



**SERANGOON SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS**

CANDIDATE
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INDEX
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HUMANITIES (HISTORY)

Paper 2: The Making of the 20th Century Modern World, 1910s–1991

2261/02

21 Aug 2024

1 hour 50 minutes

Additional materials: Writing papers.

Setter(s):

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, index number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staplers, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **ALL** parts of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

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

This question paper consists of **6** printed 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 about USA's foreign policy towards Soviet Union after World War II? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

Why did Stalin publish this interview in the Pravda? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Source C.

As this speech was made by USA's President in March 1947, does it make it useless? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources D and E.

Does General Clay (Source D) prove that the historian's claims (Source E) about the Berlin Crisis were false? Explain your answer. [6]

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

'The Soviet Union was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War.'
How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

Who was Responsible for the Outbreak of the Cold War in Europe?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

During the Second World War (WWII), USA and Soviet Union were allies against Nazi Germany. However, the alliance broke down soon after the war had ended. In 1947, USA implemented the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan while the Soviets retaliated with the creation of Cominform in 1947 and COMECON in 1949. Between 1948 and 1949, the two superpowers came close to a military confrontation with the Berlin Blockade and Berlin Airlift in Germany. These events ushered in the Cold War divide of Europe.

Who was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe?

Source A: *A cartoon published in the Evening Standard, a British newspaper in 1945. 'The 12 Points was a speech by US President Harry Truman urging all countries to work together for international security while USA kept the "Atomic Bomb Private" to itself.*

Britain
Prime
Minister,
Clement
Atlee

Joseph
Stalin

Atom
Bomb
Private

President
Harry
Truman



Source B: *An extract of Stalin's interview published in the Pravda, a Soviet newspaper in 1946.*

Germany invaded Soviet Union through Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary during WW II because governments hostile to the Soviet Union existed in these countries. So what is surprising about the fact that Soviet Union, anxious for its future safety, is trying to see that governments loyal in their attitude to the Soviet Union should exist in these countries? How can anyone describe these peaceful aspirations as expansionist tendencies?

Britain and USA have presented to the non-English speaking nations an ultimatum. 'Accept our rule voluntarily, otherwise war is inevitable.' But these nations have shed blood in WWII for the liberty of their nations, and not to exchange Hitler's domination for a new form of slavery under the British and Americans. There is no doubt that Britain and USA's position is a call for war on Soviet Union.

Source C: *An extract of President Truman's Speech before Congress*, March 1947.*

A number of countries have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

At this present moment in world history, nearly every nation must choose between alternative ways of life. One way of life is based upon the will of the majority, free elections and institutions. The second way is based upon the will of the minority and forcibly imposed upon the majority. It relies upon terror, oppression and fixed elections.

*Congress is a political meeting where US politicians discuss and implement important policies.

Source D: A message sent from General Clay in Berlin back to leaders back in Washington D.C on April 10, 1948. Clay was the US Army Officer who orchestrated the Berlin Airlift from June 26 1948, two days after the Berlin Blockade.

We have lost Czechoslovakia. If Berlin falls, Western Germany will be next. If we mean to hold Europe against communism, we must not budge. If America does not understand this now, then it never will and communism will run rampant.

The Soviet blockade of Berlin was one of the most ruthless efforts in modern times to use mass hunger for political coercion. The blockade was caused not by their desire to take over the city but weaken our position in Europe.

Source E: *Adapted from a historian's view, 1998.*

During the Soviet blockade which began on June 24, 1948, Stalin was trying to starve the inhabitants of West Berlin into submission with the city's freedom in the balance.

The real point of contention was that prior to the blockade, USA had directly violated agreements reached at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences in 1945 that all decisions on the future of Germany must be arrived with the agreement of all four powers. On June 2, 1948, USA, Britain and France introduced a new German currency without the Soviets' knowledge. Stalin protested bitterly. Soviet demands to return to the negotiation table to discuss the future of Germany was played down and ignored.

Source F: *An excerpt of a speech by Marshal Sokolovsky, Soviet Military Governor of Berlin, 18 June 1948.*

Western currency reform is against the wishes and interests of the German people and in the interests of American, British and French capitalists. It completes the splitting of Germany and is a breach of the agreement made at Potsdam. The Western powers claim it is impossible to agree on a four-power currency reform for the whole of Germany. But this is just an excuse, the Soviet representatives took every opportunity of reaching an agreement on currency reform. The Western capitalists are supported in their policy of splitting Germany by the big German capitalists. The introduction of two currencies in Germany will mean trade relations between different zones will be destroyed. Free passenger and goods traffic between the occupation zones will be destroyed.

Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

- 2 'The League of Nations failed in collective security in the 1920s mainly because of its membership problems. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]
- 3 'The May 15 Incident of 1932 was responsible for the rise of military influence in Japan's government in the 1930s'. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]
- 4 'Reagan was responsible for ending the Cold War rivalry by 1989.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]

Acknowledgement:

Source A: <https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/stalin/works/1946/03/x01.htm>

Source B: <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/truman-doctrine#:~:text=I%20believe%20that%20we%20must,status%20quo%20is%20not%20sacred>.

Source C: <https://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/1954/april/berlin-situation>

Source D: Roberts, G. 1999. The Soviet Union in World Politics. London, UK. Routledge
 Source E: <http://www.vvaw.org/veteran/article/?id=138&print=yes>
 Source F: <http://home.versatel.nl/terencehoning/Verslag%20Kernonderdeel%2042.htm>

2024 Prelim Examination 4E5N EHY
Suggested LORMS

Q1a. Study Source A. What can you learn about USA's foreign policy towards Soviet Union after World War II? Explain your answer. [5]

Skill tested: Inference

L1	Describes source / invalid inference <i>Award 2 marks for invalid inference</i> E.g. I can learn that USA President Truman was holding a piece of paper to Joseph Stalin.	1-2
L2	Valid inference, unsupported E.g. I can learn that USA's foreign policy towards Soviet Union after World War II was bad/risky/aggressive/dangerous. This is evident in US President Truman holding a piece of paper with the words 'why can't we work together with mutual trust and confidence'? Other accepted inferences: foreign policy is negative/violent/secretive/cunning	3
L3	Valid inference, supported. <i>Award 5 marks for well-explained answer.</i> E.g. I can learn that USA's foreign policy towards Soviet Union after World War II was bad/risky/aggressive/dangerous. This is evident in US President Truman holding a piece of paper with the words 12 Points and captions 'why can't we work together with mutual trust and confidence'. At the same time, Truman is keeping the 'Atomic Bomb' private. This means USA's foreign policy towards Soviet Union after World War II was bad/risky/aggressive/dangerous. By offering the 12 points program, USA seemed genuine in wanting to co-operate with Soviet Union in creating a peaceful world but at the same time, USA's stance of keeping the atomic bomb to itself was aggressive and raised tensions.	4-5

- b) Study Source B. Why did Stalin publish this interview in the Pravda? Explain your answer. [5]
Skill tested: Purpose

L1	Answers purpose based on describing/ invalid message E.g. Stalin published this interview because he wanted to say "Germany invaded through Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary"	1
L2	Answers purpose based on valid inference or valid outcome <i>Award 3 marks for supported responses</i> E.g. Stalin published this interview because he wanted to convince Soviet citizens that Britain and USA were responsible for postwar tensions in Europe. This is evident in, "There is no doubt that Britain and USA's position is a call for war on Soviet Union." This means Britain and USA were responsible for postwar tensions in Europe because Britain and USA's policies towards USSR were insensitive towards its security concerns and extremely provocative. OR E.g. Stalin published this interview because he hoped that Soviet citizens are discouraged from democratic ideologies and instead rally to support his communist leadership in the post-World War II era. *Answers with wrong audience will be capped at L2/3m	2-3
L3	Answers purpose based on valid message and valid outcome <i>Award 5 marks for more developed responses.</i> Stalin published this interview because he wanted to convince Soviet citizens that Britain and USA were responsible for postwar tensions in Europe. This is evident in, "There is no doubt that Britain and USA's position is a call for war on Soviet Union." This means Britain and USA were responsible for postwar tensions in Europe because Britain and USA's policies towards USSR were insensitive towards its security concerns and extremely provocative. Stalin published this interview because he hoped that Soviet citizens are discouraged from democratic ideologies and instead rally to support his communist leadership in the post-World War II era.	4-5

	*Answer that does not have the action word of persuade/convince will be placed in L2.	
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- c) Study Source C. As this speech was made by USA's President in March 1947, does it make it useless? Explain your answer.

[6]

Skill tested: Usefulness

L1	Answers useful/useless based on invalid inference. E.g. Source C is useful because as American President, he has first hand-knowledge of developments in the world after World War II.	1
L2	Answers useless based on simple provenance E.g. Source C is not-useful because as American President, he will be biased in favour of democracy and critical of communist ideology/ Source C is useful because it is his job as a President to inform American citizens on their news in Europe	2
L3	Answers useful based on valid inference, supported. <i>Award 3 marks for well-explained answers</i> E.g. As this speech was made by USA's President in March 1947, Source C is still useful because he says that Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe was responsible for the outbreak of Cold War in Europe. This is evident in, "A number of countries have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia." This means that Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because Soviet intervention in these countries carved out a pro-Soviet sphere of influence in Europe, thereby effectively creating a bipolar Europe divided along ideological lines.	3
L4	Answers useful/not useful based on cross-referencing <i>Award 3 marks for one-sided X-reference</i> <i>Award 4 marks for two-sided X-referencing.</i> E.g. Source C is not useless because it is supported by Source D in saying that Soviet Union aggression in Eastern Europe that has caused the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe. This is evident in, "A number of countries have recently	4-5

	<p>had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.” This means that Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because Soviet intervention in these countries carved out a pro-Soviet sphere of influence in Europe, thereby effectively creating a bipolar Europe divided along ideological lines. Source C is supported by Source D. Source D also says that Soviet Union aggression in Eastern Europe that has caused the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe. This is evident in “We have lost Czechoslovakia. If Berlin falls, Western Germany will be next.” This means Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because USA felt sufficiently threatened by the spread of Soviet communism into Czechoslovakia and Germany such that they hardened their policies of Containment in a tit-for-tat retaliation.</p> <p>AND/OR</p> <p>E.g. Source C is useless because it is not reliable as it is challenged by Source B in saying that Soviet Union aggression in Eastern Europe caused the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe. This is evident in, “A number of countries have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.” This means that Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because Soviet intervention in these countries carved out a pro-Soviet sphere of influence in Europe, thereby effectively creating a bipolar Europe divided along ideological lines.. Source C is challenged by Source B. Source B says that American aggression in Europe has caused the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe. This is evident in Source B, “the Britain and USA have presented to the non-English speaking nations an ultimatum. ‘Accept our rule voluntarily, otherwise war is inevitable.” This means American aggression in Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because its dominance over non-English speaking nations by imposing their democratic ideologies upon them was insensitive to USSR’s defensive concerns. This pushed USSR into a corner, leaving it no choice but to retaliate against the Americans, effectively escalating tensions. As Source C is challenged by Source B, Source C is not reliable and thus, useless.</p>	
L5	<p>Answers useful/not useful based on provenance analysis</p> <p><i>Award 6 marks for more developed answers.</i></p> <p>As the speech is made by US President Truman in March 1947, it is useless because it has a biased purpose. President Truman was an ideologically committed democrat which meant views were greatly prejudiced by his political beliefs and fervent hatred for communism. Thus, Truman delivered this speech</p>	5-6

	<p>in March 1947 to convince (Purpose) Congress (Audience) that Soviet Union aggression in Eastern Europe caused the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe (Message). This is evident in, "A number of countries have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia." This means Soviet aggression in Eastern Europe was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because Soviet intervention in these countries carved out a pro-Soviet sphere of influence in Europe, thereby effectively creating a bipolar Europe divided along ideological lines. By exaggerating the extent of threat of the Soviets in Eastern Europe and myopically ignoring America's own culpability, Truman hoped Congress will furnish more military and financial support to him (Outcome). With more resources in hand, Truman could implement Containment and fight off the Communists in Europe and thus boosting his own reputation as the saviour of the post-war Europe (Provenance Analysis). As Truman has a hidden selfish agenda, Source C is useless.</p>	
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- d) Study Sources D and E. Does General Clay (Source D) prove that the historian's claims (Source E) about the Berlin Crisis were false? Explain your answer. Explain your answer. [6]

Skills tested: Comparison + Reliability

L1	<p>Answers based on simple provenance OR invalid comparison <i>Award 2 marks for more developed responses.</i></p> <p>E.g. Source D proves that Source E's claims were false because Source D was created during the Berlin Blockade but Source E was created long after the Berlin Blockade. (1m)</p> <p>E.g. Source D does not prove that Source E's claims were false. This is because General Clay was an important US Army Officer who has pro-American biases and be critical of Soviet Union. (2m).</p>	1-2
L2	<p>Answers based on Comparison <i>Award 3 marks for similarity or difference.</i> <i>Award 4 marks for similarity and difference.</i></p> <p>E.g. Source D proves Source E's claims were false because they are different in saying what caused the Berlin Crisis. Source D says Soviet Union's desire to gain a political advantage against America had caused the Berlin Crisis but Source E says it was USA's violation of international agreements that caused the Berlin Crisis. This is evident in Source D, "The blockade was caused not by their desire to take over the city but weaken our position in Europe." This means Soviet Union's desire to gain a political advantage against America that caused the Berlin Blockade because Stalin's spread of communism into Berlin, Germany and Europe, triggered the Berlin Crisis. This is evident in Source E, "The real point of contention was that prior to the blockade, USA had directly violated agreements reached at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences in 1945 that all decisions on the future of Germany must be arrived with the agreement of all four powers." This means was USA's violation of international agreements that caused the Berlin Blockade because America's illegal policies in Germany angered him to the point of cutting off Berlin in retaliation against the West. As Source D differs from Source E, Source D proves Source E's claims were false.</p> <p>AND/OR</p>	3-4

	<p>E.g. Source D does not prove Source E's claims about the Berlin Crisis were false because are similar in saying that Soviet Union was cruel towards the Berliners during the Berlin Crisis. This is evident in D, "The Soviet blockade of Berlin was one of the most ruthless efforts in modern times to use mass hunger for political coercion." This means Soviet Union was cruel to starve the Berliners simply for political gain in their Cold War rivalry against America. This is evident in E, "During the Soviet blockade which began on June 24, 1948, Stalin was trying to starve the inhabitants of West Berlin into submission with the city's freedom in the balance." This means Soviet Union was cruel to use Berliners as a pawn in his fight against Western powers.</p>	
L3	<p>Answers based on reliability by cross-referencing <i>Award 5 marks for more developed answers.</i></p> <p>E.g. Source D does not prove that Source E's claims were false because Source D is challenged by Source F. Source D says says Soviet Union's desire to gain a political advantage against America that caused the Berlin Crisis. This is evident in Source D, "The blockade was caused not by their desire to take over the city but weaken our position in Europe." This means Soviet Union's desire to gain a political advantage against America that caused the Berlin Blockade because Stalin's spread of communism into Berlin, Germany forced America to retaliate triggering the Berlin Crisis. Source D is challenged by Source F. Source F instead says it was America's illegal policies in Germany that instigated the Berlin Crisis. This is evident in Source F, "Western currency reform is against the wishes and interests of the German people and in the interests of American, British and French capitalists. It completes the splitting of Germany and is a breach of the agreement made at Potsdam". This means it was America that instigated the Berlin Crisis because its unilateral currency reforms that transgressed against the Potsdam Conferences, provoked Soviet Union into taking action in the form of the Berlin Blockade. As Source D is challenged by contextual knowledge, Source D is not reliable and does not prove Source E's claims to be false.</p>	4-5
L5	<p>Answers based on reliability by provenance analysis <i>Award 6 marks for more developed answers.</i></p> <p>E.g. Source D does not prove that Source E's claims about the Berlin Crisis were false because Source D has a biased purpose. General Clay said this to convince (Purpose) leaders back Washington D.C (Audience) that Soviet Union's aggressive desire to gain a political advantage against America that caused the Berlin Blockade (Message). This is evident in Source D, "The blockade was caused not by their desire to take over the city but weaken our position in Europe." This means Soviet Union's desire to gain a political advantage against America that caused the Berlin Blockade because Stalin's spread of communism into Berlin, Germany and Europe, triggered the Berlin</p>	5-6

	<p>Crisis. By doing so, General Clay hopes the leaders in Washington D.C furnish him with necessary financial, military and humanitarian resources in order to firmly retaliate against Soviet Union in Germany and Europe. (Outcome) As the top American official in Germany, Clay was exaggerating the Soviet communist threat while remaining glaringly silent on his own country's illegal policies in Germany. Thus, General Clay possesses ideological biases of painting Soviets in a negative light while portraying America in a positive light (Provenance Analysis). Therefore, Source D is not reliable and does not prove Source E's claims as false.</p>	
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- e) 'The Soviet Union was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

Skill Tested: Testing an Assertion

Question Analysis: three elements for valid explanation

- 'Soviet Union'= historical protagonist
- 'responsible'= actions/policies taken
- 'outbreak of the Cold War'= impact of actions on other superpower/status of Europe

L1	Writes about the hypothesis, no valid source use.	1
L2	<p>Yes OR No, supported by valid source use</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> <p><u>YES</u></p> <p>E.g. Source C supports the view. This is evident in, "A number of countries have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia." This means that Soviet Union was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because the expansion of their influence into the Eastern European countries, created a Soviet communist sphere of influence that was threatening to America and its democratic allies in Europe. This forced Truman to retaliate with Containment that left a divided bipolar Europe. Thus, Source A supports the view.</p> <p>Source D supports the view. This is evident in, "The Soviet blockade of Berlin was one of the most ruthless efforts in modern times to use mass hunger for political coercion. The blockade was caused not by their desire to take over the</p>	2-4

	<p>city but weaken our position in Europe.” This means Soviet Union was responsible for the Cold War in Europe because the Soviet’s Berlin Blockade not threatened the livelihood of West Berliners, but also threatened American influence in Europe. Soviet Union’s aggression in Berlin thus forced America to retaliate with the Berlin Airlift, thus representing a military flashpoint and confrontation between the Cold War rivals. Thus, Source D supports the view.</p> <p><u>NO</u></p> <p>E.g. Source A challenges the view. This is evident in the cartoon US President Truman holding a piece of paper with the words 12 Points and captions ‘why can’t we work together with mutual trust and confidence’. At the same time, Truman is keeping the ‘Atomic Bomb’ private. This means America was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe because USA’s stance of keeping the atomic bomb to itself was aggressive/bad/dangerous and risky to Stalin and Soviet Union. This might provoke Stalin into retaliating by developing his own country’s atomic programme culminating in a Cold War atomic bomb arms race.</p> <p>E.g. Source E challenges the view. This is evident in, “The real point of contention was that prior to the blockade, USA had directly violated agreements reached at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences in 1945 that all decisions on the future of Germany must be arrived with the agreement of all four powers.” This means America was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War in Europe because America cannot be trusted to keep to its promises in international arrangements. America simply pushed ahead with its own post-war agenda and disregarded Soviet Union’s views in Germany. This was provocative and disrespectful to Stalin who had no choice but to retaliate against America, sparking the Cold War rivalry for supremacy in Europe. Thus, Source E challenges the view.</p> <p>E.g. Source F challenges the view. This is evident in “Western currency reform is against the wishes and interests of the German people and in the interests of American, British and French capitalists. It completes the splitting of Germany and is a breach of the agreement made at Potsdam.” This means that USA responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because they undertook illegal policies in Germany such as currency reforms without consulting the Soviet Union. America’s insensitive manoeuvres in Germany were interpreted as a betrayal by Stalin who retaliated by hardening its policies against the West in the form of the Berlin Blockade. These flashpoints in Berlin subsequently escalated tensions to the point of severing the Grand Alliance and triggering the Cold War divide in Germany.</p>	
L3	<p>Yes AND No, supported by valid source use.</p> <p><i>Award 5 marks for one Yes and No supported by valid source use, and an</i></p>	5-8

	<p><i>additional mark for each subsequent valid source up to a maximum of 7 marks</i></p> <p><i>For L2 and L3, award a bonus up to two marks (i.e. +1/+1 for the use of contextual knowledge to question the source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc. The total mark must not exceed 8.</i></p> <p>E.g. Both aspects of L2.</p> <p>E.g. Although Source C supports the view, it is an unreliable source and cannot be trusted due to its biased purpose. Truman said this to convince (Purpose) Congress (Audience) that Soviet Union was responsible for the Cold War in Europe due to its acts of evil aggression against Eastern European countries (Message). This is evident in, "A number of countries have recently had totalitarian regimes forced upon them against their will. The Government of the United States has made frequent protests against coercion and intimidation in violation of the Yalta Agreement in Poland, Romania Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia." This means Soviet Union was responsible for the outbreak of the Cold War because its aggressive policies were an illegitimate policy that went against earlier international agreements and threatened peace. By using dramatic, exaggerated rhetorical statements demonizing the Soviet communists, Truman hopes Congress will furnish more military and financial support to him (Outcome). With more resources in hand, Truman could implement Containment and fight off the Communists in Europe and thus boosting his own reputation as the saviour of the post-war Europe.</p>	
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Section B: Essay Questions

- 2 'The League of Nations failed in collective security in the 1920s mainly because of its membership problems. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

L1	<p>Identifies/Describes given or other reasons</p> <p><i>Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more.</i></p> <p><i>Award 2 marks for describing one reason and 3 marks for describing 2 or more.</i></p>	1-3
L2	<p>Explains given reason OR other reasons</p> <p>Award 4 marks for an explanation of given reason OR other reason, and an additional mark for additional reasons/ supporting detail, to a maximum of 5 marks</p> <p>E.g. I agree with the statement. the League of Nations failed in collective security because of membership problems. USA was not a member of the LON. The US Senate rejected to join the League and supported the policy of isolationism. It did not want the USA to become involved in world affairs that might require its young men to fight another war. Membership problems caused</p>	4-5

	<p>the LON to fail in collective security because the USA, was also the strongest country at that time. Since it did not join, this caused the League to not have a major powerful country to back it up its decisions. Stripped of America's leadership, other countries did not take the League seriously and could openly challenge its decisions such as during Italy's dispute with Greece over Corfu (1923) when it blatantly ignored the LON. Thus, the League was seen as weak.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>E.g. I disagree with the statement. It was the lack of an army that caused the LON to fail in collective security in the 1920s. The League could ask members to contribute troops to an international fighting force to go to war to keep the peace. However, they were very unwilling to do so. Besides, other countries were not willing to contribute troops to the League. It expected nations to accept the League's decisions in disputes but that was not the case. Therefore, the lack of an army caused the LON to fail in collective security because the weaker countries lost confidence in the League as they knew the League would not be able to protect them in times of crisis. Moreover, the lack of an LON army emboldened aggressive nations such as France and Belgium who invaded the German city of Ruhr in 1923. Without an army, the LON were powerless and could not take any action.</p> <p>Other accepted reasons: failure of disarmament, marginalisation in peacekeeping by non-LON members</p>	
L3	<p>Explains given reason AND other reasons</p> <p>Award 6 marks for an explanation of given AND other reason, and additional mark(s) for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8 marks (which include given reason).</p> <p>Response can get up to 8 marks through two routes.</p> <p>(a) 2 explained reasons that are well developed with depth of treatment</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) 3 explained reasons with breadth of coverage but less depth of treatment.</p>	6-8
L4	<p>L3 + Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</p> <p>The total marks to be awarded for the response will be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6+2; L3/7+2; L3/8+2).</p> <p>E.g. Overall, I neither agree with the statement. Membership problems badly crippled the LON's credibility and effectiveness to enforce its decisions. Had more powerful countries like USA, USSR and Mexico join the LON, they would have been able to utilize their power of numbers to enforce the LON's</p>	9-10

	decisions. The lack of an army would have been an insignificant factor because the mere presence of more members and their collective voice, moral presence would have overcome the lack of an armed force.	
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3. 'The May 15 Incident of 1932 was responsible for the rise of military influence in Japan's government in the 1930s'. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

L1	Identifies/Describes given or other reasons Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more. Award 2 marks for describing one reason and 3 marks for describing 2 or more.	1-3
L2	Explains given reason OR other reasons Award 4 marks for an explanation of given reason OR other reason, and an additional mark for additional reasons/ supporting detail, to a maximum of 5 marks. E.g. I agree with the statement that the May 15 Incident of 1932 was responsible for the rise of military influence in the government in the 1930s. On May 15, 1932, a group of naval officers from the League of Blood assassinated Prime Minister Inukai Tsuyoshi, who had criticized the Japanese military in Manchuria. They also attacked the Mitsubishi Bank, the Seiyukai headquarters and several power stations, and tried assassinating other government officials as well. Therefore, the violent May 15 Incident of 1932 was responsible for the rise of military influence in Japan's government because civilian politicians in the government felt fearful of challenging the militarists, culminating in their loss of political power. Thus, the Seiyukai Party was prevented from forming a new Cabinet even though it had the majority share of representatives in the Diet. Moreover, the LOB militarists aroused popular support from Japanese people who sympathized with their cause during their court trial. This momentum triggered the militarists' political rise on May 26, 1932 where the Emperor appointed a navy admiral as Japan's new Prime Minister. His Cabinet was disproportionately composed with predominantly military officers with only a few civilian party representatives. OR	4-5

	<p>E.g. I disagree with the statement. It was the London Naval Conference of 1930 that was responsible for the rise of military influence in the Japan government in the 1930s. In 1922, Japan's civilian government signed agreements with Britain, France and United States at the Washington Naval Conference where Japan could have fewer warships compared to the Western countries. In 1930, the London Naval Conference was held to review the treaty. Japan's demands to build more warships were rejected by Western powers. Again, Japan's civilian leaders were forced to back down and sign the treaty as they felt Japan was not ready to confront the Western powers. Therefore, the London Naval Conference of 1930 was responsible for the rise of military influence in Japan's government because it undermined Japan people's trust in the civilian leaders who were perceived as betrayers for signing this treaty. In contrast, the naval commanders- who presented themselves as harsh opponents of the London Naval Conference- increasingly gained popularity and influence among Japanese people. This fuelled the ascent of the military in Japan's government as they increasingly started to act on its own and disregarding the Prime Minister.</p> <p>Other accepted reasons: Political challenges in Japan's government, Economic challenges in Japan, Tensions in Japanese Society, Manchurian Crises, 1928-1932.</p>	
L3	<p>Explains given reason AND other reasons</p> <p>Award 6 marks for an explanation of given AND other reason, and additional mark(s) for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8 marks (which include given reason).</p> <p>Response can get up to 8 marks through two routes.</p> <p>(a) 2 explained reasons that are well developed with depth of treatment</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) 3 explained reasons with breadth of coverage but less depth of treatment</p>	6-8
L4	<p>L3 + Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</p> <p>The total marks to be awarded for the response will be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6+2; L3/7+2; L3/8+2).</p> <p>Overall, I disagree with the statement. The London Naval Conference was largely responsible for the rise of military influence in Japan's government in the 1930s because the conference served as the foundational, overarching factor that chipped away at the civilian leaders' influence. The London Conference of 1930 also created fertile conditions for the May 15, 1932 Incident because elements of the military were so dissatisfied by the civilian leaders' betrayal in 1930 that they launched the attempted coup in May 1932. Thus, the London Naval Conference of 1930 was vital in setting the stage for the May 15,</p>	9-10

	1932 Incidence, ultimately triggering their rise.	
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4. 'Reagan was responsible for ending the Cold War rivalry by 1989.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]

L1	Identifies/Describes given or other reasons Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more. Award 2 marks for describing one reason and 3 marks for describing 2 or more.	1-3
L2	Explains given reason OR other reasons Award 4 marks for an explanation of given reason OR other reason, and an additional mark for additional reasons/ supporting detail, to a maximum of 5 marks. E.g. I agree with the statement. Reagan was responsible for ending the Cold War. Reagan took office in 1981 and immediately took a confrontational approach towards Soviet Union. He believed communist USSR was wrong and USA was right. In one speech, he referred to USSR as an "evil empire". Reagan took a tough approach against USSR wherever possible. He supported anti-communist forces in Afghanistan and Nicaragua. Reagan also increased US defence spending massively. In 1981, he increased US defence budget by \$32.6 billion. In 1982, he introduced the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) popularly known as the Star Wars programme. Therefore, Reagan was responsible for ending the Cold War because Reagan's hardline policies exerted pressure on the USSR's ability to keep up with USA in the Cold War. If USSR renewed their arms spending, they would be bankrupted and could no longer wage a Cold War against USA in Europe and Third World countries. Moreover, Reagan's ideological and military pressure forced Gorbachev to withdraw from the Cold War arms race by signing nuclear disarmament agreements and end Cold War proxy wars by pulling out Soviet troops in Afghanistan in 1989.	4-5

	<p>OR</p> <p>E.g. I disagree with the statement. It was not Regan, but Gorbachev was who responsible for ending the Cold War. Gorbachev was eager to bring New Thinking to USSR's foreign policy. After 50 years of USSR's massive defence spending in preparation for war against USA, Gorbachev announced cuts to its arms spending. In 1987, USSR and USA signed a treaty removing most of their missiles in Europe. In the Third World, Gorbachev withdrew Soviet troops from Afghanistan in 1989. In Eastern Europe, Gorbachev allowed Warsaw Pact countries to "go their own way" in a policy he jokingly referred to as the Sinatra Doctrine. Therefore, Gorbachev was responsible for ending the Cold War because New Thinking marked a turning point in Superpower relations by ushering in a new phase of superpower co-operation. Also, denuclearization irreversibly ended the Cold War arms race with a new shared commitment to nuclear abolition. The Sinatra Doctrine triggered the sudden collapse of communist regimes across Eastern European countries in 1989, effectively ending decades of the ideological rivalry over Europe.</p> <p>Other accepted reasons: détente, collapse of Berlin Wall, people's power movements in Eastern Europe in 1989</p>	
L3	<p>Explains given reason AND other reasons</p> <p>Award 6 marks for an explanation of given AND other reason, and additional mark(s) for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8 marks (which include given reason).</p> <p>Response can get up to 8 marks through two routes.</p> <p>(a) 2 explained reasons that are well developed with depth of treatment</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b) 3 explained reasons with breadth of coverage but less depth of treatment</p>	6-8
L4	<p>L3 + Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</p> <p>The total marks to be awarded for the response will be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6+2; L3/7+2; L3/8+2).</p> <p>Overall, I disagree with the statement. Gorbachev played a more important role than Regan in ending the Cold War rivalry by 1989. Though Regan implemented military and economic pressure against USSR, the Cold War would still have continued had USSR been led by hardliner leaders- rather than Gorbachev- in the late 1980s. In fact, Reagan's hardliner Containment policies in the early 1980s raised rather than lowered Cold War tensions. It was Gorbachev who took the initiative with his New Thinking Policies that decisively and irreversibly ushered in a turning point in Superpower relations towards collaboration, rather than competition.</p>	9-10