

Paper Two Syllabus Information

Paper 2

- An essay paper based on the 20th century world history topics.
- The examination paper will comprise 30 questions, five on each of the six 20th century world history topics.
- Two questions to be answered, each chosen from a different topic.
- The maximum mark for each question is 20.
- The maximum mark for the paper is 40.
- 1½ hours in duration

Topic 1 Causes, practices and effects of war

War was a major feature of the 20th century. In this topic the various types of war should be identified, and the causes, nature, effects and results should be studied. Questions will be set on major themes. Some of these will require knowledge of two regions.

Major themes

Different types and nature of 20th century warfare

- Civil
- Guerrilla

Origins and causes of wars

- Long-term, short-term and immediate causes

Economic, ideological, political, religious causes

Nature of 20th century wars

- Technological developments, tactics and strategies, air, land and sea
- Home front: economic and social impact (including changes in the role and status of women)
- Resistance and revolutionary movements
- Effects and results of wars
- Peace settlements and wars ending without treaties
- Attempts at collective security pre- and post-Second World War
- Political repercussions and territorial changes
- Post-war economic problems

Examples of material for detailed study

Candidates should study a selection from the material listed below, ensuring that two regions are covered. Questions set on specific, named events will be confined to those listed below. Alternative examples can be studied and used to answer open-ended questions.

- First World War (1914-8)
- **Second World War (1939-45)**
- Africa: Algerian War (1954-62), Nigerian Civil War (1967-70)
- Americas: Falklands/Malvinas war (1982), Nicaraguan Revolution (1976-9)
- Asia and Oceania: Indo-Pakistan wars (1947-9, 1965, 1971), Chinese Civil War (1927-37 and 1946-9)
- Europe and Middle East: **Spanish Civil War (1936-9)**, Iran-Iraq war (1980-88), Gulf War (1991)

Topic 3 Origins and development of authoritarian and single-party states

The 20th century produced many single-party states. The origins, ideology, form of government, organization, nature and impact of these should be studied in this topic. Questions will be set on major themes. Some of these will require knowledge of two regions.

Major themes

Origins and nature of authoritarian and single-party states

- Conditions that produced authoritarian and single-party states
- Emergence of leaders: aims, ideology, support
- Totalitarianism: the aim and the extent to which it was achieved
- Establishment of authoritarian and single party states
- Methods: force, legal
- Form of government, (left- and right-wing) ideology
- Nature, extent and treatment of opposition
- Domestic policies and impact
- Structure and organization of government and administration
- Political, economic, social and religious policies
- Role of education, the arts, the media, propaganda
- Status of women, treatment of religious groups and minorities

Examples of material for detailed study

Candidates should study a selection from the material listed below, ensuring that two regions are included. Questions set on specific, named rulers and states will be confined to those listed below. Alternative examples can be studied and used in answers to open-ended questions.

- Africa: Kenya—Kenyatta; Tanzania—Nyerere
- Americas: **Argentina—Perón; Cuba—Castro**
- Asia and Oceania: China—Mao; Indonesia—Sukarno
- Europe and the Middle East: **Germany—Hitler; USSR—Stalin; Egypt—Nasser**

Topic 5 The Cold War

This topic addresses East–West relations from 1945 to 1995. It includes superpower rivalry and events in all areas affected by Cold War politics such as spheres of interest, wars, alliances and interference in developing countries. It aims to promote an international perspective and understanding of the Cold War, which overshadowed world affairs during this period. Questions will be set on major themes. Some will require knowledge of two regions.

Major themes

Origins of the Cold War • Ideological differences

- Mutual suspicion and fear
- From wartime allies to post-war enemies
- Nature of the Cold War
- Ideological opposition
- Superpowers and spheres of influence
- Alliances and diplomacy in the Cold War
- Development and impact of the Cold War
- Global spread of the Cold War from its European origins
- Cold War policies of containment, brinkmanship, peaceful coexistence, détente
- Role of the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement
- Role and significance of leaders
- Arms race, proliferation and limitation
- Social, cultural and economic impact
- End of the Cold War
- Break-up of Soviet Union: internal problems and external pressures
- Breakdown of Soviet control over Central and Eastern Europe

Examples of material for detailed study

Candidates should study a selection from the material listed below, ensuring that two regions are covered. Questions set on specific, named events will be confined to those listed below. Alternative examples can be studied and used to answer open-ended questions.

- Wartime conferences, Yalta, Potsdam 1945
- Developments in Europe: Germany, especially Berlin, Truman Doctrine and
- Marshall Plan, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
- USSR policies, east European satellites, COMECON (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance), Warsaw Pact
- Containment, China, Cuba, Korea, Vietnam, and the Middle East
- Non-alignment
- Arms race, arms control, détente

