



GCE

History A

Y218/01: International relations 1890-1941

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for June 2019

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All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Blank Page – this annotation must be used on all blank pages within an answer booklet (structured or unstructured) and on each page of an additional object where there is no candidate response.
	Tick
	Cross
	Confused (replaces the question mark)
	Benefit of doubt
	AO1 – Knowledge and understanding
	AO2 – Apply knowledge and understanding
	AO3 - Analyse
	AO4 - Evaluation
	Omission
	Not answered question
	Noted but no credit given
	Too vague
	Own figure rule

REP	Repetition
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Here is the mark scheme for this question paper.

MARK SCHEME Section A

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
1a	<p>1(a) Which of the following made the conclusion of a successful peace settlement in Paris in 1919 more difficult?</p> <p>(i) The aims and motives of France (ii) The aims and motives of the USA</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In arguing the aims and motives of France made the conclusion of a successful peace settlement more difficult, answers might consider that the perceived vindictiveness of France made it unlikely the new democratic German government would be able to establish itself successfully. • Answers might consider that the determination of France to weaken Germany led to the creation of the ‘Polish Corridor’ and, in German eyes, the denial of the promise of self-determination on which she had signed the armistice in November, 1918. This, together with the demilitarisation of the Rhineland – agreed in order to satisfy France – encouraged the popularity of right-wing elements in Germany wedded to the ‘stab-in-the-back’ theory and the revival of German dominance in Europe. 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Only credit material relevant to the ‘conclusion of a successful peace settlement in Paris in 1919’. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to reach a judgement, or make a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation. It should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers might consider the inevitable weakening of the League of Nations occasioned by French determination to deny Germany membership. • Answers might consider that French demands for high reparations again undermined the future stability of democratic German governments and encouraged a demand for revenge in Germany. Similarly, the imposition of disarmament on Germany – the reduction of her army, navy and destruction of new technology such as her air force and submarines – was felt to undermine Germany’s future ability to defend herself, especially against a vengeful France. • In arguing the aims and motives of the USA caused more problems, answers might consider the impact of American attitudes on Italy and Japan who were left dissatisfied by Paris and therefore potential allies of a vengeful Germany, despite having fought with the Entente during World War One. • Answers might consider the effects of the change in American attitudes towards Germany and war guilt occasioned by the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk. • Answers might consider the over-reliance of President Wilson on the League of Nations to settle the potential problems brought about by Paris. • Answers might consider that Wilson’s determination to reconstitute the state of Poland and provide it with access to the sea led him to underestimate German fury at the separation from it of East Prussia as well as its denial of self-determination. 		
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<p>1b</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers might consider that, in reality the actions of the USA went some way to making the peace settlement less difficult, with a focus on Wilson’s diplomacy and his Fourteen Points. <p>How far do you agree there was a failure of leadership on the Western Front during the years 1914 to 1918?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In arguing the Western Front experienced a failure of leadership during these years, answers might consider the tactical mistakes of, for example, the British at the Somme in 1916 and the huge losses encountered there for no significant gain, as well as the failure of German plans at Verdun in the same year. Answers might consider the lack of understanding on all sides of the capacity and resources of their opponents and the unrealistic nature of the contingency plans prepared, citing, for example, the German attitude towards the British Army in 1914. Answers might consider the alterations made to the Schlieffen Plan by the German High Command which weakened its effectiveness such as the diversion of troops to the Eastern Front and the underestimation of the degree of Belgian resistance. Answers might consider the failure of political leaders on all sides, despite their clear social and political prestige, to devise effective means by which to break the deadlock, citing, for example, 	<p>20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No set answer is expected. At higher levels candidates will focus on assessing reasons, but at level 4 may simply list reasons. At level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the relative importance of different reasons. At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to assess the different reasons. To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. Knowledge must not be credited in isolation; it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.
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		<p>the initial failure of both the British to utilise tanks effectively and of the Germans to do the same with poison gas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers might consider the failure of political leaders to seek a compromise peace and argue the war was only resolved in 1918 because of the entry of a new power – the USA – with military and economic resources too powerful for its exhausted opponents to resist. • Answers might consider the unprecedented losses of 1914 where some sectors lost up to 40% of their strength and the failure of munitions manufacturers to prepare for a lengthy conflict. • Answers might consider the return to the discredited tactics of 1914 by Nivelle in 1917, despite the failures of 1916. • In arguing there was not a failure of leadership on the Western Front, answers might consider the near success of the Schlieffen Plan in 1914 as the Germans had entered Brussels by August 20, 1914, and, at the same time, the French had begun to retreat with heavy casualties and the British Expeditionary Force had been forced to fall back to avoid isolation. • Answers might consider the increasing use of new technology to break the deadlock on the Western Front from 1915 such as the German use of poison gas at Ypres which succeeded in producing the intended gap in allied lines, and the same power’s development of the ‘Long Max’ as well as all powers’ development of air offensives. • Answers might consider that though the initial use 		
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		<p>of tanks by the British was mishandled, by 1917, at the Battle of Cambrai, such use was much more effectively handled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers might consider the near success of the German Spring Offensive of 1918 organised by Ludendorff which produced the greatest German successes of the entire conflict, with a possible focus on shock troops moving in smaller, more mobile units. • Answers might consider the increasingly effective organisation of the war effort by all powers as they learned from the experience of the war with, for example, the Allies finally producing a coordinated command under Foch in 1918. • Answers might consider that as early as 1915 the British general staff were attempting to reduce the number of casualties through the use of night attacks and creeping barrages, etc. <p>Which of the following provided the greater challenge to peace in the years before World War One?</p> <p>(i) Nationalism (ii) Imperialism</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p>		
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2a		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In arguing it was Nationalism which provided the greater challenge to peace, answers might consider that the challenge to the Austrian Empire posed by the growth of Serbian nationalism provided the catalyst for the outbreak of war in 1914. • Answers might consider that the growth of nationalism throughout the Balkans in the face of the decline of the Ottoman Empire provided a consistent challenge to peace as witnessed by the Bosnian Crisis of 1908 and the two Balkan Wars. • Answers might consider that the reliance on nationalism of the Tsarist régime in Russia as a means of distracting domestic opposition led it to an inevitably greater involvement in Balkan politics, especially after its defeat in the Pacific by Japan. • Answers might consider a similar reliance on nationalism by Germany to distract domestic discontent from the Imperial régime and discuss its role in the production of the Navy Laws and the policy of <i>Sammlungspolitik</i>. • Answers might consider the growth in importance of national – as opposed to imperial – interests demonstrated by the creation of the Triple Entente 1904-7. • Answers might consider evidence of a growing ‘nationalist’ consensus throughout Europe which made war more likely, citing, for example, the criticism in the Reichstag of the German government for considering compromise over Morocco in 1911 as well as the popular demand 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Only credit material relevant to the ‘challenge to peace in the years before World War One’. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to reach a judgement, or make a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation. It should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.
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		<p>for the building of dreadnoughts in Britain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In arguing Imperialism created a greater challenge to peace, answers might consider the effects of the German adoption of <i>Weltpolitik</i>, especially upon its relations with Britain and the strengthening of her ties with France and Russia which made war more likely by producing a fear of isolation in Germany. • Answers might consider that French colonial interests in Morocco increased the German sense of isolation after the crises of 1905/6 and 1911. • Answers might consider that it was Britain's fear for the future of her empire which led her to respond with alarm to Germany's naval expansion. • Answers might consider the popularity of the concept of Social Darwinism, which emphasised the importance of racial struggle, cementing support for the importance of empire and of acceptance of the need for armed struggle to maintain it. • Answers might consider the imperial nature of both Russia and Austria-Hungary and argue that the struggle between these two empires lies at the heart of the causes of World War One. They might also consider that the decline of the Ottoman Empire was crucially involved in the undermining of peace. <p>'International relations improved throughout the period 1919 – 1929.' How far do you agree?</p>		
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2b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In arguing international relations improved throughout the period 1919-29, answers might consider the seeming eradication of the bitterness of the Versailles settlement of 1919 by the Locarno Treaties of 1925 which restored Germany to her accustomed place amongst the great powers and saw her willing acceptance of the frontiers imposed upon her in 1919. • Answers might consider the apparent success of the League of Nations. It proved its ability to maintain peace by intervening successfully in, for example, the Åland Islands Dispute of 1921 and that between Greece and Bulgaria in 1925. Germany had also become a member of the League and its council by 1926. • Answers might consider the seemingly growing pacifism of even a dictatorial figure such as Mussolini. Despite bombarding Corfu in 1923, Mussolini had gained little for his efforts and, by 1925, was instead acting as a guarantor of the Franco-German border at Locarno and, by 1928, was a signatory of the Kellogg-Briand Pact outlawing war. • Answers might consider the failure of French unilateral action in the Ruhr Crisis of 1923. Far from further weakening Germany, France was faced with British and American hostility, saw the <i>National Bloc</i> defeated in the 1924 elections, and was forced to place the issue of reparations on an international footing. The subsequent creation of first the Dawes and then the Young Plans succeeded in involving the USA in a vital area of 	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • At higher levels candidates will focus on assessing the reasons, but at level 4 may simply list reasons. • At level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the relative importance of different reasons. • At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to assess the different reasons. • To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation; it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.
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		<p>European politics despite its preference for isolation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers might consider that the Washington Treaty of 1922 did achieve a measure of disarmament at sea, fixing the relative sizes of the British, American, Japanese, French and Italian fleets to the ratio of 100/100/60/35/35. • In arguing that international relations did not improve throughout the period 1919-29, answers might well consider that the peace settlement at the start of this period was inherently flawed and has often been regarded as one of the causes of World War II only twenty years later. Germany was left humiliated but far from being unable to gain revenge. As early as 1925 German steel production was twice that of Britain and, strategically, the Paris Peace Settlement left her in a potentially stronger position by replacing the Russian and Austrian Empires which had surrounded her until 1918 with a collection of weak and unstable states. Far from securing German acceptance of her reduced status, Locarno could be argued to have done the very opposite by suggesting her eastern frontiers were not necessarily permanent. • Answers might consider the effects on international relations of the isolation of both Russia and America. Western intervention in the Russian Civil War ensured a lasting suspicion on the part of the Communist régime for its former allies as witnessed by its conclusion of the Treaty of Rapallo with its apparent greatest enemy, 		
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		<p>Germany, in 1922. America was the only power with the economic capacity to ensure the success of the League of Nations, but was resolute in its desire to distance itself from European affairs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers might consider that, despite American involvement in the Dawes and Young Plans, this actually masked continuing German economic instability by leaving it dependent upon foreign loans. This, in turn, threatened international stability as evidenced by the Wall Street Crash of 1929. • Answers might consider the underlying weakness of the League of Nations despite its apparent success in the 1920s. That success owed much to the exhaustion of the great powers with whom the League rarely – if at all – had to deal during this period. Its unwillingness to involve itself in Italy’s aggressive attitude towards Greece in 1923 foreshadowed its ineffectiveness in the 1930s. • Answers might consider the growing unease exhibited by France during this period. Foch had commented on the Treaty of Versailles, <i>‘This is not peace. It is an armistice for twenty years.’</i> Already, by the early 1920s, relations between France and all her former allies (Britain, the USA, Russia and Italy) were poor and, by 1924, her growing insecurity had led her to create the so-called <i>‘Little Entente’</i>; that insecurity was emphasized by the commencement of the construction of the Maginot Line in 1929. • Answers might consider the consistent failure of attempts to produce disarmament in the 1920s. Though the Washington Treaties did achieve some 		
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			<p>measure of naval disarmament, this was at the expense of alienating the Japanese who, like the Italians and the Russians, became potential allies for a resurgent Germany. Both the Draft Treaty of Mutual Assistance (1923) and the Geneva Protocol (1924) were rejected by Britain.</p>		
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OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations)
The Triangle Building
Shaftesbury Road
Cambridge
CB2 8EA

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