

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Paper 2: Depth study

Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46

Option 2G.2: Spain, 1930–78: republicanism, Francoism and
the re-establishment of democracy

Wednesday 25 May 2016 – Afternoon

Sources Booklet

Paper Reference

8HI0/2G

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the questions in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46

Source for use with Question 1a.

Source 1: From a speech made by Georges Clemenceau on 5 November 1917. Clemenceau was appointed as French Prime Minister on 16 November 1917. France was Italy's ally in the First World War. Here Clemenceau is commenting on the Italian defeat at Caporetto in October 1917.

The principal error of the Italian high command was the faulty positioning of its armies. The Second Army was positioned facing northward on the high mountains without having reached the summits, which were possessed by the enemy. The Third Army had conquered the summits. It faced eastward. But the Austrians still held a whole sector which separated the Italian forces. 5

Military critics had already pointed out that both Italian armies might be thrown into confusion by the enemy if it decided to attack on both sides with sufficient forces. That is precisely what happened when the Germans transferred their troops from Russia to the Italian Alps. The second error: there were reserves ready in case of a surprise. But the Italian General Cadorna was unwilling to keep them near the front. So, when the need came, they could not intervene, and thus the destruction of the Second Army was followed by the retreat of the Third Army. 10

Source for use with Question 1b.

Source 2: From a radio broadcast made by Mussolini on 2 October 1935. Here Mussolini is speaking to the Italian people as the war with Abyssinia was launched.

For many months the wheel of destiny has been moving. In these last hours the rhythm has become faster and cannot be halted. Not only is an army marching towards its objectives, but 44 million Italians are marching with this army, because there is an attempt to rob them of their place in the sun. When in 1915 Italy united its lot with the Allies, how many promises were made! But after the common victory, to which Italy had brought the supreme contribution of 670 thousand dead, 400 thousand disabled, and 1 million wounded, when it came to sitting around the table of the stingy peace, to us were left only the crumbs. For thirteen years we have been patient. With Abyssinia we have been patient for forty years. Now, that's enough! 15 20

At the League, instead of recognising our just rights, they talk of sanctions. I refuse to believe that Britain wants to defend an African country universally stamped as barbarous and unworthy of taking its place with civilised peoples. Let nobody delude himself that he can deflect us without first having to defeat us. 25

Option 2G.2: Spain, 1930–78: republicanism, Francoism and the re-establishment of democracy

Source for use with Question 2a.

Source 3: From Charlotte Haldane, *Truth Will Out*, published in 1949. Charlotte Haldane was a left-wing English writer and journalist. Here she is giving an account of her visit to Spain in 1933.

The poverty was tragic. It was bad in Cordoba, worse in Granada, almost universal in Seville. Everywhere was economic, mental and physical depression. There was a lot of local opposition to the Republic, led and organised by the Church. The Government's natural idealistic incompetence was made worse by systematic sabotage of every project attempted. The male working population was almost entirely anarchist. Socialism and Communism were in the minority. Almost the entire female population was firmly attached to Church politics, under the spiritual and political domination of the priesthood. Underneath all the beauty and glamour of the landscape, the architecture, the tradition and the romance were the rumblings of the political earthquake to come.

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Source for use with Question 2b.

Source 4: From a letter written by Generalissimo Franco to Adolf Hitler, on 26 February 1941. Here Franco is informing Hitler of his views regarding Spain's possible entry into the Second World War.

I consider that the destiny of history has united you and me and the Duce* absolutely. Our Civil War is more than proof. I also share your opinion that the fact that Spain is situated on both sides of the Gibraltar Strait** forces her to the utmost enmity toward England, who aspires to maintain control of it. I have made clear to you since the beginning of these negotiations that the conditions of our economic situation are the only reasons why it has not been possible up to now to decide the date of Spain's participation. Furthermore, it must be acknowledged that in the question of the supply of foodstuffs, Germany has not fulfilled her offers of effective support until very recently. You will understand that, at a time when the people of Spain are suffering the greatest starvation, it is certainly not possible for me to ask further sacrifices of them unless there is an improvement in this situation. I want to remove with my answers all shadow of doubt and declare that I stand ready at your side, entirely and decidedly at your disposal, united in a common historical destiny.

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*Duce – the Italian head of government, Benito Mussolini

**Gibraltar Strait – the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea

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