

AS HISTORY

International Relations and Global Conflict, c1890–1941

Component 2K Great Power rivalries and entry into war, c1890–1917

Tuesday 23 May 2017 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2K.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a letter sent by Sir Francis Bertie, British Ambassador to France, to Lord Lansdowne, the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, 17 January 1905.

Monsieur Delcassé [the French foreign minister] called on me yesterday to return a private visit which I had paid him on 15 January. His great desire is, he says, to bring about reconciliation between England and Russia, for if those two Powers and France acted together peace would certainly have a long reign.

Indeed, as early as 27 April 1904, the French Ambassador to Russia hoped that the same beneficial influences that had been so successful in the negotiations between France and England would finally succeed in putting an end to the antagonism undoubtedly existing at this present moment, and for long years past, between England and Russia. 5

Source B

From Sir Arthur Nicolson's 'Annual Report for Russia for the Year 1906' sent to the British Foreign Office on 2 January 1907. Nicolson was the British Ambassador to Russia, 1906-1910.

When a country emerges from a disastrous war, time must be allowed before foreign policy can be determined. Although it might be expected that I write with confidence on the relations between Britain and Russia, I confess that I find difficulty in forming a clear opinion on the subject. Generally speaking, the feelings of mistrust and hostility from the traditional rivalry are gradually passing away. The Russian cabinet are quite willing to form an arrangement, provided that Russia's interests are safeguarded. Their military party are a stumbling block and will not consent to an agreement unless they are able to obtain a substantial deal, particularly in the Middle East. Only then do I believe that this opposition can be overcome. 5

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining Anglo-Russian relations in the years 1904 to 1907?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2 'The personal influence of Kaiser Wilhelm II was the main reason for Germany's worsening relations with foreign powers by 1900.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 'Italy entered the First World War due to its long-standing disputes with Austria-Hungary.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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