

4th Form Exam - Revision Advice.

Information

Exam: 2 hours

Section A: 1h10 minutes

Section B: 50 minutes

Section A – Core Content (Paris Peace Treaties/Outbreak of WWII/Origins of the Cold War/ Cuban Missile Crisis).

Section B – Source based questions on ONE ASPECT of **How successful was the League of Nations?**

Content to Revise – Section A

Core Content:

Were the Peace Treaties of 1919-23 Fair?

Focus Points:

- What were the motives and aims of the Big Three at Versailles?
- Why did all the victors not get everything that they wanted?
- What was the immediate impact of the Versailles on Germany up to 1923?
- Could the treaties be justified at the time?

Priorities:

- What problems did the peacemakers face in 1919?
- What were the motives and aims of the Big Three?
- The terms of the Treaty of Versailles.

Territorial

War Guilt

Reparations

Disarmament

League of Nations

- Assessment of how satisfied Clemenceau/Wilson/Lloyd-George were with the Treaty.
- The German reaction to the Treaty. Why did they hate it? NB How are the reasons linked? What problems did the Treaty create in Germany?

- How justified was the Treaty of Versailles?
- The other Peace Treaties – St Germain, Trianon, Neuilly, Sevres and Lausanne)

Why had international peace collapsed by 1939?

Focus Points:

- Hitler's foreign policy
- Policy of appeasement
- Nazi-Soviet pact

Priorities:

Hitler's foreign policy

Aims

Actions – Withdrawal from League, rearmament, reoccupation of Rhineland, Rome-Berlin Axis, Anti-Comintern Pact, Anschluss, recovery of Sudetenland, invasion of Czechoslovakia, Nazi-Soviet Pact, invasion of Poland

Aggression of Japan + Italy. Impact on European diplomacy

Britain + French foreign policy. NB What was appeasement? Examples of appeasement in action – Munich Agreement. What motives underpinned the policy?

Causes of WWII. How did the following contribute to outbreak? How are they linked? Relative importance?

Hitler's aggression

Treaty of Versailles

The Depression

The failure of the League

The policy of appeasement

The Nazi- Soviet Pact

Did Hitler make a misjudgement when he invaded Poland? Was he anticipating 'total war'?

How justified was the policy of appeasement?

What contributed to Hitler's 'successful' foreign policy?

The Origins of the Cold War 1945-1949

Focus Points

What were the main differences between 'capitalism' and 'communism'?

Why did the USA-USSR alliance begin to break down in 1945? What were the critical areas of agreement/disagreement at Yalta and Potsdam? Suspicion and rivalry between Truman and Stalin.

Why and how did the Soviet Union seek to gain control of Eastern Europe to 1948?

How did the USA react to Soviet expansionism? What motivated the Truman Doctrine/Marshall Aid?

Why did the Soviet Union blockade Berlin? Why did the Blockade fail? What were the consequences of the Berlin Blockade?

Causes of Cold War. Who was more to blame for starting the Cold War?

Priorities

- Long-term origins of the Cold War (developments 1917-1945)
- Why did the wartime alliance fall apart in 1945?

Tensions at Yalta and Potsdam

- What motivated the Soviet take-over of Eastern Europe?

Aggressive or defensive?

Stage 1: Poland

Stage 2: Romania and Bulgaria

Stage 3: Hungary and Czechoslovakia

- How did the US react to the Soviet take-over of Eastern Europe?

What explains US hostility to the Soviet Union?

What motive underpinned their foreign policy?

Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan

Soviet Response: Cominform (1947) Comecon (1949)

- The division of Germany, the Berlin Blockade and NATO

Why did a 'West Germany' emerge?
Why did Stalin blockade Berlin?
How did Britain and the USA respond?
How close did the USA/USSR come to war?
What were the consequences of the Blockade?
Who was to blame for the division of Germany?

- Who was to blame for the outbreak of the 'cold war'?

State a case for:

Soviet Union

USA

Both/mutual misunderstanding

America and events in Cuba, 1959-62

Focus points:

- Cuban Revolution and Bay of Pigs invasion.
- Why did news of Soviet missiles in Cuba cause so much concern in the US?
- How successful was Kennedy in dealing with the problem of Soviet missiles in Cuba?
- Who 'won' the Cuban Missile crisis?

Content to Revise – Section B

To what extent was the League of Nations a success?

Focus Points:

- How successful was the league in the 1920s?
- How far did weaknesses in the League's organisation make failure inevitable?
- How far did the Depression make the work of the League more difficult?
- Why did the League fail over Manchuria and Abyssinia?

Priorities

- What were the aims of the League?
- How was the League structured? How did it intend on dealing with aggressive nations?
- What weaknesses did the League have from the onset?

Absence of the USA (+Germany/USSR)

Unanimous decision-making

No army

Over-reliance on Britain and France.

- Success/Failure in the 1920s. Why did the League enjoy more success in the 1920s relative to the 1930s? Were there any signs of likely failure in the future?
- Impact of the Depression on the League – How did it contribute to failure?

Increased likelihood of aggression

Increased the self-interest of the members of the League.

- Failures in the 1930s

Japanese invasion of Manchuria – Why did they invade? What was the response of the League? In what respects did it represent a failure? NB How does this illustrate the weaknesses of the League/reasons for failure?

Italian invasion of Abyssinia - Why did they invade? What was the response of the League? In what respects did it represent a failure? NB How does this illustrate the weaknesses of the League/reasons for failure?

Question styles

Section A

- You are required to answer two 5,7,8 questions.

For the 5 mark question you must provide 5 pieces of specific and accurate information

For the 7 mark questions provide 3 EXPLANATIONS. Be direct and succinct but ensure your explanations are full.

For the 8 marker:

If it is a causation question (How far was 'X' responsible for... ensure you deal with a range of factors, and explain how they combined to cause the event. Try to consider relative importance and advance a couple of counter-factual arguments. (eg If the USA had been a member of the League it may well have succeeded or Without the depression Hitler may well have never come to power)

Other questions require a balanced response (e.g. Was the League of Nations a complete failure?) and a final judgement.

When you make a point ensure you support it with an example – this is a weakness for some of you.

Section B

- Read all the sources before you answer any of the questions
- Remember the technique for answering source-evaluation questions:
 - a) **Message** – Message, detail from the source, CK
 - b) **Purpose** – Purpose, detail from the source (i.e. How is it trying to fulfil the purpose), CK
 - c) **Extent of agreement/disagreement** – agreement/disagreement + judgement (NB Direct references to source needed)
 - d) **Reason for disagreement** – Usually perspective/timing (direct references to the sources needed)

- e) **Utility** – YES: information, particular insight, typicality, general comments on type of source, supports what you know to be true. NO: misleading information, does not reflect views of majority, utility compromised by unreliability, at odds with what you know to be true. (NB Direct references to source needed)
- f) **Reliability** – YES: author has no motive to mislead, balanced, gives a full picture, dispassionate in tone, information is confirmed by other source(s) on the paper and what you know to be true. NO: author has possible motive to mislead, unbalanced, information deliberately excluded, emotive tone suggests unreliability, information is contrary to other source(s) on the paper and what you know to be true. (NB Direct references to source needed)
- g) **To what extent does one source confirm another?** - Apply the YES/HOWEVER approach. Yes, it does appear to confirm ... But in some respects it does not and/or is unreliable. (CK and direct references to the sources needed)
- h) **Would x have been pleased with ...?** – A balanced response. YES/NO (CK and direct references to the sources needed. The position of x is usually of importance.)
- i) **Do the sources in this paper support the view that ..**
Three paragraph response:
1. Yes, some sources support the statement. (Explain how)
 2. However, some sources reject the statement or offer other explanations (Explain how)
 3. Offer a conclusion – based on your own knowledge

NB Specifics references to sources needed + evaluation (eg Source A supports the statement in the following ways .., however is unreliable because .. OR Source A provides a particularly insightful/balanced/accurate assessment of. ..) required. CK can be deployed throughout.