



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate
Principal Subject

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HISTORY

9769/21

Paper 2a European History Outlines, c. 300–c. 1516

May/June 2013

2 hours 15 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **three** questions which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.



Section 1: c. 300–c. 632

- 1 How successful was Diocletian's rule of the Roman Empire?
- 2 How important were economic problems to the decline of the Roman Empire in the fifth century?
- 3 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of Gregory the Great as Pope.
- 4 How is the success of the Merovingian dynasty in Gaul best explained?
- 5 How valid is the view that Justinian achieved little domestically?

Section 2: c. 632–c. 919

- 6 To what extent did Arab successes in the seventh century depend on their military superiority?
- 7 'Little more than a ruthless conqueror.' How adequate is this description of Charles Martel?
- 8 'Charlemagne should be remembered more for his cultural and educational achievements than for his conquests.' Discuss.
- 9 'The success of the Vikings owed more to the unpreparedness and weakness of those they attacked than to their own strengths.' How far do you agree?
- 10 How far were German rulers from 843 to 919 weakened by problems over the succession?

Section 3: c. 919–1099

- 11** 'Surprisingly strong.' How convincing is this judgement on the Capetian monarchy by 1108?
- 12** 'More successful as a statesman than as a warrior.' Is this an accurate assessment of Roger II of Sicily?
- 13** To what extent can the reconquest of Spain and Portugal in the eleventh and twelfth centuries be explained by Muslim weaknesses?
- 14** How extensive were the achievements of Gregory VII?
- 15** *(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)*

Is the capture of Jerusalem in 1099 best explained by the abilities of the leaders of the First Crusade?

Section 4: 1085–1250

- 16** How successful was Frederick Barbarossa in restoring royal authority in Germany?
- 17** How far was the strengthening of the French monarchy by Louis VI and Louis VII the result of their military success?
- 18** Assess the achievements of Philip Augustus.
- 19** Were Innocent III's aims primarily religious?
- 20** How is the hostility of the Church to Frederick II best explained?

Section 5: Themes c. 300–c. 1200

- 21 'Feudal society developed both quickly and extensively in Europe.' Discuss.
- 22 How significantly did patterns of trade change in Europe in the tenth and eleventh centuries?
- 23 Assess the impact of the friars up to 1300.
- 24 ***(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)***
- Should both the Second and Third Crusades be regarded as 'abject failures'?
- 25 How distinctive was the political thought of the tenth and eleventh centuries?
- 26 How important was the Inquisition in the eradication of the Cathars?

Section 6: 1250–c. 1378

- 27 Why did the War of the Sicilian Vespers go on for so long?
- 28 How far was religion the motivating force of Louis IX?
- 29 How responsible was Philip the Fair for the quarrel with the Papacy?
- 30 'The residence of the Popes in Avignon strengthened, rather than weakened, the Papacy.' Discuss.
- 31 Assess the view that the Italian city states experienced a state of economic crisis for much of the fourteenth century.

Section 7: c. 1378–c. 1461

- 32** 'The causes of the Great Schism were trivial, yet the Schism had profound consequences.' How far do you agree?
- 33** Why did fifteenth-century Italian city states have such different models of government?
- 34** 'Deep-rooted failings within the Byzantine empire, rather than Ottoman military competence, explain the fall of Constantinople.' Discuss.
- 35** How convincing is the claim that theological disputes were at the heart of the Hussite movement?
- 36** 'No one really won or lost the Hundred Years War.' Discuss.

Section 8: 1461–c. 1516

- 37** Assess the significance of the death of Charles the Bold (1477) for both France and Burgundy.
- 38** 'The primary concern of the Popes in this period was the advancement of their own families.' Discuss.
- 39** Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Ottoman empire in this period.
- 40** To what extent was war more important than marriage in explaining Habsburg expansion in the reign of Maximilian I?
- 41** 'The conquest of Granada was the greatest achievement of Ferdinand and Isabella.' Discuss.

Section 9: Themes c. 1200–c. 1516

- 42** How convincing is the view that the cult of chivalry in the thirteenth century was more theoretical than practical?
- 43** What was new about Gothic art?
- 44** Was the Papacy threatened more by heresy or by the conciliar movement in this period?
- 45** Assess the impact of demographic change in Europe after the Black Death.
- 46** How great was the contribution of both clerical and lay patrons to the development of the visual arts in the Italian Renaissance?
- 47** Why was the family so important to later-medieval society?

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