

A-level HISTORY

Component 2K International Relations and Global Conflict, c1890–1941

Wednesday 13 June 2018 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 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 7042/2K.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- 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:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From an editorial in Izvestiya, a Soviet newspaper, March 1935.

The German declaration regarding the reintroduction of military service is of concern as it clearly demonstrates Germany's intention to reject the general system of international security. This unilateral denunciation of military restrictions is made possible only by the encouragement given to Germany through the policies of the Great Powers, most notably Great Britain. Germany is clearly preparing for acts of political aggression; in this situation everything depends on whether or not the powers against whom this policy is directed will be able to work out quickly a system of mutual assistance against the event of German aggression. If Berlin knows that this type of system will come into force with or without the participation of Germany, then we are convinced that Germany will realise that she is weaker than the sum total of the powers working to preserve peace. Time demands a speedy consultation of the powers interested in the preservation of international security.

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Source B

From the front page of The Spectator, 17 May 1935. The Spectator was a weekly British magazine which was conservative in its views.

If Herr Hitler's speech to the Reichstag is delivered next Tuesday it will come just twenty-four hours before the defence debate in the House of Commons. There may be advantages or disadvantages in that if Herr Hitler is conciliatory, in particular if he responds favourably to the various proposals in the report of the London Conference of last February, the sooner an appropriate reply is made to him the better. If, on the other hand, his tone is aggressive or aggressively defensive in regard to the resolution of the League of Nations Council on German rearmament, then an interval for reflection before either Ministers or private members here make speeches on the subject might be desirable. The situation is critical – not as regards actual war, but as regards the danger of a new armaments race. It is pretty certain that we will announce a large expansion of our air force and there is little prospect that Germany will merely sit still while we build up to her level.

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Source C

From the secret 'Memorandum on the Four Year Plan', written by Adolf Hitler in August 1936 and given to Goering when he was appointed as Head of the Four Year Plan.

At the moment there are only two countries in Europe which can be regarded as standing firm against Bolshevism – Germany and Italy. The other nations are corrupted by their democratic way of life, infected by Marxism and therefore likely to collapse in the near future. None of these countries would be capable of waging war against Soviet Russia with any prospect of success. 5

It is not the aim of this memorandum to predict the moment when the unstable situation in Europe will reach the stage of an open crisis. I only want to express my conviction that this crisis will occur and that Germany has the duty of securing her existence by every means in the face of this catastrophe. This obligation has a number of implications involving the most important tasks that our people have ever been set. For a victory of Bolshevism over Germany would lead not to a Versailles Treaty but to final destruction, indeed to the annihilation of the German people. 10

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying threats to international stability.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 'By c1900, the autocracies of Europe were stronger than the liberal democracies.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3 To what extent was the Bosnian Crisis of 1908–9 caused by the rise of panslavism after 1900?

[25 marks]

0 4 'The most significant problem faced by the League of Nations in the 1920s was the absence of the USA.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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