



**BEATTY SECONDARY SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2022  
SECONDARY FOUR EXPRESS**

CANDIDATE NAME

CLASS

REGISTER  
NUMBER

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**HUMANITIES**

Paper 2 History  
Setter: Ms Ellie Soh

**2273/02**

**22 August 2022  
1 hour 40 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided above and on all writing papers you use.

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

Answer **one** question from Section B.

You are required to start Section B on a fresh sheet of paper.

Hand in your answers for Section A and B separately.

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

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This document consists of **6** printed pages and **0** blank pages.

[Turn over]

**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 sources 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.

What can you learn from the source about US response to the missile threat from Cuba? Explain your answer. [5]

**(b)** Study Source B.

Why did the cartoonist publish the cartoon? Explain your answer. [5]

**(c)** Study Source C.

Are you surprised by Source C regarding Soviet's reason for installing missiles in Cuba? Explain your answer. [6]

**(d)** Study Sources D and E.

Does Source E prove that Source D is right? Explain your answer. [6]

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

"The US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified." How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

## The Cuban Missile Crisis

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

The Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1962 was a dangerous confrontation between the United States of America (USA) and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. With both countries holding on to the world's first nuclear weapons, USA's President John F. Kennedy and Soviet's Premier Nikita Khrushchev struggled to de-escalate mounting tensions over Cuba. By 14 October 1962, Soviet missile installations in Cuba were sighted by American spy planes, and USA decided to respond with a naval blockade. On 24 October 1962, Soviet ships bound for Cuba neared the line of US vessels enforcing the blockade. Given the height of Cold War tensions, questions were raised on Kennedy's decision of imposing the naval blockade.

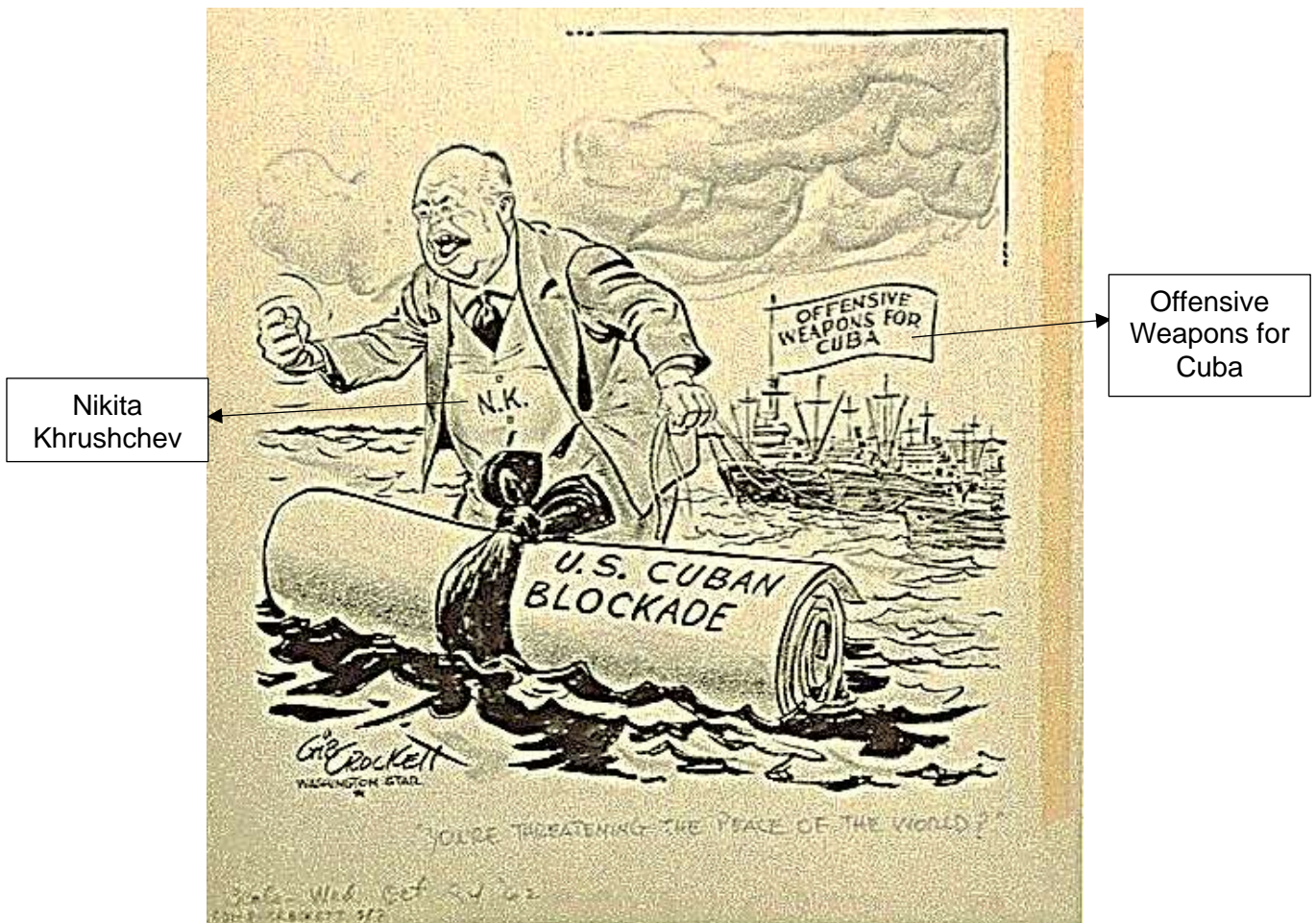
Was the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 justified?

**Source A:** *Adapted from a report written by a U.S Marine, published in 1990.*

President Kennedy chose to employ a naval "quarantine" in his initial action against the Soviet Union in the Cuban Missile Crisis. The only difference between a blockade and a quarantine was that a blockade was an act of war and a quarantine, at least in name, was not. Historically, blockades had been very effective weapons which would sooner or later bring an enemy to its knees and to which even the United States was vulnerable. However, it is probable that without the implicit threat of air strike or invasion, the blockade alone, while it could have prevented Soviet ships from bringing additional missiles to Cuba, could not have forced the removal of the missiles already present.

[Turn over]

**Source B:** A cartoon published in an American newspaper on 24 October 1962.



Title of Cartoon: You're Threatening the Peace of the World!

**Source C:** Adapted from Khrushchev's autobiography, published internationally in 2004.

Everyone agreed that America would not leave Cuba alone unless we did something. We had an obligation to do everything in our power to protect Cuba's existence as a Communist country and as a working example to other countries in Latin America. I want to make one thing absolutely clear. We had no desire to start a war. Only a fool would think that we wanted to invade the American continent from Cuba. Our aim was the opposite. We wanted to keep the Americans from invading Cuba.

**Source D:** *Adapted from an excerpt from the radio and television address by President Kennedy, 22 October 1962.*

Within the past week, unmistakable evidence has established the fact that a series of offensive missile sites is now in preparation on that imprisoned island. Each of the missiles is capable of striking Washington, D.C., the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, or any other city in the south-eastern part of the United States, in Central America, or in the Caribbean area... To halt this offensive build up, a strict quarantine on all offensive military equipment under shipment to Cuba is being initiated. All ships of any kind bound for Cuba from whatever nation or port will, if found to contain cargoes of offensive weapons, be turned back. This quarantine will be extended, if needed, to other types of cargo and carriers. We are not at this time, however, denying the necessities of life as the Soviets attempted to do in their Berlin blockade of 1948.

**Source E:** *Adapted from a speech by the Russian Ambassador in the United Nations General Assembly, 23 October 1962.*

Yesterday, the United States Government placed the Republic of Cuba under a virtual naval blockade, flouting the rules of international conduct and the principles of the UN Charter. The United States has granted itself the right to attack the ships of other states on the high seas, which is nothing less than undisguised piracy... The allegation that the Soviet Union has set up offensive weapons in Cuba were false. The Soviet delegation hereby officially confirms the statements already made about this allegation and reiterates that the Soviet government has never sent and is not currently sending offensive weapons of any kind to Cuba.

[Turn over]

**Section B: Structured-Essay Questions**

Answer **one** question.

**2 This question is on World War II in Asia-Pacific.**

- (a) Explain why Japan attacked Pearl Harbour in December 1941. [8]
- (b) 'Allied victory in the war in Asia-Pacific was mainly due to the weaknesses of Japan.' How far do you agree with this statement? [12]  
Explain your answer.

**3 This question is on the Cold War.**

- (a) Explain why the Soviet Union and the USA were unable to agree during the wartime conferences. [8]
- (b) 'The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 was mainly due to Gorbachev's policies.' How far do you agree with this statement? [12]  
Explain your answer.

**--End of Paper--**

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*Copyright Acknowledgement*

- Source A <https://www.usmcu.edu/Portals/218/When%20The%20Russians%20Blinked-%20The%20U.S.%20Maritime%20Response%20To%20The%20Cuban%20Missile%20Crisis.pdf>
- Source B <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2016680843/>
- Source C Memoirs of Nikita Khrushchev
- Source D <https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/kencuba.htm>
- Source E <https://alphahistory.com/coldwar/cuban-missile-debate-un-1962/>

**SEC 4 EXPRESS****PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2022 [HISTORY]**  
**SUGGESTED LORMS****Section A: Source-Based Case Study**

1a. Study Source A. What can you learn from the source about US response to the missile threat from Cuba? Explain your answer. [5]

- **Target Skill: Inference**

Level	Descriptor	Marks
<b>L1</b>	<b>Copies or describes the source with no inference made</b>  e.g. I can learn from the source that President Kennedy chose to employ a naval “quarantine” in his initial action against the Soviet Union in the Cuban Missile Crisis.	<b>1</b>
<b>L2</b>	<b>Valid interpretation, but not the main message</b> <i>Award 2m for sub-message, unsupported; Award 3m for sub-message, supported.</i>  e.g. <b>I can learn from the source that the US response was in the form of the naval blockade.</b> This can be seen from “President Kennedy chose to employ a naval “quarantine” in his initial action against the Soviet Union in the Cuban Missile Crisis.” This meant that USA had decided that the naval blockade was a suitable response to the missiles which they had discovered in Cuba.	<b>2 – 3</b>
<b>L3</b>	<b>Message - supported by source content</b> <i>Award the higher mark in the level for more developed answers.</i>  e.g. <b>I can learn from the source that USA’s response towards the missiles in Cuba was calculated and measured as they did not just impose a naval blockade on Cuba, but also termed it as ‘quarantine’.</b> This can be seen from “President Kennedy chose to employ a naval “quarantine” in his initial action against the Soviet Union in the Cuban Missile Crisis” and “The only difference between a blockade and a quarantine was that a blockade was an act of war and a quarantine, at least in name, was not.” This meant that USA knew that a naval blockade was necessary to stop USSR from sending more missiles into Cuba, but was careful not to come across as aggressive in case they were perceived to be initiating a war.  <b>OR</b>  e.g. <b>I can learn from the source that USA’s response was that while they had imposed the naval blockade, they knew that it may not be effective to stop the threat from USSR and Cuba.</b>	<b>4 – 5</b>

	<p>This can be seen from “However, it is probable that without the implicit threat of air strike or invasion, the blockade alone, while it could have prevented Soviet ships from bringing additional missiles to Cuba, could not have forced the removal of the missiles already present.” This means that USA was aware that the blockade would not remove any existing missiles, which could still pose a threat to their national security.</p>	
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1b. Study Source B. Why did the cartoonist publish this cartoon? Explain your answer.  
[5]

- **Target Skill: Inference with Purpose**

Level	Descriptor	Marks
L1	<b>Describes/Copies/Misinterpretation</b>  e.g. The cartoonist published this cartoon to show that USSR wanted to bring in offensive weapons to Cuba.	1
L2	<b>Valid interpretation, but not the main message</b>  e.g. <b>The cartoonist wanted to show that USSR was aggressive towards USA.</b> This can be seen from the cartoon showing Khrushchev trying to enter Cuba with offensive weapons. This means that USA had imposed the blockade to defend themselves against USSR as they had felt threatened by the offensive weapons.	2
L3	<b>Identifies main message, supported</b>  e.g. <b>The cartoonist drew this cartoon to show that US blockade of Cuba was not going to be effective against USSR's aggression.</b> This can be seen from the cartoon showing Khrushchev trying to enter Cuba with offensive weapons, only to be blocked by the blockade around Cuba, which was merely a piece of document rolled up in a scroll. This means that USSR had been aggressive towards USA by bringing weapons into Cuba, threatening USA's security. Yet, USA only responded with a paper policy of the blockade, showing that USA had not adopted a response that was strong enough to counter the offensive missiles that Khrushchev was trying to bring into Cuba.	3 – 4
L4	<b>Identifies main message AND purpose</b>  e.g. The cartoonist drew the cartoon to <b>criticise the American government that that US blockade of Cuba was not going to be effective against USSR's aggression.</b> This can be seen from the cartoon showing Khrushchev trying to enter Cuba with offensive weapons, only to be blocked by the blockade around Cuba, which was merely a piece of document rolled up in a scroll. This means that USSR had been aggressive towards USA by bringing weapons into Cuba, threatening USA's security. Yet, USA only responded with a paper policy of the blockade, showing that USA had not adopted a response that was strong enough to counter the offensive missiles that Khrushchev was trying to bring into Cuba. The cartoonist hopes that <b>the US government would change their policy and adopt a response that would be more effective against Soviet aggression.</b>	5

1c. Are you surprised by Source C regarding Soviet's reason for installing missiles in Cuba? Explain your answer. [5]

- **Target Skill: Surprise**

Level	Descriptor	Marks
<b>L1</b>	<b>Answers Yes/No without element of surprise</b>  e.g. I am not surprised by Source C because it says that America would not leave Cuba alone unless USSR did something.	1
<b>L2</b>	<b>Answers No, based on provenance explained</b>  e.g. <b>I am not surprised by Source C because it was written by Khrushchev, the Premier of Soviet Union.</b> It was expected of the leader of the Soviet Union to find that their actions were merely to defend themselves and their ally against the Americans, especially during Cold War when tensions between USA and USSR were running high.	2
<b>L3</b>	<b>Answers Yes or No, based on source content, supported</b> <i>Award the higher mark in the level for more developed answers.</i>  e.g. <b>I am not surprised by Source C because it is expected that Khrushchev, the Premier of Soviet Union, to claim that USSR was merely being defensive and playing the role of a protector of Cuba when it came to the Cuban Missile Crisis.</b> This can be seen from "We wanted to keep the Americans from invading Cuba." This means that USA had been antagonising Cuba, causing tensions between the two nations and USSR had deemed it necessary that they protect their ally from any impending threats.	3-4
<b>L4</b>	<b>L3 + Answers Yes or No, based on cross reference to other source or contextual knowledge, supported</b> <i>Award the higher mark in the level for more developed answers.</i>  e.g. L3 + I am surprised by Source C because Source D challenges it. Source D says that USSR had in fact antagonised the situation by installing missiles that posed a threat to USA's security. This can be seen from "Each of the missiles is capable of striking Washington, D.C., the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, or any other city in the south-eastern part of the United States, in Central America, or in the Caribbean area..." This means that the missiles installed in Cuba could have easily struck any city within USA, and they were threatened by their presence. In the eyes of President Kennedy, USSR was being aggressive, not defensive. Since Source D disagreed with Source C, I am surprised by Source C.  <b>OR</b>	4-5

	<p>e.g. L3 + I am not surprised by Source C because my contextual knowledge supports it. USA had indeed been intervening with Cuba's matters since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, using the Monroe Doctrine as a reason for their intervention. Despite growing resentment among the Cubans, they have never been aggressive towards USA. Yet, after the Cuban Revolution in 1959, USA had increasingly been hostile towards Cuba through industrial sabotage, like reducing the Cuban Sugar Quota, and even went on to invade the Bay of Pigs and organised Operation Mongoose, all with the aim of removing Castro from power. These aggressive and hostile actions was understandably unsettling for Cuba and hence they became allies with USSR to protect their own national security, which USSR agreed and intended to follow through. Since my contextual knowledge supports Source C, I am not surprised by Source C.</p>	
<b>L5</b>	<p><b>L3 + Answers based on critical analysis of provenance and purpose</b></p> <p>I am not surprised by Source C because it was expected of Khrushchev to justify his actions during the Cuban Missile Crisis in his autobiography. By the end of the Crisis, Khrushchev's reputation had been damaged, especially among communist hardliners. As the leader of the Communist nations within the Communist bloc, Khrushchev had seen the need to help Cuba as one of their communist allies. The purpose of the extract in his autobiography was to justify his actions to the readers that he had no choice but to install the missiles in Cuba to defend USSR and its allies. This was with the purpose to redeem his reputation as a Soviet leader.</p>	<b>6</b>

1d. Study Sources D and E. Does Source E prove that Source D is right? Explain your answer. [6]

- **Target Skill: Comparison + Reliability**

Level	Descriptor	Marks
L1	<p><b>Answers based on provenance or based on unexplained assertions</b></p> <p>e.g. Source E does not prove what Source D says because Source E was made by a Russian ambassador.</p>	1
L2	<p><b>Reliable/ not reliable based on agreement/ disagreement of Sources D and E (content)</b></p> <p><i>Award the higher mark in the level for more fully developed answers.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Source E does not prove that Source D is right because Source E challenges Source D.</b> <u>Source E says that the use of the blockade during the crisis was not justified because USSR had no aggressive intentions towards USA.</u> This can be seen from "The Soviet delegation hereby officially confirms the statements already made by the Soviet Union regarding this statement, to the effect that the Soviet government has never sent and is not now sending offensive weapons of any kind to Cuba." This means that USSR never initiated any form of aggression to warrant a blockade around Cuba. <u>However, Source D claims that the use of the blockade in 1962 was justified because USSR had been antagonising them by installing missiles capable of striking US states.</u> This can be seen from "Each of the missiles is capable of striking Washington, D.C., the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, or any other city in the south-eastern part of the United States, in Central America, or in the Caribbean area..." This means that USA felt threatened by the presence of missiles and hence were merely taking action to protect themselves from further threats from USSR and Cuba, making their decision of the naval blockade a justified one. Since Source E challenges Source D, it does not prove that Source D is right.</p>	2 – 3
L3	<p><b>L2 + Proves / Does not prove based on cross-reference to contextual knowledge or other sources</b></p> <p>e.g. <b>L2 + However, Source E is not a reliable source in proving that Source D is right as it is challenged by Source B.</b> Source B shows that USSR had been aggressive towards USA as it in fact had been attempting to bring offensive weapons into Cuba. Source B also goes on further to prove that the offensive weapons were only stopped by the US blockade of Cuba. This means that USA was defending themselves against Soviet threats to their national security, further supporting Source D. Since Source B challenges</p>	4

	<p>Source E, Source E is not a reliable source, thus unable to prove that Source D is right.</p> <p>(cross reference to Source C to support Soviet non-aggression, and therefore shows Source E reliable proving that Source D is wrong).</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>e.g. <b>L2 + Source E is not a reliable source in proving that Source D is right as it is challenged by my contextual knowledge.</b> While the Russian ambassador claims that USSR had not sent any offensive weapons into Cuba and had no intentions of aggression towards USA, U-2 spy planes had indeed captured satellite photos of missile launch sites present in Cuba since 16 October 1962, proving USA's concerns about their security mentioned in Source D. Since my contextual knowledge challenges Source E, Source E is not reliable in proving that Source D is right.</p>	
L4	<p><b>Reliable/ not reliable based on developed evaluation of both Sources D and E.</b></p> <p><i>Award 5m based on evaluation of Source E only.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>L2+</b> Source E is also a not reliable source in proving that Source D is right as the source was made with an ulterior motive in mind. The Russian ambassador wanted to convince the members of United Nations that the use of blockade in Cuba during the crisis was not justified because they had not initiated any form of aggression towards USA. The Russian ambassador hoped that by doing so, United Nations would be able to stop USA and pressure them into ending the blockade around Cuba. Since Source E was made with an ulterior motive in mind, it was not reliable in proving what Source D says about the use of the blockade during the crisis in 1962.</p> <p>However, Source D itself is not reliable because it is a statement made by President Kennedy, declaring the naval blockade on Cuba to the American citizens. This is a political move that undoubtedly has the agenda of convincing the citizens of America that the blockade was needed in order to ensure the safety and security of US states and citizens, protecting them from the threat of the missiles installed in Cuba by a communist superpower. This is done so that he would be able to gain the support of his people in the wake of the devastating Bay of Pigs invasion that left the citizens of America unhappy with Kennedy's regime. Since Kennedy had an ulterior motive in making the speech, this makes Source D unreliable in itself. Hence Source E cannot prove that Source D is right.</p>	5 – 6

1e. Study **all** the sources. “The US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified.” How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

- **Target Skill: Assertion/ Evaluation**

Level	Descriptor	Marks
L1	<p><b>Writes about the hypothesis, no valid source use</b></p> <p>e.g. Sources A and D supports the assertion while Sources B, C and E do not.</p>	1
L2	<p><b>Yes OR No, supported by valid source use</b></p> <p><i>Award 2 marks for one Yes or No supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 4 marks.</i></p>	2 – 4
L3	<p><b>Yes AND No, supported by valid source use</b></p> <p><i>Award 5 marks for one Yes and No supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 7 marks.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Source A supports the view that the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified because USA was defending themselves from security threats initiated by the USSR close to US soil.</b> This can be seen from “it is probable that without the implicit threat of air strike or invasion, the blockade alone, while it could have prevented Soviet ships from bringing additional missiles to Cuba, could not have forced the removal of the missiles already present.” This meant that USSR had installed missiles in Cuba and USA felt threatened by it, thereby justifying the fact that they needed to impose a blockade to defend themselves from any further potential threats.</p> <p>e.g. <b>Source D supports the view that the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified because USA was simply defending its national security when they decided upon the blockade.</b> This can be seen from “Each of the missiles is capable of striking Washington, D.C., the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, or any other city in the south-eastern part of the United States, in Central America, or in the Caribbean area...” This means that USA was clearly threatened by missiles placed so close to them that they could strike any cities at the moment, thus imposing the blockade was a strategy that they had to adopt to defend themselves. Hence, Source D supports the view that US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified.</p> <p><u>AND</u></p>	5 – 7

	<p>e.g. <b>Source B does not support the view that the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified because the response employed by USA was ineffective against USSR's aggression.</b> This can be seen from the cartoon showing Khrushchev trying to enter Cuba with offensive weapons, yet was only met with a document rolled up, signifying the US blockade. This means that USSR had been aggressive towards USA by bringing weapons into Cuba, threatening USA's security. Yet, USA only responded with a paper policy of the blockade, showing that USA had not adopted a response that was strong enough to counter the offensive missiles that Khrushchev was trying to bring into Cuba, thus showing that the US blockade in Cuba in 1962 was not justified.</p> <p>e.g. <b>Source C does not support the view that the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified because USA had been aggressive towards Cuba even when USSR and Cuba clearly had "no desire to start a war".</b> This can also be seen from "Only a fool would think that we wanted to invade the American continent from Cuba." This means that USSR saw no benefit at all to attack USA, which gave USA no reason to impose a naval blockade on Cuba at all. Hence, Source C does not support the view that the US blockade of Cuba was justified.</p> <p>e.g. <b>Source E does not support the view that the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified because USSR had no aggressive intentions towards USA, thereby giving USA no reason for the blockade.</b> This can be seen from "The allegation that the Soviet Union has set up offensive weapons in Cuba were false" This means that USSR never initiated any form of aggression, unlike what USA had been accusing them of and hence, USA had no reason to impose a blockade around Cuba.</p>	
<b>L4</b>	<p><b>Consider the extent to which the sources support or do not support the statement by studying the source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc</b></p> <p><i>Award a bonus of up to 2 marks (+1/+1) for use of contextual knowledge to question a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc. The total mark for the question must not exceed 8 marks.</i></p> <p>e.g. However, Source C is a reliable source as it is mentioned that Khrushchev's justification of the installation of missiles in Cuba is defensive in nature. Based on my contextual knowledge, USSR's motivation in installing missiles in Cuba had been in response to Cuba's calls for help since the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961. Furthermore, USSR had felt threatened with the placement of the Jupiter missiles by USA in Turkey, which was within target range of USSR and their satellite states. Thus, Khrushchev adopted a defensive stance by placing missiles in Cuba, hoping that it would stop further US aggression upon USSR and its allies, including Cuba. Since my contextual knowledge supports Source C, Source</p>	<b>8</b>

	<p>C is a reliable source in evaluating whether the US blockade of Cuba in 1962 was justified.</p> <p><i>*Candidates should not be checking the reliability of Sources D and E since it was done in Q1d.</i></p>	
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### Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

2a) Explain why Japan attacked Pearl Harbour in December 1941.

Level	Descriptor	Marks
1	<p><b>Discusses the topic without answering the question</b>  <i>Award 1 mark for each detail, up to a maximum of 2.</i></p> <p>e.g. Japan attacked Pearl Harbour because they were confident of their military capability.</p>	1 – 2
2	<p><b>Describes the reasons</b>  <i>Award 3m for identification without description and 4m for a detailed description.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Japan attacked Pearl Harbour because they wanted to remove USA as a potential threat to their expansionist plans in Southeast Asia.</b> Japan had plans to expand into Southeast Asia to gain land and resources to help mitigate the problems they faced in their countries. To ensure swift victory, Japan waited for Hitler's attack in Europe to distract the colonial powers before embarking on their attacks in Southeast Asia. However, it was clear that USA would interfere with Japan's expansionist policies as they had changed their foreign policy, with President Roosevelt declaring that aggressor nations needed to be 'quarantined', using Japan's aggression to justify military aid to China. Following that, trade and oil embargo were placed on Japan in response to their aggression towards China.</p> <p>e.g. <b>Japan attacked Pearl Harbour because they hoped to avoid war with the USA without sacrificing Japan's prestige.</b> When Japan occupied Vietnam in 1940, President Roosevelt imposed a trade embargo on Japan, formally banning the export of steel, scrap iron and fuel to Japan. The Japanese navy and army chiefs had advised the emperor that their stockpiled oil reserves would run out within two years and that war with the USA could not be avoided. Yet, the Japanese politicians by this stage, could not afford to back down without facing anger and power of the military factions. Neither did the emperor want to embarrass himself or endanger their imperial interests in China.</p>	3 – 4
3	<p><b>Explains the reasons</b>  <i>Award 5-6 marks for one explained factor.</i>  <i>Award 7-8 marks for two explained factors.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Japan attacked Pearl Harbour because they wanted to remove USA as a potential threat to their expansionist plans in Southeast Asia.</b> Japan had plans to expand into Southeast Asia to gain land and resources to help mitigate the problems they faced in their countries. To ensure swift victory, Japan waited for Hitler's</p>	5 – 8

	<p>attack in Europe to distract the colonial powers before embarking on their attacks in Southeast Asia. However, it was clear that USA would interfere with Japan's expansionist policies as they had changed their foreign policy, with President Roosevelt declaring that aggressor nations needed to be 'quarantined', using Japan's aggression to justify military aid to China. Following that, trade and oil embargo were placed on Japan in response to their aggression towards China. <u>As a result, Japan theorized that USA would interfere with their plans to invade Southeast Asia and decided that their best course of action was to cripple the American Pacific Fleet and in turn, securing their victory in Southeast Asia.</u></p> <p><b>e.g. e.g. Japan attacked Pearl Harbour because they hoped to avoid war with the USA without sacrificing Japan's prestige.</b> When Japan occupied Vietnam in 1940, President Roosevelt imposed a trade embargo on Japan, formally banning the export of steel, scrap iron and fuel to Japan. The Japanese navy and army chiefs had advised the emperor that their stockpiled oil reserves would run out within two years and that war with the USA could not be avoided. Yet, the Japanese politicians by this stage, could not afford to back down without facing anger and power of the military factions. Neither did the emperor want to embarrass himself or endanger their imperial interests in China. <u>As a result, the emperor approved plans to attack Pearl Harbour, hoping that a quick 'knockout' blow against the USA and rapid expansion southwards would convince the Americans to negotiate a peace settlement, thereby avoiding war with USA without sacrificing the country's status and prestige.</u></p>	
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**2b)** 'Allied victory in the war in Asia-Pacific was mainly due to the weaknesses of Japan.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

Level	Descriptor	Marks
1	<p><b>Discusses the topic without answering the question</b>  <i>Award 1 mark for each detail, up to a maximum of 2.</i></p> <p>e.g. Japan surrendered in 1945 and ended WWII in Asia-Pacific.</p>	1 – 2
2	<p><b>Explains Yes OR No</b>  <i>Award 3 marks for an explanation and further marks for additional reasons or supporting detail for reasons, up to a maximum of 6 marks.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Yes, the Allied victory in the war in Asia Pacific was mainly due to the weaknesses of Japan because Japan could not defend their overextended empire effectively.</b> By 1942, Japan had overstretched itself, having occupied almost the whole of Southeast Asia, conquering countries like Malaya, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore, but with little resources left to maintain and defend them. Furthermore, key military defeats by the Allies against the Japanese forces also decimated the numbers of experienced Japanese pilots and aircraft carriers. For example, their battle in the Philippines, the Japanese navy lost four carriers, three battleships, ten cruisers and nine destroyers. <u>As such, the Japanese forces could not effectively defend the new territories while struggling to keep up with the war effort. This placed extra strain on the already thinning resources Japan had in the first place, making it clear that Japan could not sustain the war and outlast the attacks from the Allied powers, resulting in their inevitable defeat.</u></p> <p>OR</p> <p>e.g. <b>No, the Allied victory in the war in Asia Pacific was also due to Allied strengths because USA had military and naval superiority compared to the Japanese.</b> Despite the attack on Pearl Harbour, USA managed to fight back against the Japanese effectively. With the use of three aircraft carriers of the US Pacific Fleet that remained after the Pearl Harbour attack in December 1941, USA managed to launch the Doolittle Raid, attacking Tokyo, Nagoya and Kobe successfully. Furthermore, USA managed to turn the tide of the war in the Battle of Midway from 3 to 6 June 1942, where they managed to stop Japan's attack on the small Midway islands that would have provided them geographical advantage. In the attack, USA managed to hide their carriers in the open sea and launched surprise attacks on the Japanese, resulting in the latter losing four of their aircraft carriers and nearly three quarters of their experienced pilots. <u>As a result of USA's superior military strategies and strengths that resulted in</u></p>	3 – 6

	<p><u>heavy casualties for Japan, the latter thus never really managed to recover their military might to overpower USA, causing their defeat.</u> Therefore, the Allied victory in the war in Asia Pacific was also due to Allied strengths.</p> <p>OR</p> <p><b>No, the Allied victory in the war in Asia Pacific was because of Allied victory in Europe.</b> From the beginning of war, the Japanese had to rely on the continued success of Hitler's armies in Europe to distract the Allies. Both Roosevelt and Churchill, leaders of USA and Britain had recognised Japan's reliance and planned to defeat Hitler before moving on the Japan in Southeast Asia. Once Germany had been defeated, Japan had lost its major partner in the war. <u>As a result, the Japanese had to face the might of the Allied powers alone amidst their dwindling resources. Hence, they could not hope to overpower the Allied powers and win the war, leading to their ultimate defeat.</u></p>	
3	<p><b>Both aspects of L2</b>  <i>Award 7 marks for an explanation of Yes and an explanation of No and further additional reasons or supporting detail for reasons, to a maximum of 10 marks.</i></p>	7 – 10
4	<p><b>L3 plus weighted conclusion</b>  <i>Award the higher marks for a more developed answer.</i></p> <p>e.g. In conclusion, it was the Japan's weakness that resulted in their defeat in the war in Asia-Pacific. It is quite clear that both Japan and USA started war in Asia-Pacific with their military lacking their fullest potential. Despite the devastating attack of Pearl Harbour, USA brilliantly deployed whatever is left of their resources strategically to minimise casualties and further secure victory. On the other hand, Japan had never been able to defeat USA in terms of military strategy, even when they had the upper hand in the wake of the attack of Pearl Harbour. Moreover, they needed to spread their already limited resources across their empire, which was only growing by their sheer number of victories across Asia-Pacific. It was only a matter of time that Japan gets defeated since they only grew weaker as the war dragged one, and it eventually became impossible for them to overpower the Americans and outlast the war.</p>	11 – 12

3a) Explain why the Soviet Union and the USA were unable to agree during the wartime conferences.

Level	Descriptor	Marks
1	<p><b>Discusses the topic without answering the question</b>  <i>Award 1 mark for each detail, up to a maximum of 2.</i></p> <p>e.g. Soviet Union and USA were discussing post war terms in 1945, with Hitler defeated in Europe and the Allied powers setting their sights on Japan in Southeast Asia.</p>	1 – 2
2	<p><b>Describes the reasons</b>  <i>Award 3m for identification without description and 4m for a detailed description.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Soviet Union and USA were unable to agree during the wartime conferences because of their ideological differences.</b> Soviet Union and USA had fundamentally different political ideologies which resulted in each of them seeking different aims from the post-war conferences. For example, in Soviet Union's bid to safeguard communism within Eastern Europe, they disagreed on USA's aim of revitalising Europe's economy so countries could be a vital trading partner of USA. Similarly, the proposal for economic reconstruction of Europe's economy was based on USA's political ideology of democracy and a capitalist economy.</p> <p>e.g. <b>Soviet Union and USA were unable to agree during the wartime conferences because of their deep mistrust of one another, causing further tensions during the post war conferences.</b> For example, instead of facilitating free elections in Poland as agreed upon in Yalta, Stalin arrested non-communist Polish leaders and established a new communist government in Poland, alarming USA. On USA's part, while they had asked for Soviet's help in defeating Japan during the Yalta Conference, they had not informed Soviet Union of the development of the atomic bomb. However, information about the Manhattan Project had been leaked to the Soviets, causing further mistrust and tensions. In fact, Truman had hoped that the atomic bomb would give USA political leverage over the Soviet Union in the post-war negotiations.</p>	3 – 4
3	<p><b>Explains the reasons</b>  <i>Award 5-6 marks for one explained factor.</i>  <i>Award 7-8 marks for two explained factors.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Soviet Union and USA were unable to agree during the wartime conferences because of their ideological differences.</b> Soviet Union and USA had fundamentally different political ideologies which resulted in each of them seeking different aims from the post-war conferences. For example, in Soviet Union's bid</p>	5 – 8

	<p>to safeguard communism within Eastern Europe, they disagreed on USA's aim of revitalising Europe's economy so countries could be a vital trading partner of USA. Similarly, the proposal for economic reconstruction of Europe's economy was based on USA's political ideology of democracy and a capitalist economy. In addition, both countries could not agree upon the developments for post war Poland, as USA wanted Poland to hold free elections to choose its own government while Soviet Union wanted Poland to be under communist influence. <u>As a result, it is evident that with two different ideologies, Soviet Union and USA would inevitably arrive at different plans for post-war Europe, thus contributing to disagreements in the post-war conferences.</u></p> <p><b>e.g. Soviet Union and USA were unable to agree during the wartime conferences because of their deep mistrust of one another, causing further tensions during the post war conferences.</b> For example, instead of facilitating free elections in Poland as agreed upon in Yalta, Stalin arrested non-communist Polish leaders and established a new communist government in Poland, alarming USA. On USA's part, while they had asked for Soviet's help in defeating Japan during the Yalta Conference, they had not informed Soviet Union of the development of the atomic bomb. However, information about the Manhattan Project had been leaked to the Soviets, causing further mistrust and tensions. In fact, Truman had hoped that the atomic bomb would give USA political leverage over the Soviet Union in the post-war negotiations. <u>As a result of Soviet Union and USA's actions, antagonising one another throughout the post-war conferences, relationships only worsened and tensions rose, making it impossible for both countries to come to agreements in the post-war negotiations.</u></p>	
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**3b)** 'The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 was due to Gorbachev's policies.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

Level	Descriptor	Marks
1	<p><b>Discusses the topic without answering the question</b>  <i>Award 1 mark for each detail, up to a maximum of 2.</i></p> <p>e.g. Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, after Gorbachev became the leader from 1985.</p>	1 – 2
2	<p><b>Explains Yes OR No</b>  <i>Award 3 marks for an explanation and further marks for additional reasons or supporting detail for reasons, up to a maximum of 6 marks.</i></p> <p>e.g. <b>Yes, the collapse of Soviet Union in 1991 happened mainly due to Gorbachev's policies as he failed to resolve the problems that USSR was facing.</b> By 1985, USSR had been facing many problems, like corruption, declining economy, and political instability due to the unhappiness among the Soviets. Gorbachev introduced the policies of Glasnost and Perestroika to resolve these problems. Glasnost promoted openness, which encouraged the people of USSR to provide feedback for the government to improve and meet their needs. This resulted in criticisms from political dissidents boldly verbalising the problem plaguing Soviet Union, bringing to light the atrocities Stalin and other opposition leaders had committed during their reign as well as the economic problems that USSR faced. Additionally, Perestroika, which meant restructuring, promoted small private business and individual profits, moving away from the essence of command economy that Soviet Union had relied on and upsetting communist hardliners. <u>As a result, Glasnost and Perestroika each made matters worse for Soviet Union, worsening social and economic instability. It was thus unavoidable that the people would call for the end of the Communist Party in search for better days and standard of living.</u></p> <p>OR</p> <p>e.g. <b>No, the collapse of Soviet Union was not due to Gorbachev's policies, but mainly the weaknesses of Soviet economy.</b> USSR adopted a command economy, which was fundamentally weaker compared to the free market economy adopted by USA and its allies. The command economy essentially required all state industries to be government owned, with no freedom of information and creativity. Citizens were also not allowed to start businesses, resulting in a lack of competitiveness and growth among the businesses in the nation. Furthermore, the declining economy was due also to their increased spending on military. As the leader of the Warsaw Pact,</p>	3 – 6

	<p>the USSR had to spend millions on troops to support its allies. Defence spending also increased when the USSR invaded Afghanistan in 1979. The USSR also provided financial support to Eastern European countries through COMECON. <u>As a result, with little to no revenue and a huge economic debt, a declining economy made it impossible for USSR to prosper in the long run.</u></p> <p><b>No, the collapse of Soviet Union was not due to Gorbachev's policies, but due to external economic burdens of the Soviet Union.</b> The Soviet Union had been supporting poorer communist economies in Eastern Europe as they were bound to their satellite states through the Warsaw Pact. Besides relying on Soviet oil and resources, Eastern European countries also borrowed heavily from Western banks in the 1970s, resulting in high debt that Soviet Union had to be responsible for. In addition, the decade-long Soviet-Afghan War also caused a huge drain on Soviet Union in terms of money, resources and human casualties. <u>As a result, Soviet Union's commitments to their satellite states and the war slowly drained Soviet of their resources with no form of aid provided to them, leading to the eventual collapse of Soviet Union.</u></p>	
3	<p><b>Both aspects of L2</b>  <i>Award 7 marks for an explanation of Yes and an explanation of No and further additional reasons or supporting detail for reasons, to a maximum of 10 marks.</i></p>	7 – 10
4	<p><b>L3 plus weighted conclusion</b>  <i>Award the higher marks for a more developed answer.</i></p> <p>e.g. In conclusion, the collapse of Soviet Union was not due to Gorbachev's policies because the sheer magnitude of the problem that USSR faced had been too huge for Gorbachev to put an end to it alone. The weaknesses that Soviet Union faced were largely due to the fundamental structural weaknesses of the command economy brought upon by their communist beliefs, something that USSR had been adopting since the beginning of the days of communist Russia. It is, arguably, the root cause of most issues that USSR faced by 1985. Gorbachev's leadership merely highlighted the flaws, bringing them to light and worsened the mistrust among the people against the government, which had also been present even before Gorbachev's reign but merely silenced. Hence, it was not due to Gorbachev's leadership that led to the collapse of USSR, but a longstanding structural weakness that made it eventual fall unavoidable.</p>	11 – 12