History route 2
Higher level
Paper 3 – aspects of the history of Europe and the Middle East

Thursday 12 May 2016 (afternoon)

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

• Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
• Answer three questions. Each question is worth [20 marks].
• The maximum mark for this examination paper is [60 marks].
The French Revolution and Napoleon—mid 18th century to 1815

1. To what extent did social problems contribute to the outbreak of the French Revolution?

2. Examine the reasons for the failure of the Constitution of 1791.

Unification and consolidation of Germany and Italy 1815–1890

3. “The Austrian Empire maintained the dominant position among the German states between 1815 and 1848.” Discuss.

4. Examine the significance of Garibaldi’s leadership in the unification of Italy between 1848 and 1870.

Ottoman Empire from the early 19th to the early 20th century

5. Examine the methods used by Muhammad Ali to establish and maintain power in Egypt.

6. “The main cause of the Crimean War was the rivalry of the European powers.” Discuss.

Western and Northern Europe 1848–1914

7. Examine the importance of left-wing movements in the Third French Republic.

8. Evaluate the success of Disraeli’s domestic policies.

Imperial Russia, revolutions, emergence of Soviet State 1853–1924

9. “The reigns of Alexander II (1855–1881) and Alexander III (1881–1894) were marked by political continuity but significant economic change.” Discuss.

10. Examine the view that the October/November Bolshevik Revolution was caused by the poor decisions of the Provisional Government.
European diplomacy and the First World War 1870–1923

11. “Diplomatic crises in the period from 1905 to 1913 were the main cause of the outbreak of the First World War in 1914”. Discuss.

12. Evaluate the reasons for Allied victory in the First World War.

War and change in the Middle East 1914–1949

13. Examine the strengths and weaknesses of British policy in Palestine between 1922 and 1939.


Interwar years: conflict and cooperation 1919–1939

15. “Political divisions between 1929 and 1933 were the main cause of the collapse of democracy in Germany.” Discuss.

16. Examine the successes and failures of Mussolini’s domestic policies.

The Soviet Union and Eastern Europe 1924–2000

17. Examine Stalin’s foreign relations up to 1941.

18. To what extent did economic weakness contribute to political developments and change within the Soviet Union between 1982 and 1991?

The Second World War and post-war Western Europe 1939–2000

19. “Poor military leadership led to the defeat of the Axis powers in Europe.” Discuss.

20. Examine the contribution of King Juan Carlos to the establishment of democracy in Spain.
Post-war developments in the Middle East 1945–2000

21. Examine the importance of economic and political factors as causes of the 1979 revolution in Iran.

22. Examine the reasons for Israel’s military dominance in the Middle East between 1949 and 1973.

Social and economic developments in Europe and the Middle East in the 19th or 20th century

23. “Religion became much less important in society.” Discuss with reference to one country over a period of approximately fifty years.

24. Evaluate the significance of changes in leisure and sport in one country over a period of approximately fifty years.