

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced

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

Sample assessment materials for first teaching
September 2015

Sources Booklet

Paper Reference

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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

Sources for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From the 1939 revised edition of Benito Mussolini's memoirs entitled *My Autobiography*. Here, Mussolini reflects on the regime's 1929 Concordat with the papacy.

The so-called Roman Question embittered the souls of many Italians since the foundation of the Kingdom of Italy. People found it difficult to love one's country and pray to God with a clear conscience because it was the King of Italy who had robbed the Pope of his territories in 1870. Mussolini ended all that. He signed a treaty with the Pope on February 11th 1929 in which the old problem was laid to rest forever. There was great rejoicing. 5

Mussolini came to power. A new conception of the State, a new rigid conception of the duties of citizens and of the education of youth faced the Vatican's resistance. Where the lack of principles of Liberals had not succeeded, the clear-cut, uncompromising views of Mussolini made an agreement easier. 10

Peace of heart for the Italian people was the result of this agreement. An old problem was settled forever. Sons, educated to the love of new, forceful, active living, would not be in conflict with their fathers, who were attached to the traditions of the past. One could finally be both a good Italian, which is the same as being a Fascist, and a good Catholic. The Vatican itself found new dignity and new strength. The Lateran Treaty was, doubtlessly, one of the greatest achievements of the wise, realistic policies of Benito Mussolini. 15

Source 2: From an encyclical (a letter from the Pope to all Catholic bishops) written in June 1931 by Pope Pius XI. Mussolini refused to allow it to be published in the Catholic press in Italy. Here, the Pope considers the tensions between the Catholic Church and the Italian fascist regime.

We have seen, in fact, a species of religion which rebels against the directions of higher religious authorities, and imposes or encourages the non-observance of these directions. A conception of the state which makes the rising generations belong to it entirely, without any exception, from the earliest years up to adult life, cannot be reconciled by a Catholic. It cannot be reconciled either with Catholic doctrine or with the natural rights of the family. It is not possible for a Catholic to accept the claim that the Church and the Pope must limit themselves to the external practices of religion and that all the rest of education belongs to the state. 20 25

The Church has a universal and divine obligation to educate children. It must stop the regime's effort to monopolise the young for the sole and exclusive benefit of a party and of a regime based on an ideology that calls for the truly pagan worship of the state.

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

Source for use with Question 2.

Source 3: From an article in the *Daily Worker*, the newspaper of the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB), published in February 1937. The left-wing author, Claud Cockburn, was asked by the CPGB to cover the Spanish Civil War for the newspaper. He joined the communist Fifth Regiment so that he could report on the war as an ordinary soldier.

The southern Spanish city of Malaga has fallen to the Nationalists. The fighting front now runs somewhere east of the city, across the Almeria road. Rebel warships, escorted by German submarines, are bombing the single road to Almeria. Every competent observer who saw the Malaga front last week maintained that the enemy drive of a few weeks before had not only been held, but that the initiative was definitely passing to the government side. 5

Now, the Germans and the Italians have struck their first big blow. They shelled from the sea, bombarded from the air and machine-gunned from the biggest fleet of tanks seen in this war. The government infantry were faced with an attack by German troops, wearing not only new steel helmets but also new steel breastplates. The Germans also used new grenades which fly into seven pieces in the air, each of which explodes separately as it hits the ground. In a week everything has changed. A week ago at Malaga it was clear that if the Germans and the Italians did not invade, then the attack on Malaga would fail. 10

Source 4: From the evidence given by Hermann Goering at the Nuremburg Trials after the Second World War. Goering, a senior Nazi in the German Third Reich, had been Commander-in-Chief of the German air force, between 1935 and 1945.

When the civil war broke out in Spain, Franco sent a call for help to Germany and asked for support, particularly in the air. One should not forget that Franco with his troops was stationed in Africa and that he could not get the troops across, as the fleet was in the hands of the Communists. The decisive factor was, first of all, to get his troops over to Spain. 15

The Führer [Adolf Hitler] thought the matter over. I urged him to give support under all circumstances, firstly, in order to prevent the further spread of communism and, secondly, to test my young air force at this opportunity in this or that technical respect. 20

With the permission of the Führer, I sent a large part of my transport fleet and a number of experimental fighter units, bombers, and anti-aircraft guns. In that way I had an opportunity to ascertain, under combat conditions, whether the material was equal to the task. In order that the personnel, too, might gather a certain amount of experience, I saw to it that there was a continuous flow, that is, that new people were constantly being sent and others recalled. 25

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Acknowledgements

Source 1 is from Benito Mussolini, *My Autobiography*, Hutchinson and Co Ltd 1939; Source 2 is from John Hite and Chris Hinton, *Fascist Italy*, John Murray 1998; Source 3 is from James Pettifer, *Cockburn in Spain*, Lawrence & Wishart 1986. By permission of the publisher; Source 4 Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers Ltd.

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