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History

Higher level

Paper 3 – history of Europe

4 November 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer any three questions.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section 1: Monarchies in England and France (1066–1223)

1. Evaluate the causes of conflict between England and France from 1154 to 1214.
2. To what extent was Louis VI successful in expanding royal authority in France?

Section 2: Muslims and Jews in medieval Europe (1095–1492)

3. “Fear of Muslim power was caused by political instability in Christian Europe.” Discuss.
4. Evaluate the contribution of Jews to financial activity in medieval Europe.

Section 3: Late medieval political crises (1300–1487)

5. Evaluate the reasons for the decline of ducal Burgundy.
6. To what extent did the Wars of the Roses undermine royal authority in England?

Section 4: The Renaissance (c1400–1600)

7. “The importance of Lorenzo de Medici as a patron of the arts in 15th century Italy was limited.” Discuss.
8. Examine the factors that contributed to the spread of the Renaissance in **one** European country (excluding Italy, Burgundy and Germany).

Section 5: The Age of Exploration and its impact (1400–1550)

9. Examine the impact of the exploration of the west coast of Africa on European states.
10. “Developments in cartography and navigation played a limited role in Spanish and Portuguese exploration.” Discuss.

Section 6: Aspects of the Reformation (c1500–1563)

11. “Corruption within the Catholic Church was not the main reason for the emergence of the Reformation.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
12. Evaluate the contribution of the Diet of Speyer (1526 and 1529) in spreading Lutheran ideas in Germany.

Section 7: Absolutism and Enlightenment (1650–1800)

13. “Enlightenment ideas had very little impact on politics.” Discuss with reference to **two** of the following: Germany, England, Scotland, France, the Dutch Republic, Spain or Italy.
14. To what extent was there significant agricultural change during the Enlightenment?

Section 8: The French Revolution and Napoleon I (1774–1815)

15. To what extent were the actions of Robespierre responsible for the Thermidorean reaction?
16. Discuss the impact of Napoleon I’s domestic policies on French society and economy.

Section 9: France (1815–1914)

17. To what extent were economic factors the main cause of the 1848 Revolution?
18. “Napoleon III’s foreign policy was mostly successful.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 10: Society, politics and economy in Britain and Ireland (1815–1914)

19. Evaluate the impact of the 1832–1833 Electoral Reform Act on the political parties.
20. To what extent did the Irish Home Rule crisis threaten political stability before the First World War?

Section 11: Italy (1815–1871) and Germany (1815–1890)

21. To what extent did the Congress of Vienna contribute to the emergence of German nationalism?
22. “Foreign influence was the key factor in enabling Italian unification by 1871.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 12: Imperial Russia, revolution and the establishment of the Soviet Union (1855–1924)

23. Compare and contrast the domestic policies of Alexander II and Alexander III.
24. Evaluate the success of Stolypin’s economic and political policies after 1905.

Section 13: Europe and the First World War (1871–1918)

25. “The assassination of Franz Ferdinand was the main reason for the outbreak of war in 1914.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
26. “Domestic instability was the main reason that Germany asked for an armistice in 1918.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 14: Inter-war domestic developments in European states (1918–1939)

27. To what extent was there significant resistance to Hitler in Germany between 1933 and 1939?
28. To what extent was Primo de Rivera’s government successful between 1923 and 1930?

Section 15: Diplomacy in Europe (1919–1945)

29. To what extent did the organization and structure of the League of Nations contribute to its failure?
30. Evaluate the reasons for the defeat of the Axis powers in Europe in the Second World War.

Section 16: The Soviet Union and post-Soviet Russia (1924–2000)

31. Discuss the successes **and** failures of Stalin’s regime in the Soviet Union from 1945 to 1953.
32. To what extent was Khrushchev’s foreign policy successful in the years 1953 to 1964?

Section 17: Post-war western and northern Europe (1945–2000)

33. Evaluate Adenauer’s success in resolving political challenges in West Germany between 1949 and 1963.
34. “Political cooperation successfully resolved internal tensions during the transition to democracy in Spain.” Discuss.

Section 18: Post-war central and eastern Europe (1945–2000)

35. To what extent did COMECON and the Warsaw Pact achieve their aims?
 36. “Repression had limited impact between 1945 and 1968.” Discuss with reference to **one** of the following countries: East Germany, Poland, Hungary or Czechoslovakia.
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