	Class	Register Number
Name ______________________		

HUMANITIES (HISTORY) (2261/02)

24/S4PR/HI

WEDNESDAY **21 August 2024** **1 hour 50 minutes**

VICTORIA SCHOOL

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
SECONDARY FOUR

Additional Material: Writing Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and register number on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do not use paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A: Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B: Answer **two** questions.

Begin each question on a fresh page.

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

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

The total number of marks for this paper is 50.

Setters: Ms Chua Wai Yi, Mr Khoo Kay Yong Mrs Janice Chua and Mr Leo Hock Leng

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 **(a)** Study Source A.

How useful is this source as evidence about Germany's foreign policy towards Austria? Explain your answer. [6]

(b) Study Sources B and C.

How far would the cartoonists who drew these two cartoons have agreed with each other? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Sources D and E.

How far does Source D make you surprised by what was reported in Source E? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Source F.

Why did Churchill say this in the British Parliament? Explain your answer. [5]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'Anschluss was inevitable.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

Anschluss

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

A term in the Treaty of Versailles forbade the joining together (Anschluss) of Austria and Germany. Yet the union of Germany and Austria was a key aim of Hitler, who wanted to unite all German-speaking people in one country. In 1934, Austrian Nazi Party attempted to take over the Austrian government but was stopped by Mussolini of Italy who threatened Germany with force and Hitler promised to leave Austria alone. However, four years later, on 12 March 1938 German troops invaded Austria. They faced almost no resistance. Anschluss was rapidly completed. Britain and France protested, but took no steps to prevent Hitler's invasion.

Why was Hitler allowed to carry out the Anschluss and was it inevitable?

Source A: *An extract from the July Agreement between Austria and Germany, signed 11 July 1936.*

The Governments of the Federal State of Austria and of Germany have resolved to return to relations of a normal and friendly character. In this connection it is declared -

(1) The German Government recognises the full sovereignty of the Federate State of Austria in the spirit of the pronouncements of the German Fuhrer and Chancellor of May 21, 1935.

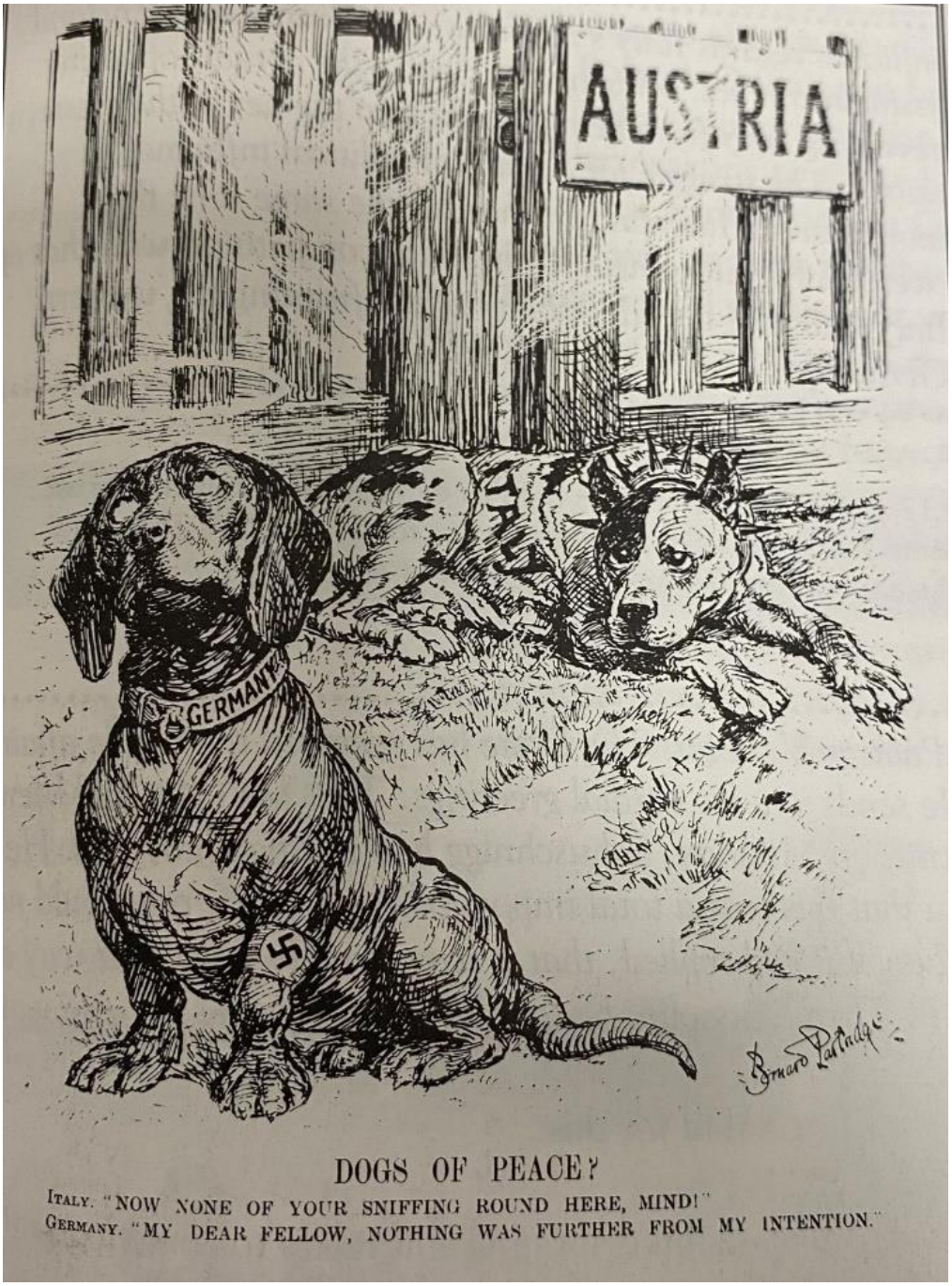
(2) Each of the two Governments regards the inner political affairs (including the question of Austrian National-Socialism*) as an internal concern of that country, upon which it will not exercise direct or indirect influence.

The Austrian Federal Government will constantly follow in its policy in general, and in particular towards Germany, in line with leading principles based on the fact that Austria regards herself as a German State.

*Nazism

Source B: *A British cartoon from 1934. It says, Dog of Peace?*

Italy: "Now none of your sniffing round here, Mind!", Germany: "My dear fellow, nothing was further from my intention."



DOGS OF PEACE?

ITALY. "NOW NONE OF YOUR SNIFFING ROUND HERE, MIND!"
GERMANY. "MY DEAR FELLOW, NOTHING WAS FURTHER FROM MY INTENTION."

Source C: *A British cartoon from March 1938. Mussolini (on the left): "All right, Adolf – I never heard a shot."*

'Austrian integrity' means 'Austrian independence'.

GOOD HUNTING

Mussolini. "All right, Adolf—I never heard a shot"

Source D: *An extract from a radio broadcast by Austrian Chancellor, Kurt von Schuschnigg, on 11 March 1938.*

This day has placed us in a tragic and decisive situation. The German Government today handed to President Miklas an ultimatum, ordering him to nominate as chancellor a person designated by the German Government and to appoint members of a cabinet on the orders of the German Government; otherwise German troops would invade Austria. President Miklas has asked me to tell the people of Austria that we have yielded to force since we are not prepared even in this terrible situation to shed blood. We have decided to order the troops to offer no resistance.

So I take leave of the Austrian people with the German word of farewell uttered from the depth of my heart: God protect Austria.

Source E: *From a report by German army officers who advanced into Austria on 12 March 1938.*

Nearly everywhere the advancing troops were greeted with enthusiasm. Elite mountain rangers tramped into Salzburg* to find its towers and churches bedecked with Nazi streamers, provincial pennants, and municipal banners. The narrow passages and spacious squares of the picturesque city, were crammed with "lively crowds," enraptured by "delirious enthusiasm," shouting "euphoric cheers that seemed to never end." Even in Tyrol*, well known for its hostility to National Socialism, the overall reaction was one of "boundless popular jubilation"; in Kufstein* cheering town dwellers welcomed the Sixty-first Regiment with flowers and cigarettes.

*These are cities in the western part of Austria bordering Germany.

Source F: *A speech by Winston Churchill in the British Parliament on 14 March 1938.*

We cannot leave the Austrian question where it is. We await the further statement of the Government, but it is quite clear that we cannot accept as a final solution of the problem of Central Europe the event which occurred on 11th March. The public mind has been concentrated upon the moral and sentimental aspects of the Nazi conquest of Austria, a small country brutally struck down, its Government scattered to the winds, the oppression of the Nazi party doctrine imposed upon a Catholic population and upon the working classes of Austria and of Vienna, the hard ill-usage of persecution which indeed will ensue, which is probably in progress at the moment, of those who, this time last week, were exercising their undoubted political rights, discharging their duties faithfully to their own country.

Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

2 'The reason for the fall of democracy in Japan in 1929-1932 was rising military influence in the government.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

3 'The USA became involved in the Vietnam War from 1955 to prevent the fall of the Ngo Dinh Diem's government in South Vietnam.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

4 'It was Reagan who helped bring the Cold War to an end.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Copyright Acknowledgements:
Source A https://avalon.law.yale.edu/wwii/ylbk001.asp#:~:text=(1).,
Source B Jenkins J and Feuchtwanger E, Hitler's Germany, 2000. John Murray, London
Source C Jenkins J and Feuchtwanger E, Hitler's Germany, 2000. John Murray, London
Source D https://spartacus-educational.com/2WWanschluss.htm
Source E Bukey E B, Hitler's Austria, 2000.The University of North Carolina Press, USA.
Source F https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1938-03-14

End of Paper

VICTORIA SCHOOL

SEC 4 WORLD HISTORY PR 2024
SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1a) Study Source A.

How useful is this source as evidence about Germany's foreign policy towards Austria? Explain your answer. [6]

L1 Undeveloped provenance & not useful based on assertions about the nature of the source [1-2]
It is useful because it was an official document.
Source E is not useful because it was an official agreement between Austria and Germany. Being an official agreement, Germany would never reveal its true intention towards Austria. Thus, it is not useful.

L2 Useful or Not useful based on what the source tells about Hitler's foreign policy towards Austria [3-4]
Source A is useful because it tells me that Germany and Austria had good diplomatic relationship as Germany respected Austria's right to self-rule. [3]

Source A is useful because it tells me that Germany's foreign policy towards Austria had always been aggressive. This can be supported by the fact that Austria had to sign this treaty and declare itself as a state of Germany to ease tension and normalise relations between the two countries so as to counter Hitler's imminent aggression on Austria. [4]

L4 Answers which attempt to evaluate the reliability of what is said by cross-reference to other sources or CK [4-5]
Source A is useful because it tells me that Germany and Austria had good diplomatic relationship as Germany respected Austria's right to self-rule. However, when I cross-refer to Source C, Source A is not reliable and hence not useful because Germany did not respect Austria's right to self-rule by invading it.

Source A is useful because it tells me that Germany's foreign policy towards Austria had always been aggressive. This can be supported by the fact that Austria had to sign this treaty and declare itself as a state of Germany to ease tension and normalise relations between the two countries so as to counter Hitler's underlying ambitions for expansion and control over Austria. When I cross-refer to Source B and my CK, since 1934, Hitler had always been keen to reunite with Austria as shown in B and it was only when Italy stopped him then that he relented. In addition, it was after the agreement that Austria allowed some Austrian Nazis in the government to placate Hitler.

L5 Answers which evaluate the source as in L3 or L4 and argue the source is still useful based on insights about Anschluss [6]
Source E is useful because it gives me an insight into how scheming, dishonest and opportunistic Nazi Germany was under Hitler. By signing the agreement, it was useful as evidence that Germany had never been upfront about their foreign policy towards Austria and the treaty was merely a cosmetic measure aimed at appeasing international concerns about Germany's growing power. This was a usual tactic deployed by Hitler to hide his aggressive foreign policy.

b) Study Sources B and C.

How far would the cartoonists who drew these two cartoons have agreed with each other? Explain your answer

L1 Misinterpret [1]

L2 Provenance / mismatch [2]

L3 Agree or disagree based on content [3]

L4 Agree and disagree based on content [4]
Agree that Italy had a role to play in stopping German's aggression against Austria.

Agree that German's intention on Austria had never changed.

Disagree in terms of Italy's stance on Anschluss.
L5 Disagree based on context [5]
Both cartoonists would never agree as the cartoons were drawn in different contexts. Source B was drawn in 1934 when Italy stopped Germany from uniting with Austria and this saved Austria's independence. However, Source C was drawn in 1938 when Italy did nothing to stop Germany because both countries drawn closer as allies due to Italy's invasion of Abyssinia and Hitler's action in Rhineland and Spain. In 1937, Italy and Germany had also signed the Axis Alliance together with Japan as they saw one another as dictators with similar interests.

c) Study Sources D and E.

How far does Source D make you surprised by what was reported in Source E? Explain your answer.

L1 Answers based on undeveloped provenance [1-2]
Source D make me surprised about the report in Source E because both seemed to give a different impression of Anschluss.

L2: They agree, Source D does not make me surprise about E [3]
Source D does not make me surprised about the report in Source E because D appealed for submission and no resistance and this was observed in Source E where the masses did not resist or oppose the German army.

L3 They disagree, Source D makes me surprised about E【4】
Source D make me surprised about the report in Source E because they differ in their reactions to Anschluss. D saw Anschluss as a disaster for Austria but Source E seemed to suggest that Anschluss was not a disaster but a moment to rejoice and celebrate.

L4 Identifies the disagreement, but uses cross-reference to decide what is surprising [5]
Source D make me surprised about the report in Source E because D saw Anschluss as a disaster for Austria but Source E seemed to suggest that Anschluss was not a disaster but a moment to rejoice and celebrate. However, when I cross-refer to Source F, I am not surprised by Source D because both sources agree that German's actions were unacceptable as the Austrian's independence had been robbed and destroyed overnight.

L5 As in L4 but also uses evaluation of D's and E's contexts and purposes to decide that it's not surprising [6]

Source D does not make me surprised as it was by Schuschnigg who was arm-twisted to announce his resignation and Austria's capitulation to Germany. As the Chancellor, he was the one who signed the gentleman agreement in 1936 and he was also the one who decided to call for the plebiscite which angered Hitler to call for an invasion of Austria. Being the only one to stand up against Hitler and without the support of the West, he was resigned as well as worried about the fate of his countrymen as there were Jews and Catholics in the country, they faced an uncertain future once the Nazis took over. As for Source E, although the reactions of the masses differed from that of their Chancellor, it was also not surprising they welcomed the Germans with open arms. Firstly, there was no bloodshed and civil war. The sight of well-equipped German troops reminded them of their wartime solidarity and the humiliation of 1918 overcome. Many Austrians were aware of Hitler's economic achievements and hoped for an improvement in their lives.

1d) Study Source F.

Why did Churchill say this in the British Parliament? Explain your answer.

L1 Sub-message [1]

L2 Specific context of March 1938 [2]
Germany had invaded and taken over Austria.

L3 Main message and reason based on purpose [3-4]
Churchill said this because he wanted to convince the British government that Hitler's action was a violation of the sovereignty of Austria and such an action could not be tolerated. [3]

Churchill said to condemn Germany's action so that Britain will take action. [3]

Churchill said this because he wanted to convince the British government that Hitler's action was a violation of the sovereignty of Austria and such an action could not be tolerated. By saying this, he hoped that the Chamberlain government would abandon the policy of appeasement and stand up against Hitler and defend Austria's independence. By appeasing Hitler, he believed that peace in Europe would be at stake as Hitler was a person one could not trust and Germany would become stronger after Anschluss threatening neighbouring countries like Czechoslovakia and Poland. [4]

L4 As in L3/4m and specific context of Churchill being a strong critic of appeasement
Churchill said this because he wanted to convince the British government that Hitler's action was a violation of the sovereignty of Austria and such an action could not be tolerated. By saying this, he hoped that the Chamberlain government would abandon the policy of appeasement and stand up against Hitler and defend Austria's independence. By appeasing Hitler, he believed that peace in Europe would be at stake as Hitler was a person one could not trust and Germany would become stronger after Anschluss threatening neighbouring countries like Czechoslovakia and Poland. As a strong critic of appeasement, he believed that the annexation of Austria was a clear indication of Hitler's ambitions and he wanted to rally support not just from the British but the international community as well to act decisively to prevent further aggression.

e) Study all the sources

'Anschluss was inevitable.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer.

L1 Writes about the hypothesis, no valid source use [1]

L2 Yes OR No, supported by valid source use [2-4]
(Award 1 mark for each source use up to a maximum of 4 marks)

L3 Yes AND No, supported by valid source use [5-8]
(Award 5 marks for 1Y and 1N, and additional mark for each supporting source use, up to a maximum of 7 marks)

Source A – No & Yes

Source A does not support it was inevitable as it was a gentleman agreement between Germany and Austria that Austria's independence would be respected as according to the agreement of 1936 as well as the Treaty of St Germain that Austria and Germany should be two entities. As a treaty of mutual agreement, Germany had the duty to honour and abide by the terms of the Treaty and not violate it.

Source A supports as Austria did recognise itself as part of Germany. Historically, there were Austrians who considered themselves as Germans and hoped to unite with Germany. The hope of uniting Austria and Germany was not new. Discussions and debates about Austria's role in a German nation-state dated back to the 19th century.

Source B – No

Source B does not support because Italy had stopped Anschluss before in 1934 and they could have done it to protect Austrian and their own interests. On July 25, 1934, Austrian Nazis attempted to overthrow the Austrian government. However, the majority of Austrians remained loyal to the government. The Austrian military and police forces quickly defeated the conspirators. The coup attempt failed. Italian dictator Benito Mussolini sent troops to the Austro-Italian border to defend Austrian sovereignty. Mussolini was friends and allies with Dollfuss (the Austrian Chancellor who was killed) and was outraged by the coup attempt and assassination. Austria became a major point of contention between the Italians and Germans. Thus, with the Italians around, Germans would be deterred to act.

Source C – Yes

Source C supports it was inevitable especially in the events of 1938 as relations between Mussolini and Hitler had improved. By winter 1937–1938, Austria found itself diplomatically isolated and facing an increasingly aggressive Nazi Germany. The international community showed little interest in maintaining Austrian independence. By that point, both the French and the British had accepted an Austro-German union as inevitable. The Dollfuss regime's brutal repression of Austrian Social Democrats in February 1934 had not won them many friends in countries like Britain and France. Even Mussolini was no longer a reliable guarantor of Austrian independence.

Source D – Yes

Source D supports because when he announced his resignation in the face of German pressure, Schuschnigg instructed Austrians and the Austrian military not to resist German troops if they invaded. He was unwilling to fight a war or spill blood for Austrian independence. Given the lack of military resistance and international support, Anschluss was inevitable.

Source E – Yes

Source E supports because it seemed that the people of Austria looked forward to a better future under the Germans. As many Austrians were also pro-Germans and some pro-Nazis, they welcomed the Germans with open arms. Firstly, there was no bloodshed and civil war. The sight of well-equipped German troops reminded them of their wartime solidarity and the humiliation of 1918 overcome. Many Austrians were aware of Hitler's economic achievements and hoped for an improvement in their lives.

Source F – No
Source F does not support because Churchill said that Britain should not leave the Austria issue where it was. Together with France, Britain could stop appeasing Hitler and put a stop to his territorial expansion once and for all. At this point, even though Britian and France were not as militarily ready but so was Germany. However, if Britian and France were to declare war on Germany, Germany might be deterred and union with Austria could be prevented.

SECTION B Essays

L1 Identifies/Describes [1-3]
L2 Explains one side of the statement [4-5]
L3 Explains both sides of the statement [6-8]
*add up to 2 bonus marks for a balanced conclusion

2	'The reason for the fall of democracy in Japan in 1929-1932 was rising military influence in the government..' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. The reason for the fall of democracy in Japan in 1929 – 1932 **was because of rising military influence in the government.** While the civilian politicians held a strong position within the government in the 1920s, they were quickly losing the trust of the people. In contrast, the military grew in prominence and popularity with its victories. This further strengthened the military which started to act on its own and disregard the Prime Minister. Eventually, the military gained greater control of the government. This factor is significant in the **Manchurian Crisis in 1931**. because it sheds light on the strained relationship of the military with the civilian government, as well as the weakening role of the government and even the emperor in controlling the military. The invasion, which was done by the Kwantung Army without government approval, revealed the lack of control of the civilian government over the military. Consequently, the unopposed success of the invasion removed the effective influence of the civilian government over foreign policy in East Asia. **As a result, the invasion was extremely popular with the Japanese public. This heightened the popularity of the military and militarist policies in Japan. Meanwhile, the lack of effective government opposition confirmed to the military its superior influence over the civilian politicians. Hence this led to declining support for democracy. The growing resentment the ordinary people felt towards the democratic politicians, increasingly led many to support the military's rise to power.** The reason for the fall of democracy in Japan in 1929 – 1932 **was because of economic developments.** The loss of trust in the civilian government was exacerbated by numerous social problems and disorders the government faced	[10]

during this period, which further undermined their credibility. **For example, the Great Depression in 1929** caused Japan's economy to fall, as the demand for Japanese silk exports fell drastically. This affected the income of the people, resulting in a lower demand for farmers' produce. Owners of small business also suffered. The civilian government, which developed close ties to the Zaibatsus and other capital owners, were held accountable by the public for the sufferings of the general populace, as the working-class and middle-class were disproportionately affected by the recession. **Therefore, with increasing unemployment, the Japanese public started to feel that the military was a more favourable alternative than supporting the democratic civilian government. Moreover, the economic recession heightened the fear of a communist uprising in Japan. With Japan's proximity to the Soviet Union, security became a key concern of the Japanese government. As a result, this caused many Japanese to transfer their support from the democratic civilian government to support the military officers. This enabled the military to increase its intervention in government affairs under the justification of national security.**

The reason for the fall of democracy in Japan in 1929 – 1932 **was because growing opposition to the civilian government**. A network of ultranationalistic and anti-democratic activists began to form and grow. This network included junior military officers who had the backing of senior military commanders. They were against the civilian political leaders and the zaibatsu, whom they regarded as self-serving. For example, assassinations were attempted by ultranationalist groups. Prime minister Hamaguchi and a Mitsui Corporation Zaibatsu head were killed in such assassinations. These assassinations had several effects. They intimidated civilian politicians and caused them to drop their opposition to the military. As a result, it also created a sense of instability which the military exploited to "restore order". In the May 15 Incident in 1932, Prime Minister Inukai was assassinated by the League of Blood. Attackers also tried to attack other government officials as well. This was an attempted coup d'etat. They had hoped that the people would rise up and overthrow Japan's democratic government. The people failed to rise up and the activists from the League of blood were arrested and put on trial. However, the military commanders did not condemn the rebellion and even issued a statement which effectively excused the officers for their actions and demanded for political reforms. Although the military did not spell out precisely, they wanted control of the government. **Hence the military leaders were able take control of the government. On 26 May 1932, the Emperor appointed a navy admiral as Japan's new Prime Minister. Only five elected from the civilian party representatives were allowed to join the PM's new cabinet. With the majority of the new Cabinet made up of military officers, Japan now came under militarist**
rile.

The reason for the fall of democracy in Japan in 1929 – 1932 **was because Japan was structurally weak.** Japan's weak political structure meant that the Prime Minister's authority was severely undermined. Furthermore Japan's party politics meant that the two major parties in the Diet were constantly fighting each other and this made it difficult for the Prime Minister to push for decisions. There were also other groups such as the Privy Council, the Genro and the military who reported directly to the Emperor and could bypass the Prime Minister. **Therefore, this meant that the Prime Minister did not have control over the government,**

	which made it difficult for him to respond to problems in Japan. This structural weaknesses existed since the implementation of the Meiji constitution. As a result, the democratic structures gradually weakened Japan's government and diminished the Japanese perception of them. In conclusion, I disagree that military influence was the main cause for the failure of democracy in Japan. While the rise of the military in the Japanese civilian government did contribute to the decline of democracy, the growing distrust and resentment of the Japanese was **accelerated** by the devastating impact of the Great Depression. The Great Depression was the **trigger** which provoked worse reactions from the Japanese who began to turn their support elsewhere such as the military or the communists.	

3	'The USA became involved in the Vietnam War from 1955 to prevent the fall of the Ngo Dinh Diem's government in South Vietnam.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.	[10]

The USA became involved in the Vietnam War from 1955 to prevent the fall of South Vietnam as the government of Ngo Dinh Diem became weaker, more corrupt and the ARVN more incompetent in preventing increasing communist insurgency. Diem's government was run by his bad brother Nhu and his wife who used intimidation against opponents, favoured cronies and Catholics, persecuted Buddhists and allowed corruption to run rampant among ARVN generals and crime syndicates. His unpopular government alienated the people and became sympathetic to the communists. Diem's strategic hamlet programme caused further hardship for people in the rural area and these people turned to the Viet Cong for help. As the result, insurgency by the VC increased as evident in the many protests, civil disorder and bad news for the Diem government. The US became involved to support Diem by sending Henry Cabot Lodge as US ambassador to advise Diem to help run the government better. The US sent more military advisors to train the ARVN to better counter VC attacks. The US also gave more funding for Diem's strategic hamlet program to cut off the rural population from VC network. The US even sent McNamara the Defence Secretary to Saigon to give credibility to Diem's government. The US believed that through this show of support, Diem's government will have the resources to win the confidence and support from the people of South Vietnam to effectively fight the threat from the communists.

The USA became involved in the Vietnam War from 1955 to counter the growing military challenge from the communists/from North Vietnam. As the planned reunification elections was called off by South Vietnam, the North has advocated armed struggle as the means to seek reunification. Le Duan, the Communist Party First Secretary formed Unit 559 to send men and material down the Ho Chi Minh Trail to support the Viet Cong guerillas topple Diem's government. VC/NVA forces became had the upper hand they were even able to attack US Airbases in Da Nang, Bien Hoa and Tan Son Nhut itself where the MAC-V (Military Assistance Command-Vietnam) was based. Seeing ARVN suffer defeat at the hands of the VC at the Battle of Ap Bac even with US advisors on overflight, the US decided to get involved more directly to take the offensive to the enemy instead of waiting for VC ambush. US involvement took the form of strategic bombings of ports like Hai Phong and Vinh, barracks and airfields in Gia Lam, POL storage facilities throughout the North to cripple the DRV's ability to supply the South. In addition, the US got involved by carpet bombing the Ho Chi Minh Trail with napalm and Agent Orange defoliants to eliminate forest cover for strategic bombers to disrupt supply routes and NVA troop movement to cut off DRV support headed for South Vietnam. US became involved by establishing combat base as as Khe Sanh,

Rockpile, Con Tien and Camp Carroll close to strategic chokepoints where routes from Laos and Cambodia leads into South Vietnam close to the DMZ. Other special training camps were established in the Central Highlands like in the A Shau Valley, Pleiku and Dak To, for the US forces to train mountain tribesmen to counter VC insurgencies without getting themselves directly involved. It is evident from these examples; US involvement was also primarily motivated by the need to counter the military threat and supply that the NVA was siphoning into the hands of the VC to help them carry out attacks on US airfields and ARVN forces to weaken and topple the South Vietnam government.

The USA became involved in the Vietnam War from 1955 to protect US reputation as the ideological champion of democratic freedom from the threat of its Cold War rivals. The period after 1955, fear of communism heightened with the defeat of the French by the Vietminh at Dien Bien Phu right in the aftermath of the Korea War which ended in a stalemate. Facing increasing challenge from the Communist bloc, the US felt it was important to uphold the confidence of its allies and maintain its reputation as the protector of free governments around the world. Hence the US felt the necessity of funding and supporting South Vietnam to ensure its survives the onslaught of communist challenge by the VC. In the wake of the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962, the need to stand firm in the Cold War became an urgency. When the Soviets crushed the Hungarian Revolt in 1956 and erected the Berlin Wall in 1961, the message to the US was that it needed to stand firm in Asia to prevent the dominoes from falling. Hence Kennedy made a commitment to commit military support to Diem's government and subsequently, Johnson committed to send troops to take the war to the North Vietnamese to underline to American allies that in the Cold War rivalry, America can be counted on to defend freedom and democracy.

IMO the primary reason was to uphold its global position as an ideological bastion of democracy so that its allies such as Japan, South Korea, Thailand and those in western Europe do not lose faith in them and will continue to defend the same values the US holds dear. The US mainly saw the conflict in Vietnam with Cold War lenses and hence saw the need to prevent Diem's government from collapse and at same time stem the military support from DRV that mainly came from the US' Cold War rivals the USSR and China.

4	'It was US President Ronald Reagan who helped to bring the Cold War to an end.' How far do you agree with this statement?' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.	[10]

US President Ronald Reagan helped to bring the Cold War to an end through his willing to push for nuclear disarmament and end the arms race with the USSR. Despite earlier calling the USSR an "evil empire" and restarting the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI or Star Wars) of using satellites to counter Soviet ICBMs, he relented in the Cold War confrontation when he learned in 1985 that the new Secretary-General of the USSR was a reformist Gorbachev who was determined to reform the Soviet Union to revive it. Reagen did not take advantage of Soviet cuts in arms spending as a weakness nor did he see Gorbachev's new thinking reforms to revive the USSR as an new threat to the USA. Instead, he was willing to meet Gorbachev face to face to work with the USSR towards strategic arms reduction and to prevent mutually assured reduction. Reagen warmed up to Gorbachev's foreign policy redirection away from control of the Warsaw Pact satellites to focus on economic reforms back home. Reagen was encouraged Gorbachev to undertake further decisions to remove missiles from Europe him during 5 summits between them where the USSR agreed to reduce nuclear stockpile and US offered aid to the USSR in its economic reforms. Reagen's meeting with Gorbachev at the Reykjavik Summit in 1986 was a turning in Cold War relations that rewarded him with meeting with other western leaders such as Margaret Thatcher, Francois Mitterrand of France, Helmut Kohl of West Germany in a series of meetings in Washington, Moscow. Reagen effective ended the Cold War when the US offered aid

to the USSR a part of a broader effort to support reforms in the USSR including food aid, technical assistance, and financial support to alleviate shortages and improve living conditions though shipments of grain and other agricultural products. By opening the doors to cooperation with the USSR, Reagen ended the Cold War and helped the USSR integrate into the global political and economic community.

Gorbachev's reforms also helped to end of the Cold War because his reforms (glasnost and perestroika) set in momentum new policy directions that encouraged the Communist's Party to focus on bettering the life of its citizens instead of focusing on super-power confrontation between the USSR and the West/USA. Gorbachev introduced perestroika to end central planning of the economy in June 1987. Managers of farms and factories could now decide what they wanted to produce and how much to produce since they had control over raw materials and profits. A reorientation to a market economy gave rise to small scale private enterprises such as family restaurants, businesses providing consumer services such as making clothes or handicrafts and even car repairs. Foreign companies were also allowed to invest in Soviet businesses for the first time. Perestroika aimed to create competition to rejuvenate the inefficiencies of the State by stimulating rapid improvement and providing employment and market-driven allocation of resources. To support perestroika, Gorbachev introduced democratization in the USSR when he moved towards more transparency in the party. Instead of members of local soviets being appointed into positions of power, he wanted election by the people where there would be a choice of candidates. His intention was to bring forth a new generation of leaders who can help push his reformist agenda made the USSR turn away from anti-western rhetoric and Cold War confrontation to focus on learning from the west how best to manage a market economy and how best to rejuvenate the Communist Party to better meet the needs of the country and its people.

Gorbachev helped to end the Cold War when he introduced glasnost to regain the support of the people and to expose corruption within the party. He pledged to be open to new ideas to improve the USSR because he believed that more ideas and suggestions would give a stake to ordinary citizens to help him change the Communist party. To prove his commitment to glasnost, Gorbachev relaxed censorship. He allowed the media to report on the problems within the Soviet Union. He had hoped to mobilize support for his policies, shape public opinion and invite new ideas to change the Soviet government. He wanted the Chernobyl incident and the invasion of Afghanistan to be openly reported and discussed. He put corrupt officials on trial and legalized books, films and plays that were previously banned. Dissidents were released and those in exile were allowed to return. History was re-examined and atrocities committed during the Stalinist era were acknowledged as errors to signal to the people the Party was committed to reform. With this sense of freedom and openness, the USSR gained the acceptance of USA that no longer perceived the USSR as a Cold War enemy or a security threat but was instead willing to open negotiations and meetings to discuss ways to improve global security and end confrontation.

Gorbachev helped to end the Cold War because he was willing to de-ideologise Moscow's relations with its Warsaw Pact members by announcing that Moscow was no longer footing the bill to support its eastern European satellite states nor would intervene to prevent uprisings that Brezhnev pledged to do. This so-called "Sinatra Doctrine" opened the doors for Comecon states to allow participation from non-communists groups to share in the burden of restructuring their own economic and political problems. The Polish communist party ceded power to trade union Solidarity, the Czech communist party stepped down in favour of Václav Havel's Civic Forum, and East Germany's Egon Krenz agreed to allow East Berliners to cross into West Berlin. With Gorbachev relaxing Moscow's grip on the Warsaw Pact, it allowed the people of eastern Europe to find its own solutions without control from Moscow and without the communist party standing in the way. With the rise of non-communist partisans participating in political discourse in eastern Europe, the paradigm of confronting the west in a Cold War "communist versus democracy" narrative came to an end.