

Examiners' Report
June 2012

GCE History 6HI01 E

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Introduction

General comments

Examiners reported that many candidates were comfortable with the essential requirements of the examination. They were able to structure their work effectively, provide a range of relevant and accurate material to support the points they were making, and maintain a sustained focus on the question set. At the highest levels of attainment were those who displayed the ability to analyse a range of factors in detail and present a convincing answer overall.

However, there were some candidates who did not do themselves justice overall. A number failed to respond to the specific demands of the questions in front of them. These candidates often focused their answers on material with which they felt comfortable rather than targeting the specifics of the question set. Centres are advised to ensure that candidates are ready to use, and to adapt, the material they have learnt. Most centres use previous questions for revision and preparation for the examination, but they might warn students that their paper will consist entirely of previously unseen questions, and that they should be prepared for this uncertainty.

Many candidates became trapped within Level 3 or low Level 4 because of a lack of accurate and relevant exemplification. Most are able to develop some argument in an answer, but assertions must be supported with sufficient evidence to make these points stand up. In addition, they should explain how these points relate to the question, whether in supporting or challenging the premise of the question.

Many very good answers reached high Level 4, but were unable to access Level 5. It is important to note that otherwise strong answers sometimes stayed in Level 4 for one of two reasons. Firstly, the support material offered, while accurate and broadly relevant, was lacking balance in places, with uneven evidence in parts of the answer. A more widespread concern was that some able candidates were unfamiliar with, or unable to use, analytical concepts and terminology used by historians. While most are able to investigate economic and political factors, many were unsure of the precise meaning of, for example, 'social conditions' in Options A and B, and even 'foreign policy' in Options E and F.

The comments on spelling, punctuation and grammar made in previous reports remain relevant and valid. The literacy curriculum notes that, in a formal setting such as a public examination, appropriate language must be used, and should be free of abbreviations and colloquialisms. It also states that, if a candidate is to communicate effectively, what is written down must be legible. On several occasions this summer examiners could not decipher what might have been key words or phrases, and this inevitably influenced the final mark awarded.

Option E

As in previous examination series both centres and candidates are to be congratulated on the general standard of responses in Option E. Candidates arrive well prepared and produce interesting answers with a clear enthusiasm for the Topics they have studied. Students are generally knowledgeable and have a good sense of chronological development. Examiners commented on some outstanding answers with particular reference to the two unification Topics. It is also a pleasure to see, yet again, an increase in the number of candidates being entered for the Topic on Spain.

However, examiners did also comment on a tendency for some candidates to learn a 'stock' multi-factor response to certain topics which is then apparently rearranged to 'best fit' the question asked. At the very most this is likely to gain a Level 4 mark and if not well focused on the question can result in much lower marks. As suggested in previous reports it is vital that candidates answer the specific question asked. This lack of focus combined with

insecure supporting material means that many good candidates are producing high Level 4 rather than Level 5 answers. Explaining in a list-like fashion a variety of factors or counter-arguments and then trying to weigh up the answer in a conclusion does not create the direct discussion and evaluation required for a response to be placed in Level 5. Many candidates begin paragraphs on each separate factor by stating ‘... is also the most important reason because...’ or think that they have evaluated a factor by asserting that it is more important than another. In order to reach a judgement extent needs to be established rather than stated.

There is also some concern that a lack of conceptual understanding is preventing candidates from being able to be awarded marks at Level 5. The lack of focus and list-like answers mentioned above often seem to be a result of candidates not being able to deal with generally accepted historical terminology such as ‘popular support’, to discuss causation in terms of long-term and short-term reasons or to identify the fundamental consequences of events.

Although candidates study two of the six topics on the Option paper, this report refers to all of the 12 questions and this Option is one of five Options so it is advised that centres look at Principal Examiners’ Reports, question papers and mark schemes for the whole Unit when considering preparation for future teaching and learning.

Please note that further exemplification scripts can be found in the Option F Principal Examiners’ Report.

E1 – The Road to Unification: Italy, c1815–70

Over 1900 candidates were entered for this Topic. As usual both centres and candidates should be congratulated on the excellent preparation and the high degree of enthusiasm shown. Most candidates are aware of the factors influencing the early development of nationalism and liberalism in Italy and have a good understanding of the role of individuals in the later period. However, there is still some chronological confusion apparent particularly in reference to the 1848-9 revolutionary period, the events of 1859-61 and the acquisition of territory subsequently.

Question 1

This was the less popular of the two questions but those candidates who did attempt it were usually well versed in the reasons for the failures of the revolutionaries during the period. The best candidates were able to discuss failures thematically, and with reference to change over time or geography, carefully selecting supporting material from specific attempted revolutions to support their argument. There were some excellent responses which were able to show how the lack of popular support undoubtedly affected the success of the revolutionaries but that other organisation factors combined with the might of Austria led to overall failure. However, a significant number of candidates did not understand the concept of 'popular' support, and so dismissed the given factor as quickly as they could before moving on to more familiar factors, or confused 'popular support' with the need for international alliances. Weaker candidates tended to generalise with little reference to specific examples of revolutionary activity.

1) The revolutions of the 20s, 30s and 1848 all failed. ~~This can be the reason for~~ There are many reasons for the failures of these revolutionaries. Lack of popular support was a reason why they failed, however there are many other factors that should be considered.

Lack of support ~~is~~ was one of the main reasons that the revolutionaries during this period failed as without support from the masses, revolution is just not possible. The problem in Italy during this time is that the revolutionaries were not very united and did not cooperate with each other meaning that no one group had overriding popular support.

All of the revolutions were characterised by local ambitions with causes rooted in the states themselves. For example, the cause of revolution in Sicily and Naples was because Sicily wanted independence from Naples, the cause of revolution in Piedmont and Modena was a hatred for their absolute

(This page is for your first answer.) monarchs, The papal states revolted because they didn't like the influence of the Catholic church and the Pope. Therefore as they were all rising up for different reasons, no one had popular support and popular support was therefore one of the main reasons for the failures of the revolutionaries.

✦ On the other hand, there were other reasons why the revolutionaries during this period failed. Firstly, there wasn't a single, strong powerful leader capable of uniting Italy at this time. The failures of ~~the~~ these individual leaders was a significant contribution to the failure of the revolutions, ^{and therefore the revolutionaries.} Pope Pius IX came across as very liberal when he came to power in 1846. He brought about many liberal reforms and granted amnesty to political prisoners. The revolutionaries therefore thought they would have his support if they were to revolt however when revolution did break out he ~~seem~~ appeared to ~~go~~ go against his liberal view as he fled and returned with an Austrian army to ~~crush~~ crush the revolutions. Therefore his actions were a reason for why the revolution failed. Mazzini was ~~an~~ another potential leader. He was an intellectual and educated theorist who founded 'Young

(This page is for your first answer.) Italy' however his ideas for the 'Brotherhood of People' and ~~pre~~ violent insurrection were not popular and he didn't appeal to the peasants because he was ~~an~~ an intellectual.

His experiment in Rome also failed causing Mazzini to be a reason why revolution in Italy failed. The third ~~lead~~ potential leader was Charles Albert. He was asked ~~to~~ by Lombardy ~~to go to~~ ~~was against~~ lead them in war against Austria, however he lost at Novarra and Custoza and then fled. ~~Without~~ Without a strong ^{and revolutionaries} leader it is impossible for revolution to be successful ~~however~~ ~~these~~ These leaders could also be seen as having a lack of support so is another reason why the revolution ~~was~~ failed.

Another factor which led to the failures of the revolutions in this ~~period~~ period was the lack of International support. Without international support it ~~is~~ was highly unlikely that the revolutionaries would be able to overcome the dominance of ~~the~~ Austria. The revolutionaries looked to France for assistance as Napoleon ~~the~~ III was in power and he had once been a member of the Carbonari in Italy. However, Napoleon wished to gain support from the many Catholics living in France so instead ~~was~~ put an

(This page is for your first answer.) ~~end to~~ a revolution and was actually involved in returning the Pope to Rome. Therefore international support can be seen as a reason why the revolutions failed between 1820 and 1849 as Italy ~~did not~~ have the revolutionaries did not have any.

The final reason for the failures of Italian revolutionaries in 1820-49 was

the abundance of Austria. Austria was very dominant during this period and was a reason why the revolutionaries failed because she crushed many of the revolutions and put the reactionary and absolute monarchs back on their ~~thron~~ thrones. An example of this is in Tuscany in 1848 when the revolutionaries revolted because Austria appeared to be weak, however once she regrouped Austria swept through, crushing the revolutionaries. Therefore the over abundance of Austria can be seen as a ~~reason~~ reason why the revolutionaries failed.

In conclusion lack of support ~~is~~ was one of the main reasons why the revolutions and therefore revolutionaries failed as it was due to lack of ~~cooperation~~ ^{support for} of the revolutionaries as well to ~~an~~ lack of support for the potential revolutionaries leaders. However I believe it was a combination

(This page is for your first answer.) of the different factors that caused the ~~revolutionaries~~ revolutionaries to fail in Italy but was primarily down to lack of support and ~~also~~ the over abundance of Austria.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is a Level 4 answer. It is well focused and has an understanding of the key issues. The given factor and other factors are developed and explained with reference to the failures of the revolutionaries. The supporting material is adequate with reference to specific attempted revolutions. However, although there is an attempt to create a discussion there is not a sustained argument and this is shown in the conclusion which states, rather than shows, how the different factors combined.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Always write a conclusion which reflects the discussion developed in the main body of the response. A generalised statement does not create a developed judgement.

Question 2

This was by far the most popular question of the two. Candidates, in general, have a strong understanding of both the significance and the importance of key individuals within the process of unification during the latter stages. Most responses referred to Cavour's contribution in relation to Garibaldi, Victor Emmanuel and/or Napoleon III and the best were able to show the linking relationships while coming to a clear judgement as to Cavour's significance. A few candidates approached this as a 'factors' question with little reference to the key phrase of 'individual contribution' and so were often unable to gain more than low Level 4 marks. The knowledge of most candidates is impressive but there are still some who are unaware of Cavour's death in 1861. The Level and mark attained for this question tended to be determined by how well candidates were able to balance their discussion of Cavour's significance with the other individuals; many candidates at low Level 4 tended to write long explanations of Cavour's role leaving little time for a balanced discussion of the other contributors.

How far do you agree that Cavour made the most
individual
significant contribution to the process of Italian unification
in the years 1852-70

Plan - Intro → factors - Cavour's influence - economic, industry,
Garibaldi, Louis Napoleon III, ^{VE.} ~~affairs~~
Cavour - industry
Para 1 - ~~Consent~~ - development of Piedmont,
involvement in Crimean War,
BUT against Garibaldi?
~~Unity~~
Para 2 - ~~Victor Emmanuel - initial success~~
~~in unification process:~~
Para 3 - Louis Napoleon III - alliances
Mazzini
Para 4 - Garibaldi - 'The Thousand' etc
Conclusion - Cavour's diplomacy very important but would
not have unified the south - could not rid
Austrian influence without France.

9.01-9.41

~~After~~ After becoming Prime Minister of Piedmont in
1852 under the kingship of Victor Emmanuel II, Cavour
can be seen as one of the most important figures

in the path to ~~the~~ the unification of Italy, by his use of diplomacy and alliances within foreign affairs, ^{such as France} to rid Italy of Austrian influence. However, it can also be argued that he would not have been able to achieve such success without the foreign aid and support of ~~France~~, ^{Louis Napoleon III} and further to the influence of Giuseppe Garibaldi to unify the entire peninsula, instead of just expanding Piedmont under the leadership of Victor Emmanuel II.

Firstly, Cavour ~~was~~ had a significant impact on the unification of Italy as he led the northern states, ~~into~~ particularly Piedmont into economic and financial stability. After visiting Britain and witnessing the industrial revolutions in the 1850s, Cavour introduced railways into the Italian peninsula which helped to ~~help~~ increase communications between states and therefore aiding unification. Furthermore, by developing the international status of Piedmont through alliances in the Crimean War in the years 1854-56, Cavour was able to create a friendship with Louis Napoleon III, which helped to increase the ~~set~~ attention of the Great powers onto the 'The Question

(This page is for your first answer.) of Italy' without Cavour's use of alliances and foreign affairs. Piedmont would not have been able to achieve such leadership within the peninsula ^{which eventually led to Italian unification} ~~which eventually led to the~~ ^{furthermore} War with Austria in 1859, also known ^{as} the 'Second War of Independence' ^{was} led by Cavour and Louis Napoleon. ^{during the war} Cavour was able to show his leadership and economic and military success by defeating

Austria at Magenta 5th June and again at Solferino on 24th June 1859, which the aid of France. The extent of Cavour's significance is clearly displayed as the result of war led to the annexation of Lombardy from Austria, therefore proving that Cavour held great significance in the role of unifying Italy. Moreover, ~~Cavour was a~~ Cavour also proved himself as a significant individual through the annexation of the Central Duchies, despite the upset at Villafranca in 1859, as ~~although~~ Cavour was able to use his diplomacy with France in order to move towards Italian unification.

It can be argued, however that Cavour was not the most significant figure in the road to Italian unity as it can be seen that he was only interested in the expansion of Piedmont and the unification of Northern states, rather than the unification of the entire peninsula, which is demonstrated

(This page is for your first answer.) by the fact that throughout his lifetime, Cavour ~~only entered~~ never visited the southern states of Italy.

Furthermore, although ~~the~~ Cavour can be seen as the most significant individual within Italy ~~supporting~~ promoting the unification of Italy between the years 1852-70, the role of the foreign influence of Louis Napoleon III is also essential. After the French involvement in the war with Austria in 1859 and further Napoleon's negotiations with Franz Joseph of Austria and Otto von Bismarck in 1866 during the Austro-Prussian war in order to gain Venetia, so it

could be passed on to Italy. After the annexation of both Lombardy in 1861 and further Venetia in 1867 with French aid, Louis Napoleon held great significance towards the unification of Italy. However, he too showed signs of an oppressive nature in his approach to unification with the example of his suppression of the Roman Republic in 1849. ~~on the~~ ~~did~~ Although he did so in order to gain Catholic support and to protect the Pope, he managed to upset liberals and create future difficulties for the future of Italian unification, proving to weaken his significance in the unification of Italy. ~~as well as~~ ~~as well as~~ as well as by annexing Nice and Savoy and therefore reducing, and compromising the full unification of Italy. In addition, a further important candidate in

(This page is for your first answer.) The unification of Italy was Giuseppe Garibaldi. After the annexation of Nice and Savoy to France, ~~the~~ ^{an army of} Garibaldi supported to sail to Sicily to support a revolution. The Thousand set sail in April 1860, and arrived triumphantly in May 1860, with immediate success. The impact of Garibaldi's siege of Sicily was extremely important in the unification of Italy as it was the first step to unifying the northern states with the south. As Garibaldi continued onto the main island, he was further able to conquer Naples, ^{again} with little resistance. ~~After~~ Without Garibaldi's attempt to take the south, the unification of Italy led by Cavour would have stopped at the Northern border, however the significance of Garibaldi's influence is extremely strong as he was the first person able to unify the entire

penninsula. Therefore on 26th October 1860, Garibaldi was to formally hand over the southern states to Victor Emmanuel II, so that the Kingdom of Italy was declared in 1861 with Victor Emmanuel II as king.

Furthermore, Garibaldi's attempt to take Rome ~~in 1861~~, Garibaldi's success can also be seen in can also be seen as, although slightly less significant, one of the main features of unification, as the opportunity proved Cavour's influence as he tried to prevent the unification in order to maintain ~~his~~ his alliance with France.

(This page is for your first answer.) Overall, the most significant individual within Italy in promoting the unification of ~~Italy~~ Northern Italy was Cavour between the years 1852-1862 was Cavour, however he would not have been able to complete such success without the foreign aid of France in order to rid Austrian influence and the aid of Garibaldi to unify the southern states in the name of Victor Emmanuel. Furthermore, without the original ideas of Mazzini and other revolutionary leaders in order to promote the support from the people of Italy.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is a low Level 5 response. The response is directly focused with explicit understanding of the key issues. The discussion is sustained leading to an inter-linking conclusion. The supporting material is relevant with sufficient detail to support the points being made.

E2 – The Unification of Germany, 1848–90

This Topic was sat by over 1100 candidates most of whom have impressive knowledge of the content. Candidates are generally well prepared but there is some evidence of 'stock' multi-factor answers appearing and many candidates just not answering the question asked. To reach Level 5 it is vital that the response be directly related to the focus of the question.

Question 3

Although the less popular of the two questions, there were some extremely impressive answers to this question with strong deployment of supporting knowledge. Those who chose to answer this question were confident and secure in their understanding of the reasons why the Frankfurt Assembly failed to create a national government for Germany. Some candidates dismissed the given factor of military power almost immediately but most were able to develop the theme with reference to the Schleswig-Holstein situation and the military strength of the traditional powers. The best responses had detailed knowledge of events and were able to develop a thematic response using precisely selected supporting knowledge. There were very few candidates who showed a lack of chronological security and/or confused the events in Schleswig-Holstein with the war of the 1864.

To what extent FP fail due to lack of military power

- ① no backup in army → no one to enforce decrees
- ② lack of organisation → not in tune to w-c
- ③ opposition from FW
- ④ didn't fill power vacuum

~~The Frankfurt~~ Following the 1848 Revolutions in Germany, the summoning of a Vorparliament to create an assembly that would declare a national constitution taking precedence over each separate state constitution allowed a parliament to emerge with little ~~legal~~ authority, lack of ~~an~~ organisation and was not in tune to the working class. Ultimately the lack of any back up in terms of an army to enforce its declarations was a significant factor in the failure of the Frankfurt parliament, however it can be disputed that the failure of this parliamentary system was also due to its narrow variation & delegates referring to class system, its failure to grasp the opportunity

(This page is for your second answer.) to fill the power vacuum and ~~the~~ ultimately the clear opposition from the King of Prussia Friedrich

Wilhelm which correspondingly led to many other states doubting its validity.

When the Frankfurt Parliament was summoned in 1848, ~~its use of indirect elections~~ to indeed its lack of strong military power to declare its authority was a fundamental reason for its eventual collapse. Many German states had their own state army and yet the Frankfurt Parliament only had the possibility of Prussian army which was next to useless as they would not contradict the words of Friedrich Wilhelm. When the Frankfurt parliament declared their new constitution in April 1849, the absence of military power resulted in many states doubting the authority of this "new German power" and questioned the validity ~~and~~ of their declarations. The fact that ~~the states withdrew their support~~ ~~all but~~ the Frankfurt Parliament lost the support of Prussia and subsequently Bavaria, Saxony and Hanover as they doubted their ~~author~~ authority highlights how if they had strong military power backing up their new constitution, the German states may have respected their decisions more. *

However, this lack of support from other states may have to do with many other significant factors such as the Parliament's inability to agree on a constitution for a year after they had their first session in May 1848.

(This page is for your second answer.) they were referred to as a "talking shop of old ladies" highlighting their inefficiency and also their authority which again suggests that with military backup they may have been viewed differently. The fact that a provisional government had to be set up in 1848 illustrates how they

had failed to grasp the initial power vacuum left by the ~~the~~ absence of Austria influence following Metternich's resignation in 1848 and Prussia in a state of disarray due to events in Berlin. ~~By the~~ Indeed, by the time the Frankfurt parliament had managed to pull together a national constitution, the German princes were already re-establishing autocratic rule, making it perpetually impossible for the Frankfurt parliament to now gain national approval. This reduces the extent to which Frankfurt Parliament's failure was due to lack of military power as it highlights that even ~~without~~ with the support of an army, they would have been unlikely to agree on anything highly significant as the variation in ideas within the parliament were vast.

Moreover, the its use of indirect election ~~to~~ in late 1848 to decide on the ^{representative} delegate to every 50,000 Germans resulted in very little variation from class structure. Indeed, it was the most highly educated parliament in German history with 80% of the representatives, yet there was only 1 peasant and not a single working class citizen. This resulted in the parliament not being in tune to

(This page is for your second answer.) the needs of the working class, ruling out the possibility of their support. The fact that artisans ~~created~~ created their own parliaments in Hamburg and Frankfurt demonstrate how they opposed the creation of the Frankfurt Parliament and that their constitution did not have their support. This loss of the working class as supporters is significant in the collapse of the Frankfurt parliament as it indicates how a significant amount of the German population were unwilling to agree to a national

constitution and posed a threat to the parliament. ~~It~~ This is highlighted by the radical threat posed to the Frankfurt parliament in 1848 where riots and violence led to 61 people being killed. However, if the parliament had the military power in the first place there may not have been any threat ~~to~~ ^{opportunities} to them initially as their authority would have made the ~~threat~~ ^{less} less threatening.

On the other hand, it can be disputed that the most significant factor towards the failure of the Frankfurt Parliament was the opposition from King of Prussia ~~is~~ ^{to} Friedrich Wilhelm. His rejection of the ~~largest crown~~ "German" crown in April 1848 posed as a significant problem for the Frankfurt parliament as Prussia and the subsequently the ^{smaller} states of Bavaria, Saxony and Hanover ~~refused to~~ ^{rejected} rejected their new constitution. Friedrich argued that it was not the parliament's authority to give however ^{question} the fact that if the parliament had military power, would Wilhelm be more willing to accept the crown.

(This page is for your second answer.) Moreover, Prussia's rejection of the constitution ultimately led to the end of the new constitution as the call for the first election in May 1849 resulted in all but 130 of the Frankfurt parliament ~~giving up and going home~~ giving up and going home. This highlights how without the support of Prussia, the largest state in the German area did not support the constitution, and indicates that there were other factors as well as no back up in army that resulted in its collapse.

Overall, the Frankfurt Parliament did indeed have a shaky foundation to begin with, ~~and~~ and its lack of military power was in fact one of the most significant reasons for its failure as the Schleswig-Holstein

crisis' indicated 'how their lack of any sort of army linked to the meager support they entailed as 1848 and 1849 progressed. However, the parliament may have been more successful if Germany's largest state, Prussia had been willing to accept their constitution, encouraging the smaller states to do so also. Moreover, the increased lack of organisation and agreements with the parliament were also significant factors to its eventual collapse by 1850



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Examiner Comments

This is a Level 5 response. It directly focuses on the question asked and has an explicit understanding of the question set. The candidate creates an internal discussion which is attempting to weigh up and evaluate the given factor throughout. The introduction and conclusion are both focused.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

A good introduction attempts to put the question into context and provide a brief outline of the argument to be developed in the main body of the answer.

Question 4

This was the more popular of the two questions but despite some very good knowledge there was wide differentiation in the ability to focus on the key phrases of the question. A significant number of candidates appear to have developed a 'stock' answer to explain the process of unification and when asked to determine the significance of Austrian defeat in the war of 1866 were not able to adapt their learnt response to the question on the paper. In most cases a few more moments of planning and some contemplation of the wording of the question asked would have allowed these candidates to produce a more focused answer. This also applies to the time period specified in the question as well. Many candidates referred to events both before and after the years 1862-1871. The question required a discussion of the Austrian defeat as the key turning point or moment of change in the process. This is best dealt with (although not exclusively so) by reference to other possible key turning points. The question itself offered three dates/events which could have been discussed with the appointment of Bismarck in 1862, the defeat of 1866 and the defeat of France in 1871. Too many responses here just produced a list-like series of explanatory paragraphs, often with no particular order of significance, and added an analytical conclusion to the end. Many of these were able to access low-to-mid Level 4 marks but many candidates with excellent knowledge were unable to select and deploy the relevant material to answer the question asked.

(This page is for your second answer.) How far do you agree that the defeat of Austria in 1866 was the key turning point in unification 1862-71?

Plan: Austrian defeat - AGC + annexation of S-M, Hanover etc, leaving only South not united.

French defeat = more significant turning point as it led to full unification

Key turning point = Appointment of Bismarck :- he brought about those wars and dictated terms of Peace treaties

In 1871 the New German Reich was proclaimed and Germany was fully geographically united. The events leading up to this unification had all played a significant role. Although the ~~French~~ Prussian

(This page is for your second answer.) The defeat of Austria in 1866 was a significant event in the process of unification; it was not the key turning point as the Prussian defeat of ~~Austria~~ ^{Russia} was a more significant turning point. However, one could argue that the real key turning point was in fact the appointment of Bismarck in 1862.

Although the Prussian defeat of Austria in 1866 was ~~a significant~~ a turning point in unification, it was not the key turning point, however the result of the defeat was a ~~very~~ fairly significant event in the unification of Germany. The result of the defeat of Austria was the Peace of Prague which meant Prussia annexed Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, Frankfurt and Nassau and the North German Confederation was ~~formed~~ formed. Evidentially this was a significant point in the process of unification as it resulted in the north half of Germany being united leaving only the south. ~~However, this was not really a turning~~

(This page is for your second answer.) ~~turning point but more of~~ a significant ~~step~~ towards unity. However, it is not really the key turning point

as this unification of the North of Germany did not have any dramatic repercussions.

~~The~~ ~~Bismarck's manipulation of~~ ^{manipulation of the} Ems telegram could be seen as a more significant turning point as it led to the Franco-Prussian war, the result of which was a fully united Germany. After the French Ambassador visited King Wilhelm of Prussia to discuss ~~matters of~~ the matter of the throne of Spain, King Wilhelm sent a telegram to Bismarck relaying the event. It was the way in which Bismarck manipulated the telegram that brought about the war which was a ~~key~~ ^{key} point turning point. Knowing that relations between France and Prussia were already tense he changed the telegram to show that the French ambassador had been badly treated. ~~This~~ he ^{he} ~~manipulated~~ ^{manipulated} it. This triggered the Franco

(This page is for your second answer.) Prussian war, ~~which~~ the result of which was a united Germany. However, although this was a more significant turning point than the Prussian defeat of Austria, both of these wars ~~were the~~ ^{were} ~~brought about~~ ^{brought about} the so the

Austrian war was in fact brought about by the Danish war which was instigated by Bismarck. Therefore, it was in fact the appointment of Bismarck in 1862 which was the real the key turning point in the process of German unification.

When Bismarck was appointed in 1862 this was the key point at which the process of German unification began to ~~move~~ a rapid pace towards full unity. It was Bismarck's great diplomatic skills and 'Realpolitik' that really pushed forward unification and therefore it was his appointment as prime minister that was the real turning point. He cleverly manipulated the foreign situation at the time to bring about the three wars that led to Germany being united. He Bismarck

(This page is for your second answer.) ~~was~~ was the one who was not only the cause of the three wars but also the one who dictated the peace treaties that so avoided German unity. ~~His isolation of Austria~~
His isolation of Austria by gaining the neutrality of France and alliance of Italy gave Germany a win in the Austro-Prussian war which led

to the formation of the North German Confederation. It was the Bismarck's manipulation of the Ems telegram which led to the Franco-Prussian war which resulted in a united Germany. Therefore, Bismarck brought about the war that led to unity. Although the result of the wars were truly points they were ~~not~~ turning points brought about by Bismarck and therefore it was the appointment of Bismarck ~~as prime minister~~ that was the real key turning point as he instigated the three wars that led to unity. Therefore, overall, although

(This page is for your second answer.) the defeat of Antwerp was a ~~turning point~~ significant event in the process of unification it was not a ~~turning point~~ key turning point. The Ems telegram was a turning point in Franco-Prussian relations and did lead to Germany becoming fully united therefore it was a more significant turning point than the Antwerp defeat. However, the real key turning point was in fact the appointment of Bismarck as he manipulated reality brought about

the peace was with a great of
diplomatic skill.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is a Level 5 response. It is clearly focused on the concept of the Austrian defeat being a turning point in relation to other possible turning points. It highlights two other possible key events which allow a discussion of the whole time period in question. The supporting material is sufficient to show clear understanding of the significance of each event in relation to each other.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

This question concerns the consequences of Austrian defeat on the process of German unification and so does not require a description or detailed explanation of how the war came about. There is no need to waste time providing a great deal of detail that is irrelevant or unnecessary.

E3 – The Collapse of the Liberal State and the Triumph of Fascism in Italy, 1896–1943

Over 1300 candidates were entered for this Topic. Most candidates are well prepared and obviously have enthusiasm for the Topic content but many struggle to select relevant supporting material. Many candidates for this Topic tend to write 'all that they know' about the general themes of the question rather than focusing on the key wording of the question asked. However, it has been a pleasure to see how centres have developed and improved coverage of the whole time period over the years and this year, in particular, in Question 5 to see candidates able to refer back and forth between the pre-and-post 1919 'threshold'.

Question 5

This question was marginally more popular than Question 6. There were a wide variety of responses to this question ranging from generalised answers with minimal supporting evidence to directly focused answers with an impressive selection of relevant material. A small number of candidates inverted the question, discussing how the collapse of the Liberal State led to the rise of the PNF. The wording of the question allowed candidates to determine both the beginning and the end dates of the discussion to a certain extent. Most candidates produced an answer covering long-term, short-term and more immediate causes with reference to long-term division, the role of World War One and reaction to Socialist growth in relation to the rise of the PNF. The collapse of the Liberal State was invariably seen as being defined by the March on Rome but many referred to the establishment of dictatorial powers by 1925. Weaker answers tended to give a description of either the weaknesses of the Liberal State or the rise of the PNF. The best answers tended to suggest that, although long-term weakness was apparent, a combination of the 'mutilated victory' and the rise of Socialism allowed the PNF to provide an alternative popular enough amongst both the people and the elites to bring down the Liberal State.

(This page is for your first answer.) The Liberal state in Italy had been in operation since full Italian unification ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ 1870, however it was marred by problems. The rise of the PNF in the years 1919-22 was a reason for the collapse of the Liberal state; however the fundamental weaknesses of Liberal Italy, the failure of political opponents to Fascism and the outcome of the First World War also led to the collapse.

Perhaps the main reason for the collapse of the Liberal state in Italy was the ~~the~~ rise of the Fascist Party (PNF) under Benito Mussolini. Fascism developed by Mussolini's dual track to power from 1919-22. It appealed to the lower, working classes and ex soldiers, the Fascio di Combattimento by using terror and violence. The role of the Squadristi and their leaders the Ras was important in this because they intimidated the Socialists, whom many Italians feared, and

the Ras became local authority figures. As many Italians still believed in local rule, this contributed to the collapse of Liberal Italy because Liberal politicians had little power over the localities. Fascism also appealed to the middle class,

(This page is for your first answer.) petit-bourgeoisie because it promised to protect them from socialism, and offered them strong government, something never seen in Liberal politics. Thus Mussolini used legitimate means to win support via elections for ~~the~~ ^{the} PNF. Despite only having 35 deputies in the 1921 election, Mussolini was asked to form a government in 1922, after the threatened March on Rome, highlighting how weak the Liberal government was, and ultimately leading to its collapse. However there are other reasons why Fascism became popular which did lead to the collapse of the liberal state.

Another reason for the collapse of the Liberal state is that the fundamental weaknesses of Liberal Italy were still prevalent in 1919. There was a lack of common culture and language amongst the people which led to a feeling of disunity. Their military failings were clear to see with the 1896 defeat at the Battle of Adowa, this meant that even foreign policy brought no unity to Liberal Italy. There was a fundamental North-South division between an increasingly industrialised North and an agrarian South meaning that there was little unity between the two groups of people. This led to poor economy and living standards in the South which angered people enough to support Fascism, thus leading to the collapse of the Liberal state. The political system in Liberal Italy was also fraught with problems, only 2% of the population could vote originally meaning there was a lack of support for Liberal politics. Weak coalitions often

(This page is for your first answer.) were the main form of government, there were indecisive and suffered from *Trasformismo* politics, leading to lack of support and the Liberal State's eventual collapse.

The opponents to Fascism, who could have held Liberal Italy together were weak, leading to Fascism eventually causing the collapse of Liberal Italy. Giovanni Giolitti was the main Liberal Prime Minister of the time and he tried to implement reforms which would give workers more power in their workplace. However this only succeeded in angering workers and rich elites alike, workers wanted more power and so turned to socialism to achieve their aims. However socialists were divided into Minimalists who wanted to work within the Liberal system and Maximalists who did not. Thus they were unable to take power even after the Biennio Rosso of ~~1917-20~~ 1919-20. The elites turned to Nationalists such as D'Annunzio however nationalism did not have popular support. Either of these regimes could have worked within the Liberal system but their failing was the last hope to which led to the system's collapse.

The final reason for the Liberal State's collapse was World War I. Many Italians felt a Mutilated victory over WWI because they had been on the winning side but gained little. There was defeat in October 1917 at Caporetto after which the Liberal govt. promised reform, however there was a victory at Vittorio Veneto

(This page is for your first answer.) October 1918, against a failing German force, after which the government promised reward. However it failed to deliver either reform or reward, showing its weakness and leading to a collapse through loss of support. Italy was

promised the Dalmatian coast which it did not receive after World War I because it played an insignificant part but it did receive the Trentino lands. Despite this the Italian people saw their government as weak internally and on an international level which led to the collapse of the Liberal state.

Overall the other factors such as failings in World War I, the weaknesses of the liberal system and failings of other parties led to the collapse of the Liberal state. It was Fascist thought which gave people a focal point to actually vote against the Liberal state, therefore Fascism and the PNF was the most important factor in the collapse of the Liberal state.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is a well developed Level 4 response. It is well focused and shows an understanding of the key issues. It developed the given factor and other factors and does attempt to create a discussion but the connections between the other factors to the rise of Fascism suggested in the conclusion are not always sustained in the main body of the response.

Question 6

This was the slightly less popular question on the Topic. Centres clearly cover foreign policy in some depth but many candidates have a very confused knowledge of the chronology. Responses to this question show by far the least confidence with the chronology of events. A lack of dates when discussing different events often creates incoherent answers; this was particularly so with this question which required an evaluation of change over time. This question was intended to be a discussion of foreign policy as a single factor with a focus on the extent to which Mussolini's foreign policy influenced his popularity over time in Italy. However, the wording of the question did lead to some multi-factor answers focusing on 'other' policies which increased his popularity in Italy, or to discussions of his popularity both domestically and internationally. This was discussed and dealt with during the standardisation and marking process and the mark scheme was amended to reflect these responses. However, despite the often confused chronology, the question led to some very interesting and thoughtful answers that really tried to come to grips with the changing nature of Mussolini's foreign policy and the reactions to his policies both at home and from abroad. The best answers were able to show progression from popularity to the mixed reactions of the 1930s to the disasters of World War Two while underlining the always ambiguous nature of his 'popularity'.

Please note that there were a few scripts, though of a significant number to be worrying, where it was clear that the candidates had no understanding of the meaning of the term 'foreign policy'. In most cases these candidates referred in general to domestic policies but some were clearly of the opinion that this question was about Mussolini's religious policy. Concepts of foreign and domestic policy are fundamental to the study of history but in the case of this particular Topic the whole of the fourth bullet point in the specification is dedicated to Mussolini's foreign policy.

Plan:

- 1) Acquisition of Fiume (early foreign policy)
- 2) Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928) + Stresa front (1935) } did increase popularity
- 3) Abyssinia / Spain - huge costs → lost popularity
- 4) Alliance with Germany + WWII
 - ↳ 1936 - Rome-Berlin axis
 - ↳ 1939 - Pact of Steel / annexed Albania
 - ↳ 1940 - invade Egypt / Greece

Mussolini achieved much due to his foreign policy in the period of 1922-41. In 1922 he was asked to form a government by Victor Emmanuel and in 1941 he invaded areas such as Egypt and Greece, but also lost his Albanian colony. In order to judge Mussolini's foreign policy it must be understood that it was always done with

the intention of increasing Italy's international prestige. (the criteria for success). other factors that will be

considered include his early policies (Fiume and the Smezza front), his attempts to gain Albania and Spain and finally his involvement with Nazi Germany and the war effort.

It could be said that Mussolini's early foreign policy was the most successful as he managed to directly achieve things the liberal state had not. Firstly in 1924 Mussolini signed the pact of Rome. This meant that Fiume became formally a ^{an} part of Italian annex. This served to greatly increase Mussolini's popularity as he was giving people exactly what they wanted after the so called "Mutilated victory". This he was succeeding where the liberal state had failed, this comparison boosted his image greatly. Furthermore, this helped him gain popularity as it was a complete reversal on Giolitti's last act as Prime Minister which was to end the occupation of Fiume on the 25th December 1919/1920. Furthermore, Mussolini was able to gain the support of the Italian public by giving them "national greatness" to an extent where he gained a protectorate over Albania in 1926. People would see Mussolini as unlocking Italy's true potential and helping it to achieve the national greatness it

deserved. Therefore Mussolini's early ~~as~~ foreign policy could be said to be the most important in ~~as~~ increasing his popularity as it was such a

clear contrast to the feelings of the liberal states.

In addition Mussolini did not just gain popularity on a national level, but ~~at~~ ^{also} in an international arena, as his later policies such as the Stresa front and Kellogg-Briand pact could be considered incredibly significant. Primarily in 1928 Mussolini ~~to~~ along with six other countries renounced the use of violence as a tool of foreign policy. Although this may not please nationalists who only wanted military expansion it served to encourage other powers in Europe to view Mussolini in a more positive light. Therefore this was a propaganda success on the international stage. Perhaps the Stresa front of 1935 was one of the high points of Mussolini's foreign policy. In 1935 he met with Britain and France, and upon doing they ~~the~~ agreed to resist any attempts by Germany to overthrow the Treaty of Versailles. Therefore Mussolini was all the time forging new links between Italy and the other great Powers of the time. This gave a boost to the cult of "il Duce" by portraying him as a great international statesman, which would

(This page is for your first answer.) help Mussolini gain popularity through appearing to ~~to~~ create alliances, that could lead to territorial gains. Therefore these later policies are probably more successful.

However, Italian (fascist) foreign policy was not all positive. It could be said that conquests in Spain and to some extent Abyssinia reflected

badly on the fascist state. Primarily in Abyssinia although it was a victory Italy suffered huge economic losses, it cut two years state spending and steel was the equivalent of 3.39 billion lire. Furthermore there were around 12,000 deaths. Consequently ~~not~~ ^{many} Italians struggled to see the point of this venture as it was a costly affair that gained a relatively unproductive colony for Italy (one of the only ones left in the horn of Africa). This therefore did not increase Mussolini's prestige ~~by~~, ~~in addition~~ ^{as} it would prove ^{to be} divisive in nature as some extreme nationalists would have supported it. Thus people would have lost a degree of faith in Mussolini for causing divisions when one of his primary promises was unity. Furthermore, ~~the~~ Spanish civil war (1936-39) was not a popular affair. Italy sent 400,000 troops and ~~the~~ final cost was 14 billion lire. This again damaged peoples' confidence in

(This page is for your first answer.) Mussolini's leadership, and they began to doubt his ability to make the right decisions, when compared with other foreign policy. Therefore Abyssinia and Spain did not increase popularity

Finally, Mussolini's decision to form an alliance with Germany which would oblige them to enter the Second World War was a failure in terms of gaining him popularity. The pact of steel was signed in May 1939 which was an offensive alliance that required Italy to support Germany in war even if they were the aggressors. However, more significant was the

felt that Italy was always treated as a junior partner by Hitler. An example he was not told about the Nazi-Soviet pact, and furthermore he ignored Ciano's wish to abstain from going to war until 1943. Consequently people in Italy felt betrayed by Mussolini for allowing Italy to be dragged into such a disastrous alliance. In Italy, the fact that Mussolini allowed Italy to be occupied by Germany in the north and the allies in the south after 1943 shook people's confidence in his ability to keep them safe. Thus he lost popularity *

To conclude it should be noted that there were both elements of success (limited (however limited)) and failure to Mussolini's foreign policy in the period

(This page is for your first answer.) 1922-41. Initially Mussolini's foreign policy was marginally successful at gaining him popularity. However as time progressed it deteriorated in this aspect, thereby leading to him losing popularity. He began to make short sighted decisions not realising the full impact, ~~especially~~ this was especially true of entering the war in 1940 (June)

* Many Italians lost faith as due to his decision to enter the war in June 1940 living standards dropped and caloric consumption was one fifth of pre war levels.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is a high Level 4 response. It is well focused and shows an understanding of the key issues and covers the whole time period. The supporting evidence is sufficient and generally secure. However, the focus on popularity is not always sustained and at times the answer is more focused on the success or failure of foreign policy rather than its impact of Mussolini's popularity.

E4 – Republicanism, Civil War and Francoism in Spain, 1931–75

Once again the number of entries for this topic has increased with over 800 candidates being entered for Option E and F combined. Candidates are increasingly confident in their deployment of knowledge and understanding of the broad themes. However, the history of Spain, in the years 1931-39 in particular, is very complex and the rapid changes that took place mean candidates need to have secure chronological knowledge if they are to produce answers at the higher Levels. It is encouraging to see the number of candidates who can support the broad themes discussed in Civil War questions with specific examples but there are still too many candidates writing in a generalised way with a confused chronology. We endeavour to be fair to candidates who transpose Republicans for Nationalists and vice versa, but unfortunately every year there are still candidates who confuse the Republicans and Nationalists to such an extent that it completely undermines their response.

Question 7

This was the less popular of the two questions. Although some candidates struggled with the chronology of events, in general the candidates who chose this question were confident in both their knowledge and understanding. A few candidates believed this to be a question about the outbreak of the civil war itself. However, some of the most enjoyable responses to read on the whole paper were found here, as candidates really tried to show how the reforms affected Spain and their consequences for the new republic. Some very accomplished answers were able to show that the reforms merely reflected and exacerbated traditional divisions leading to the inevitable weaknesses in the republic.

(This page is for your first answer.) The rapid reforms of 1931 and 1932 were envisaged and executed by (to an extent) the Provisional Government, but mainly by the so-called 'Left Republic' of the above years, which sought to introduce reforms anti-clerical, agrarian, ^{and military} and social in nature. Although many of these reforms were seen as 'radical', many others were arguably introduced too slowly; this provided an unstable platform from which civil war could erupt. In this essay, I will be examining the reforms of 1931 and 1932, along with the role of the military, and economic hardship, in order to determine whether or not to what extent the rapid reforms (1931-32) were responsible for the weakness of Republican governments pre-Civil War.

The rapid reforms introduced by the left-wing government of 1931-33 concentrated on key areas of Spanish society and state which were seen to hinder democracy and social

'progress'. The first target for these reforms was the Church. The Catholic Church in Spain was extremely powerful, with a vast wealth and wide popular support. However, this imbalance of power away from the ~~secular~~ secular ~~world~~ world under the Left Republic led the governments of Sanjurjo and Azaña to secularise education, which for centuries had been controlled by the Church. Although this process was 'rapid' in the sense that it took little time to execute, the consequences of such a move were significant; the Church had lost a $\frac{1}{4}$ base of control which many conservatives saw as almost existential. This would lead to instability in the Republic as, arguably, the governments had ^{had} gone ^{too} far ^{too} in removing power from the Church. However, others would argue that these reforms were not enough; the Church should have been removed from all power in Spain to decrease the chance of sectarian violence. An example of reform which did not go far enough was agrarian land reform, where workers on the land were given basic workers' rights and the landowners were penalised for injustice towards workers. This did not go far enough in that it changed little for the workers; they still had very low wages and little guarantee of a permanent job. However, it could be argued as too rapid, as provoking the landowners provided a boost in support for the right-wing conservatives in Spain. ~~Thus~~ In balance, the rapid reforms of 1931-32 did produce instability and weakness of Republican governments; they debilitated the role and position of the Church, and failed to increase social justice, at the same time as provoking the right-wing.

2.250

(This page is for your first answer.) Yet many would argue that it was the ~~united~~ united who provided instability in Spain and the weakness of

Republican governments before the Civil War. The reforms of the early 1930s curbed the size and power of the army, in order to prevent civil war. Although this had the effect of removing a high level of threat to the Republic, it ~~also~~ also ensured that Republican governments would not have military strength, and therefore a firm grip on power. The closure of the Zaragoza military academy, of which Franco was the head, was arguably the nail in the coffin for strong intervention in pre-Civil War Spain. Yet, it is still true that the creation of military units such as the Assault Guard counteracted this weakness; this military group was Republican and helped to fill the vacuum left by the pruning of the military. However, the increasing sectarian violence between nationalists and republicans before and during 1936 is evidence of how the Assault Guard only helped to increase divisions in society, a weakness of Republican government that was ~~not~~ ^{not directly a} result of the rapid reforms of 1931-32, and therefore showing that the rapid reforms mentioned previously were not entirely responsible for the weakness of pre-Civil War Republican governments.

Economic and social hardship was a constant problem throughout the 1930s in Spain. The ^{economic} depression caused by the 1929 Wall Street Crash had resonant effects ~~on~~ on Spain's ability to progress. The dependence on ~~the~~ agriculture was

(This page is for your first answer.) unavoidable for Republican governments; the majority of the Spanish workforce worked in agriculture with little permanency. This means that the unemployment rates soared and food prices rose. Although the abdication of Alfonso XIII in 1931 was caused partly by this, the social divide between the rich and poor in Spain was a problem for Republican governments. Agrarian land reforms did

little to improve the situation, and the shift from left to right-wing governments and back again before the Civil War weakened the power of Republican governments to deal with ~~the~~ these issues, as policies under one government were reversed under the next, for example ^{the power of} arbitration committees over the Spanish workers. Although some would ~~be~~ argue that this was not a weakness for Republican governments, but a problem slowly being solved through reform, social ^{and economic} divide in Spain was still a catalyst for violence and weakening of government, even if it wasn't as directly responsible in the same way as the repression of 1931-32.

In conclusion, the rapid reforms of 1931 and 1932 served to reverse social divisions and political sectarianism already present in Spain. ~~These reforms~~ Although the military's role weakened the Republican governments considerably, this was actually induced by the ~~the~~ rapid reforms, decreasing its individual significance. Economic and social divide was a recurring problem for centuries in Spain, and,

(This page is for your first answer.) although ~~fr~~ ^{fr} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~responsible~~ ^{responsible} for the weakness of Republican governments, served more as a catalyst for violence and civil unrest. Therefore the rapid reforms of 1931-1932 were ~~largely~~ ^{almost entirely} ~~responsible~~ ^{responsible} for the weakness of Republican governments before the outbreak of civil war in 1936.



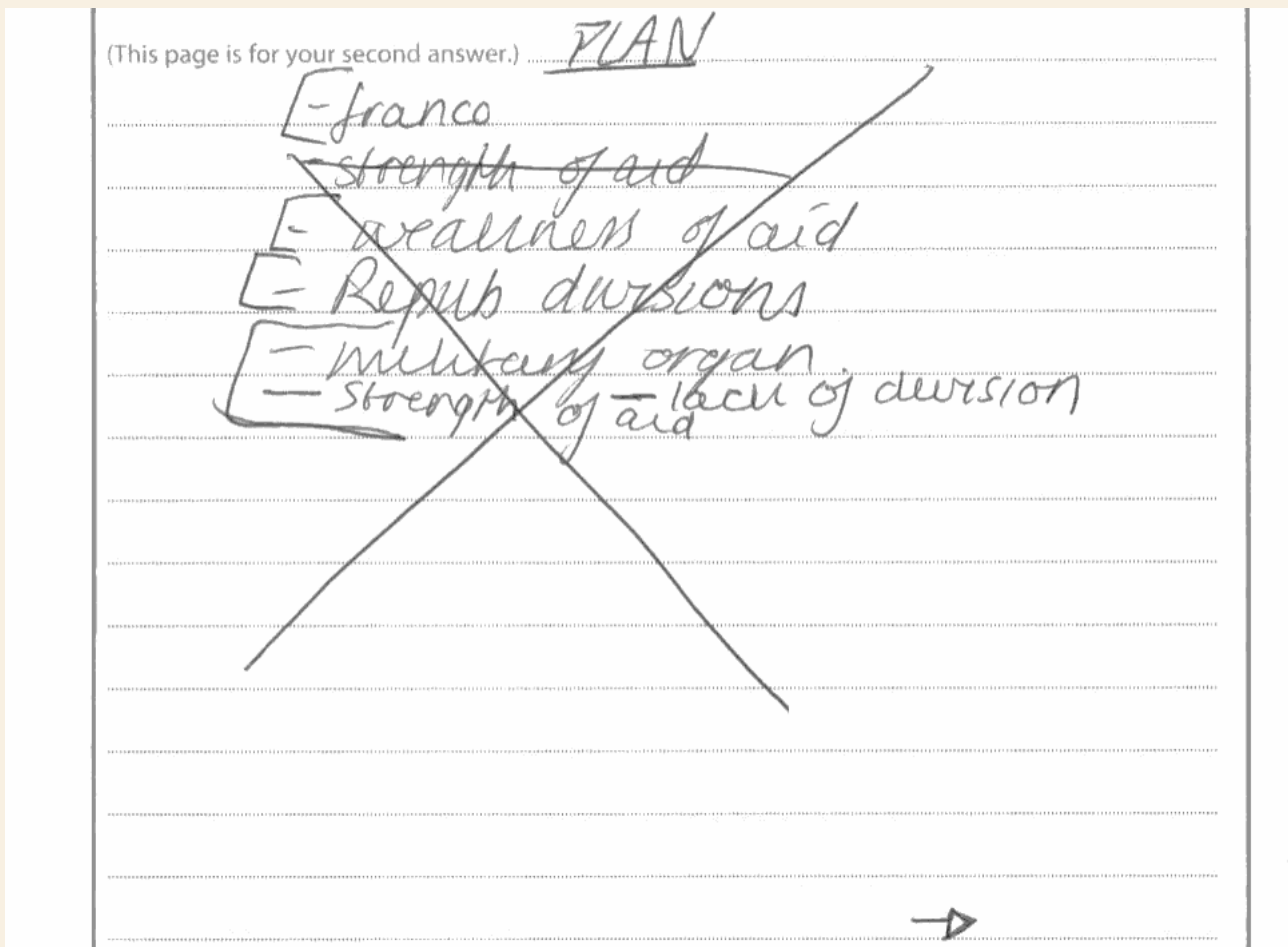
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Examiner Comments

This is a Level 5 response. It is directly focused on the question and has an explicit understanding of the key issues. The response develops the concepts of long-term and short-term causation integrally allowing the candidate to show that the reforms were part of longer term problems which undermined the new republic.

Question 8

This was by far the more popular of the two questions. Candidates are very aware of the factors affecting the outcome of the Civil War but need to guard against the potential for creating 'stock' answers which become explanatory rather than reaching an analytical judgement. It was important here to spend some time planning an answer in which the given factor required a definition and where relevant support could be found within a variety of the more 'traditional' factors discussed. It is also important for centres to discuss the nuances of Nationalist victory as opposed to Republican defeat and vice versa. Weaker candidates just wrote a series of paragraphs about different factors with little reference specifically to military organisation or to any specific events of the war. The best candidates were able to select a variety of relevant material to establish the argument for or against the superior military organisation of the Nationalists, with reference to nature of troops, tactics, leadership and foreign aid, in relation to the military organisation of the Republicans and/or other factors. There were many well focused answers that were marked at lower Level 4 because having established military organisation they then just repeated the same points again as 'other factors' without clear understanding of the interdependency previously shown. It is also vital that specific examples be given. For example, statements of Franco's good use of the tactic of a 'war of attrition' need to be exemplified. Some very good answers were able to show change over time with an excellent understanding of the chronology of events. Many of these suggested that it took some time for the potential of the Nationalist military superiority to become apparent and that, as it became more organised under the tactical leadership of Franco and the availability of foreign weapons and troops so the Nationalists were able to defeat the more poorly organised Republicans.



Superior military organisation
(with the distinct help of ^{Franco's leadership} ~~international~~)

~~aid~~) was a factor which contributed to the success of the Nationalists in the Spanish Civil War. However, this factor was not the most important one. ^{strength of international aid to Nationalists} Franco's leadership, the weaknesses of international aid to the Republicans, and the divisions within the Republicans were also factors which enabled the Nationalists to be victorious, with the most important factor being the ~~weakness~~ divisions and therefore organisational problems faced by the Republicans.

The Nationalists' superior military organisation helped the Nationalists to be a stronger force over the rather disorganised Republicans. Franco's combined roles avoided conflicts and tensions within the force. At the start of the war, the force faced the possibility of problems

(This page is for your second answer.) from the numerous semi-dependent 'columns' of Falangist and Carlist militias. However, Franco helped absorb these militias into the regular army without trouble. As well as this, all the Nationalist

generals were Spanish generals who had experienced similar training and outlook, and therefore the Nationalist army was coherently organised. This superior military organization was in many ways a result of Franco's leadership. His ability to ~~to~~ unite all the different strands of Fascism under his command made the Nationalists a stronger, and larger force. Franco also instilled a disciplined command structure which made sure that he was the only one who called the shots, and therefore he was able to avoid further disagreements within the army. The Republicans' groups of militias

(This page is for your second answer.) could not match Franco's war of attrition and his previous successes as commander of the Elite African Army (the Foreign Legion) boosted morale and support within the Nationalists who were therefore more willing to follow his military organisation.

Another factor which explains the success of the Nationalists is the strength of

international aid to the Nationalists (compared to the distinct wealthiness of the aid supplied to the Republican side.) Franco and the Nationalists received combined aid from both Italy and Germany, while the Republicans had to solely rely on Soviet aid for most of the war. German and Italian aid arrived at a crucial time on the 27th of July, right at the start of the war. These 20 planes and 12 ~~so~~ bombers enabled Franco to ship his elite army

(This page is for your second answer.) from Morocco to Italy and therefore immediately gave the Nationalist side an undeniable boost. This aid was freely given and consistent, as well as not having any strings attached. In contrast, the Soviet aid given to the Republicans demanded the transfer of the entire Spanish gold reserve in return and greatly declined after 1938. The French aid given at the start of the war was also inconsistent and quickly withdrawn. Throughout the war, the strength of aid

to ~~the~~ the Nationalists continued, often supplying the force with not only more, but better equipment compared to that of the Republicans. In the Battle for the North, the Nationalists were able to triumph as a result of the ~~German~~ aid strength of the German aid.

However, the most important

(This page is for your second answer.) factor in why the Nationalists won the civil war was because of the problematic divisions within the Republicans. The Republican side faced far more military problems than the Nationalists and the Republican ~~entity~~ ^{government} was without an organised army. On top of this, the left were extremely divided over not only their goals in the Civil War but also their tactics. Caballero was unable to unite the conflicting opinions; the communists and the PSI wanted a centralised, strict army while the anarchists and POUM were in favour of a highly decentralised, democratised

people's militia. On top of this, many fronts in Madrid operated semi-independently and the Anarchist and POUM militias refused to recognise military ranks. These workers' militias were often very ill-

(This page is for your second answer.) disciplined and ~~or~~ many of the non-communist members of the left didn't like the Popular army and avoided cooperation in it. Another division within the Republicans came from the Soviets, who increasingly dominated the Republican's decisions. Many officers fell into conflict with these Soviet advisors and they did not share the same goals.

Overall, although superior military organisation was a significant factor in helping the Nationalists win the Civil War, it was alongside the factor of aid ~~as~~ and there were not the most important. The most important factor was the deep divisions within the Republican forces which

weakened their ability to challenge the highly organised Nationalist army.



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Examiner Comments

This is a low Level 5 response. It is directly focused and has an explicit understanding of the key factors. Each factor discussed is developed with some awareness of extent of significance. It is focused on Nationalist victory. To progress within the Level it could have used more specific examples and inter-linked the military factors more.



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Examiner Tip

This conclusion clearly sums up the argument being developed in the main body of the response - military organisation combined with foreign aid was important but Republican division was more important. Always make sure that the conclusion not only answers the question but reflects the argument in the previous paragraphs.

E5 – Germany Divided and Reunited, 1945–91

This topic has a small entry in Option E of about 100 candidates. Most are very well prepared and have a very good understanding of the complex nature of change and the different developments which took place. However, a significant minority struggle with the chronology of events particularly in the earlier and later time frames.

Question 9

This was the more popular of the two questions. Most candidates were able to discuss the long-term, short-term and immediate events leading to the formal partition of the two Germanies but there was a clear lack of chronological security in many of the responses. If candidates are going to refer to thematic causation then they need to clearly provide a chronological framework by referring specifically to dates or writing about events in chronological order internally within paragraphs. There were also a worrying number of candidates who discussed partition generally but did not seem aware of when either West or East Germany came into being. The use of the term Berlin Crisis to refer to the events in Berlin of 1948-9 did cause problems for some students but this is the terminology used in the specification. It is vital that centres make sure that candidates are aware of the terminology used in the specification outline, bullet points and clarification when referring to events/developments which may have alternative nomenclature. The best responses were able to link the events taking place in Berlin 1948-9 to earlier events and wider political forces and often suggested that this led almost inevitably to partition.

Question 10

There were few responses to this question. Of these, many were weak with candidates focusing on the 1950s and assuming that East Germany was run by the Soviet government. These responses tended to describe the repressive policies and assume that control was wholly through oppression. Some candidates struggled to understand the meaning of repression. However, some candidates with impressive knowledge chose to answer this question and produced some of the more interesting responses on the whole paper. These candidates were able to distinguish between East German government and Soviet influence while acknowledging the influences of the 'niche society' and referring to change over time.

How far do you agree that communist control of East Germany in the years 1949-89 relied mainly on repressive government policies?

The communists control of East Germany - the GDR (German Democratic Republic) relied on many factors for its maintenance. These included the repressive government policies - under the rule of Ulbricht and ~~the~~ Chancellor Honecker, the role of the SED, the Stasi, IMs, heavy propaganda campaigns. The influence of the USSR, under Gorbachev ~~and Khrushchev~~ especially, ~~the~~ ~~was~~ ~~the~~ had large effects on communist control in the GDR 1949-89.

Repressive government policies included the laws against opposition parties and the full control the SED had over people of the GDR.

The Soviet's influences included Stalin's COMINFORM and COMECON - organisational tactics to spread Communism throughout the Eastern bloc and keep communications between Eastern forces. The Truman Doctrine and Marshall plan of the USA aimed to counteract these

communist plans → and the COMECON was created as a reaction to the Marshall Plan. Stalin rejected the West's offers of finance and planned to finance ~~East~~ the Eastern Bloc himself - although for the most part the COMECON remained inactive and could not compete with the Marshall Plan's standards.

The factors of the COMINFORM and COMECON were not particularly essential in the communist control of the GDR - more effective methods were those such as the power and control of the ~~Stasi~~ ~~terror and intimidation~~ Stasi - a wide ~~surveillance~~ ~~surveillance~~ surveillance group which reached numbers of 500,000 - these employees were full time and their role was to find pockets of opposition to the SED and GDR government. They would ~~to~~ look for suspicious individuals and make sure people it was extremely difficult for people to leave.

for the FRG or other places. IMs also played such roles - following individuals - although these people were ordinary citizens.

Communist control of the GDR also relied on the fact that people were not allowed to travel - once Germany was divided and Berlin separated by the Berlin wall of 1961; the GDR was forced to come to terms with its own communist way of life - with few capitalist regions, and limitations on consumer goods. Limited travel meant citizens could not

see ~~the~~ and experienced capitalist ways of life which prevented an uprising against the SED.

The June 1953 uprising - put down with the help of the USSR meant the workers of the GDR were left without hope of change and so the SED remained unchallenged. People worked hard to improve their lives and the economy in the aftermath of WW2 - ~~was~~ with the economic miracle of the FRG, the people of the GDR worked hard which helped create a successful socialist state.

Honecker worked hard to prevent the loss of citizens throughout the period up to the fall of communism and the Berlin wall -

taking measures against escapees - increased prison sentences - up to 3 years and people in 'the Night of the Republic' were shot if trying to escape.

The fact ~~the~~ parts of the GDR had access to FRG television - and propaganda against the GDR and communism meant the GDR had to retaliate with a heavy propaganda campaign of its own - to keep communism strong within the GDR and to prevent uprisings such as that of 1953.

There was great repression within East Germany between 1949 and 1989, the government took many ~~precautions~~ ~~precaution~~ precautions to reduce opposition to ^{the} government and SED and to maintain a communist state,

people were not allowed free speech or private enterprise for the most part of these years, and although this repression could be viewed as the main ~~reason~~ for the reliance for maintaining Communism (as it included policies, actions of the SED, propaganda) there were other factors which included the Stasi (although state employed), roles of leaders of government, and the massive influence of the USSR - and their reactions to Western powers.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is a low Level 4 response. It is well focused with an understanding of some of the key issues. It clearly explains and has some analysis of repression and the factors surrounding it. However, the balance is towards the earlier part of the period with little sense of change over time or discussion of alternative methods of control.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Always try to ensure coverage of the whole time period in the question. This allows for developing the concept of extent through a discussion of change over time.

E6 – The Middle East, 1945–2001: The State of Israel and Arab Nationalism

Over 250 candidates were entered for this Topic in Option E. Centres are to be congratulated for increasing coverage of the aspects of the specification that deal with Arab nationalism and greater focus on the key areas outlined in the specification for the post-1979 period; the focus on this topic is not Arab-Israeli relations but the influence of different forms of nationalism in the Middle East across the entire period 1945-2001. However, it is worrying that a significant number of candidates still seem to think that every question on the pre-1979 period requires a discussion of all the Arab-Israeli conflicts in turn. This is a complex Topic to study with many events and development, often over very short periods of time, and it is vital that candidates both acquire chronological security and do not confuse the actions of different groups. The use of timelines is recommended to establish a clear understanding of events and change over time.

Question 11

This was the most popular question. Candidates are generally able to discuss the long-term, short-term and immediate events leading to the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli conflict but many of the answers showed very weak chronological understanding and even confused the actions of Arabs and Jews. Many answers were insecure and generalised while others just gave a confused narration of events. Examiners commented on a general lack of knowledge concerning the creation of the state of Israel with many suggesting that either the UN or the British enforced the state of Israel on Palestinian territory; many were clearly unaware of the date and/or the connection between the declaration and the outbreak of the conflict. There were also a few answers which focused on all the Arab-Israeli conflicts to 1973. Some candidates also found it difficult to focus on the wording of the question, so ignored the references to 'trigger' and 'fundamental' causes writing a general answer about different factors leading to the conflict. The best responses tended to establish the creation of the state of Israel as the trigger, show how short-term causes led to the creation of the state and how these in turn were affected by the fundamental underlying causes of nationalism, religion, imperialism and ownership of land.

(This page is for your second answer.)

~~Continuation of Question 11~~
The Arab-Israeli conflict of 1948 can be said to have been caused by the creation of Israel as a state, as well as the terrorism that had been occurring beforehand, the idea of Zionism itself, and the British rule of Palestine up until 1948.

The creation of Israel in 1948 immediately provoked the response of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt to attack Israel on the day of its establishment, this attack was the start of the conflict, and saw attacks on Israel from all sides - sparking off the first phase of the conflict. There was also anger

from Palestinians - who had their land and homes taken away by the establishment of Israel - and became refugees, meaning that they too began to fight in the conflict, and ~~was~~ had a key role in it. The creation of Israel also finally gave reason for the Arab states and Palestinians to go to direct conflict

(This page is for your second answer.) with Jews, with there already having been a tense \rightarrow rivalry in place already, the Arabs now had a claim and reason for going into a war.

There had, even before the creation of Israel, been acts of terrorism and conflicts carried out by both Jews and Arabs. The Irgun and Stern Gang groups had carried out terrorist attacks on British soldiers and rivalled amongst other groups to gain influence and power, through incidents such as the King David Hotel incident in 1946 - which ~~sparked~~ ^{contributed} towards the existing tension in Palestine. These groups continued to fight for their sides during the conflict, and their existence beforehand gave a basis upon which they could carry out attacks during the conflict itself. ^{# see end}

The idea of Zionism, even prior to the actual creation of Israel, was a factor in the conflict in 1948, many Jews ~~an~~ immigrated to Palestine during the 1930s and 1940s, given the persecution in Europe they were experiencing - this growing population gave more foundation for tension and conflict; with

more Jews coming in, the more likely it was for there to be an Arab response. There was also anger

(This page is for your second answer.) from Arabs at the widespread support for Zionism, particularly from the USA, whose Jewish lobby was very influential, and from Truman. This created resentment amongst the Arab people for not ~~being~~ having any support for their side of the argument - thus building the tension between them and the Jews in Palestine at this time. The UN Partition Plan itself, when it was drawn up in November 1947, sparked outrage from the Arab people, particularly those in Palestine, at the idea of ^{every} the UN being on the Zionist side, and not listening to Arab demands - this is when the skirmishes between Jews and Arabs began in Palestine on a large scale, which developed then into a full-blown conflict.

British policy in Palestine was also responsible for the Arab-Israeli conflict - the Balfour Declaration ^{of} 1916 and the White Paper of 1939 supported the establishment of a Jewish presence in Palestine. ~~at~~ The latter in particular, with its idea of partition in Palestine, greatly angered the Arabs in Palestine from this point onwards - this was a foundation of anger which would continue to be built upon by continuing ~~the~~ ^{for Israel} support. There was also resentment towards the British from the Sykes-Picot Agreement of

(This page is for your second answer.) 1916, which sought to divide up Arab land in the Ottoman Empire for Britain and France's

attainment - this was another background cause of anger amongst Palestinian Arabs for how they were essentially being ignored by the international community, and grew up to the creation of Israel, when this anger spilled over into war. The end of the British mandate in Palestine also paved the way for the creation of Israel - with the British no longer in control of Palestine, it was left to the international community to deal with - and Israel was thus created - the Arabs would have much preferred continued British control, despite ~~their~~^{its} unpopularity, to the creation of a Jewish state. If the British mandate hadn't ended in 1948, the conflict between Arabs and Israel would not have occurred in the way it did.

The creation of Israel as a state was the trigger factor for the Arab-Israeli conflict in 1948 - it immediately provoked anger from Arabs in the region, and war began almost immediately. This trigger cause was founded upon the long-term factors that contributed towards the creation of Israel - the huge international support for Zionism, Jewish immigration into Palestine, and British policy, all created a

(This page is for your second answer.) background level of anger from Arabs, which, once combined with the actual creation of Israel, resulted in the 1948 conflict.

* The existence of terrorist groups contributed to the rivalry in Palestine - due to the conflicting goals

of the likes of the Irgun ~~and~~^{and} other groups, which thus developed into a two sided conflict. Terrorism was also meant that violence and conflict was relatively normal in Palestine at the time - meaning war itself would be more likely.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a Level 4 response which was awarded 24 marks. It is well focused and is clearly aware of the concepts of trigger and fundamental cause. The trigger factor and the fundamental causes are explained well with an attempt to evaluate in the conclusion. To progress into Level 5 the candidate could have written paragraph openings which were more discursive and paragraph conclusions which were slightly more analytical.

Question 12

There were few responses to this question but those candidates who did answer it were often well informed and/or wrote interesting and thoughtful answers. Although some candidates confused either Iraq and Iran or Sunni and Shia, most candidates were able to discuss in some detail the reasons for the war and the length of the conflict. Candidates were not expected to cover both aspects equally but the higher Levels require a discrete understanding of both. The best answers were able to show how religious divisions combined with the more fundamental influences of regional and international politics to start the war and the effects of the war of attrition on prolonging it.

12/ The Islamic revolution 1979 saw Iran with a new leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, and the development of a fundamentalist state. However, despite the religious uprisings there are many other factors that contribute to the outbreak of war in 1980. These are the religious differences and expansion of ^{Islamic} fundamentalism, ^{and the fundamentalist} Iraq, Iran's attitude to the west, ^{and the Iranian} alliances.

Iran had an Islamic revolution in 1979 which saw the shah overthrown. They believed laws should be based on the Koran and they also believed that it should be spread to all Arab states. Iraq however was a secular govt. and so Iran's first target to ~~was~~ develop Islamic fundamentalism was Iraq. This religious division meant that tensions were already high between the neighbouring countries. And Iran accused Iraq of being atheist.

(This page is for your second answer.) In addition, ~~the~~ Iran's Shi'ite Muslims were opposed to Saddam's Sunni minority Baathist government, this meant a war was inevitable due to the differing sects of Islam itself. ~~There were~~

further divisions between the country because of Kurds in Iraq. The Kurds were another Islamic group, some fought with Iran and so we see even within Iraq there were religious divisions which caused many chemical attacks during the war. *

Iraq itself also would be to blame for the outbreak of war in 1980. Iraq attacked ~~fast~~ quickly because of the state in which Iran was left after the Islamic revolution. Saddam believed that he could win quickly in a 'whirlwind war' and so attacked heavily and quickly. Saddam knew of ~~the~~ Khomeini's plan to overthrow him due to provocative radio broadcasts made from Iran.

This would mean war for Iraq because the new leader, Saddam, would want to prove his strength and stay in power. In addition, as Iran began to fight back, loyalty to Iraq increased. It spurred the army to fight on which greatly prolonged the war.

(This page is for your second answer.) Both Iran and Iraq had alliances throughout the Arab world. ~~The Iraq~~ Iraq was backed by Saudi Arabia specifically which meant that it was rich from oil money. This would mean the war continued longer as Saudi Arabia would keep Iraq afloat. They wanted to keep Islamic fundamentalism at bay as well, yet were still nationalist. Despite that Iran had their own allies in the form of Syria. This would explain the length of the war as Syria would turn off Iraq's

oil supply in return for Iranian oil. Furthermore the west sided with Iraq in this war & due to Iraq being their main oil interest. Extra funding for Iraq in general would prolong the war as Saddam Hussein used many chemical weapons.

Iran hated the west. They saw the west siding with Iraq as an attack on Islam and so encouraged all Islamic fundamentalist to wage war on the west and their allies. This further caused tensions with Iraq due to the west association. ~~This would prolong the war as it gave the~~ This would prolong the war as it gave the Iranians more hatred, something more to fight against, and even to fight for it. With it seeming as the west attacking Islam, they would be fighting

(This page is for your second answer.) for their religion and their god. This religious fighting meant that the Iranians had the numbers advantage, and also the willingness of it's armies to die for their cause. This way of fighting would cause a prolonged war as Iran could simply send thousands of men, each willing to become a martyr.

In conclusion I believe that the main cause for the Iran-Iraq war was the religious divisions in terms of Iraq being secular and Iran being fundamentalist. Due to this, Iraq struck first, and the other factors followed which prolonged the war. The Iraqi pre-emptive strike was due to the threat of

The expansion of Islamic fundamentalism and as such,
the fear was the cause.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is a low-mid Level 4 response. It is well focused and identifies key issues surrounding both the causes and the length of the war. Each factor is developed with sufficient supporting evidence but the argument outlined in the conclusion is stated rather than developed in the main body of the essay.

Paper Summary

Centres might consider the following ways in which future performance might be improved.

- Candidates must answer the question set, not the one they were hoping for.
- The whole chronological range given in the question should be covered.
- Candidates should be familiar with, and comfortable with, historical words and phrases appropriate to the course of study.
- Candidates should study the factors relevant to an aspect of their course as a set rather than as a number of disconnected factors; and their relative importance could be weighed up accordingly.

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