

Section 1: c. 1400–c. 1461

- 1 How substantial were the achievements of the conciliar movement?
- 2 Was Venice the most successful Italian city state in the first half of the fifteenth century?
- 3 'An event of only symbolic importance.' Assess this view of the fall of Constantinople.
- 4 How serious a threat to established authority was the Hussite movement?
- 5 'The greatest success of Charles VII was gaining financial independence for the French monarchy.' Discuss.

Section 2: c. 1461–c. 1516

- 6 Were the early Italian Wars of 1494–1516 anything more than a power struggle between France and Spain?
- 7 'Dominated by purely worldly considerations.' How valid is this judgement on the Papacy in this period?
- 8 'A purely destructive force.' Discuss this view of the Ottoman Empire in this period.
- 9 Was Ivan III anything more than a successful military leader?
- 10 How successfully did Ferdinand and Isabella deal with the internal challenges to their authority in this period?

Section 3: c. 1516–c. 1559

11 *(Candidates offering Paper 5d: Reformation Europe should not answer this question.)*

What best explains why Luther's protest in 1517 developed into the German Reformation?

- 12** 'Poor decision-making by Spain provides the best explanation for its failure to suppress the Dutch revolt by 1577.' Does it?
- 13** To what extent did Spain experience a period of rapid expansion and great prosperity in the period 1516 to 1556?
- 14** Who achieved more for France: Francis I or Henry II?
- 15** To what extent did Sweden become a well-organised and effective state during the reign of Gustavus Vasa?

Section 4: c. 1559–c. 1610

- 16** 'Philip II managed the internal affairs of Spain badly.' Did he?
- 17** Why did the French civil war last so long?
- 18** 'The Catholic Reformation was limited in both scope and impact.' Discuss.
- 19** How effectively did Henry IV restore royal authority by 1610?
- 20** 'An empire in serious decline.' Discuss this view of the Ottoman Empire in the period 1566 to 1606.

Section 5: Themes c. 1378–c. 1610

- 21 What best explains attitudes towards the 'outcasts' of society in this period?
- 22 'The Northern Renaissance had a distinctly different character from the Italian Renaissance.' Did it?
- 23 Was there greater innovation in naval warfare, rather than land warfare, in this period?
- 24 'Greed was the principal motive for overseas expansion and exploration in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries.' Discuss.
- 25 What best explains the price rise in the sixteenth century?
- 26 'Economic distress was the main reason for the persecution of witches.' Was it?

Section 6: c. 1610–c. 1660

- 27 'Religion was always a minor consideration in Richelieu's foreign policy.' Discuss.
- 28 'The rise of Sweden in the first half of the seventeenth century was made possible by external rather than by internal factors.' Discuss.
- 29 Was Habsburg unwillingness to compromise the principal reason for the long duration of the Thirty Years War?
- 30 'France gained most from the Treaty of Westphalia.' Did it?
- 31 'A golden age.' Is this an appropriate description of the Dutch Republic in the period to 1660?

Section 7: c. 1660–c. 1715

- 32 'He created order out of chaos.' How valid is this judgement on the rule of Frederick William, the Great Elector?
- 33 'By 1700, Louis XIV's foreign policy had clearly failed.' Had it?
- 34 How successful was Peter the Great's attempt to modernise Russia?
- 35 Why did the Great Northern War, 1700–1721, last so long?
- 36 'Spain was the only real beneficiary of the Treaty of Utrecht.' Discuss.

Section 8: c. 1715–c. 1774

- 37 Why was it so difficult to reform French government in the period 1715–1743?
- 38 'Her reign lacked real achievements.' Assess this judgement on Maria Theresa.
- 39 'European wars between 1740 and 1763 are best explained by the ambition and aggression of Prussia.' Discuss.
- 40 Assess the role played by Spain in Europe and the wider world in this period.
- 41 To what extent did Louis XV strengthen the authority of the monarchy?

Section 9: c. 1774–1815

- 42 'Neither enlightened nor despotic.' Discuss this view of Catherine the Great.
- 43 How much did Joseph II achieve both at home and abroad?
- 44 *(Candidates offering Paper 5f: The French Revolution should not answer this question.)*
 'The failure to reform the system of taxation was the principal cause of the French Revolution.'
 Was it?
- 45 *(Candidates offering Paper 5f: The French Revolution should not answer this question.)*
 How well did the Directory rule France?
- 46 How important was the Spanish Peninsular War to the defeat of Napoleon?

Section 10: Themes c. 1610–c. 1800

- 47 'The greatest advances were made in mathematics and physics.' Discuss this view of the Scientific Revolution of the seventeenth century.
- 48 'Strategies changed, but tactics did not.' Discuss this view of warfare in **either** the seventeenth **or** the eighteenth century.
- 49 'Women had more impact on the cultural than on the political life of eighteenth-century Europe.' Discuss.
- 50 Assess the impact of enlightenment thinking on European political and economic life.
- 51 Was mercantilism still a major influence in the eighteenth century?
- 52 To what extent did government policies in western Europe discourage rather than encourage the development of industry?

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