the sixteenth century.
- the extent to which the factors were influential as problems for the development of Europe over the period as a whole.
- balance might also be achieved by consideration of the impact of such issues as the German Reformation, the Catholic Reformation, Hapsburg Valois rivalry, economic exploitation of the New World and its impact on Europe and conflict in Italy, the Low Countries, the French Wars of Religion and the Armadas sent to England.

INDICATIVE CONTENT FOR SECTION B QUESTION 2

NOTE: This content is not prescriptive and candidates are not expected to mention all the material referred to below. Each answer will be assessed on its merits according to the generic mark scheme as well as the indicative content.

To what extent was Spanish prestige in Europe substantially greater in 1621 than in 1515?

Candidates are expected to analyse, evaluate and explain over and within the given period, the interconnections and relationships between the full range of key features and issues that affected the key concept in the question – in this case, change and continuity regarding Spanish prestige. This will include a range of historical perspectives and key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance, as appropriate. In order to reach a substantiated judgement, candidates should discuss and debate the extent to which there was continuity as well as change during and over this period.

Candidates will be required to consider the relationship between the main themes, key features, influences and characteristics which affected Spanish prestige in Europe over the period 1515-1621. Candidates will be required to discuss the extent, pace and rate of change in Spanish prestige and her relationship with Europe as well as continuity over and within the set period.

Candidates may consider some of these issues, historical perspectives, key characteristics and themes in their discussion:

- the impact made by Spanish prestige across the whole period
- different attitudes of government to Spain's prestige and her relationship with Europe
- the balance between the change in prestige in the reigns of Charles V, Philip II and Philip III
- the relative importance of Charles V's dual role as Holy Roman Emperor and his acceptance of the mantle of "Defender of Christendom" in Spain's acquisition of prestige in European affairs. Added to this his leadership against Protestants and Ottoman Turks further enhanced Spain's position in Europe by his abdication in 1556. Also Philip II's leading role in the Catholic Reformation, conflict with the Netherlands and England and the annexation of Portugal appeared to continue Spain's prestigious position in her relationship with a wider contemporary Europe. It would be finally significant it is noted that this interpretation is not always accepted by modern analysis. Philip III's lack of interest in government and its impact on his relationship with Europe needs also to be considered
- the relative importance of Spanish prestige within Europe needs to be evaluated. The status of the New World, support for Renaissance culture could also be considered to have contributed to contemporary assessment of the significance of Spanish prestige by the end of Philip II's reign in 1598
- the extent to which the factors were significant over the period needs to be judged and balanced to reach a substantiated judgement on the change and continuity of Spanish prestige in Europe over the reign of three monarchs, Charles V, Philip II and Philip III.