

Examiners' Report
June 2013

GCE History 6HI01 E

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Introduction

Once again the vast majority of both centres and candidates are to be congratulated for the thorough preparation of topics studied in Unit 1. The June 2013 examination series showed that most candidates were able to produce a response that showed at least some attempt to provide an analytical framework to their answers. Many produced a response which provided a framework for discussion in the introduction, developed an argument in the main body of the answer, and attempted to reach some form of judgement in the conclusion. However, the most significant differentiators in the awarding of levels and marks were the explicit understanding of the focus of question and the quality of the supporting evidence.

The main features of high-level answers were:

- an initial plan focused on the demands of the question
- the development of a number of relevant points in the body of the answer
- relevant and secure supporting evidence
- an overall judgement in the conclusion
- secure qualities of written communication.

Despite this there are still some areas for improvement. For example, many candidates make general comments which either do not further their argument or which make it clear that the exact nature of the question is not fully understood. A large number of candidates refer to the time period of the question, e.g. '...the years 1939-45...' throughout the whole response as if it is an event rather than a period of time to be analysed. This becomes particularly problematic for questions which require an analysis of change over time as in Options A1, B2 and F13. This trend is also apparent in questions which are focused on two issues or factors, e.g. 'gain and consolidate'; when referred to together as one event it is clear that the focus has not been fully understood. Many candidates also begin their answers by using the phrase 'Many historians believe...' or 'There is a debate amongst historians...' This stock starting device does little to further the response unless reference is made to different historical opinions and as historiographical references are not required within Unit 1, should not be used unless reference to real historical argument or opinion is going to be made.

Most candidates are able to consider with some confidence the features of causation, but many find outcomes and consequences more demanding. This was particularly apparent in Option D, Question 4. Centres should work with candidates to consider the relative importance of consequences of events as well as causes, particularly where the specification clearly suggests that such questions might be set. This also applies to questions which refer to change over time.

Comments on communication skills made in previous reports continue to be relevant. A significant number of candidates struggle both with accurate historical terminology and their deployment within sentences correctly, e.g. '...this is an example of Mussolini's gain consolidate...' An increasing number of colloquialisms crept into candidates' answers this summer and should be avoided in a formal examination. A handful of scripts remain very difficult to read, and as legibility is included in strand (i) of the quality of written communication criteria, candidates should be reminded that illegible scripts are not communicating effectively and this may undermine their response.

Option E – General Comments

Over 2300 candidates sat the Option E paper in the June 2013 session. Once again both Centres and candidates are to be congratulated on their preparation for the examination. The majority of candidates were able to attempt an analysis of the focus of the questions set and were able to produce paragraphed responses with at least a sound knowledge of the content covered. As stated in the 6HI01 General Comments the overwhelming differentiating factor in the awarding of both Levels and marks was the selection and deployment of secure, relevant supporting knowledge. For example, for Topic 1 – Q2 responses were often imbalanced by too much discussion of the pre-1859 context, Topic 2 – Q3 with over-reliance on the Zollverein and Topic 3 - Q5 by discussion of the wider failings of the Liberal State. As usual those candidates who focus on the wording of the question are more likely to achieve the higher Level marks than those who rely on a 'model' answer with some relevance to the question.

Of some concern this summer was the amount of responses which grouped different concepts or a whole time period together either across the response as a whole or as sweeping statements which then undermined the integrity of the response as whole. This was particularly the case for Topic 3 – Q5 which required candidates to consider the way in which Mussolini 'gained and consolidated' power in the years 1919-25; there was often little reference to either concept and an assumption that points made concerning one or the other applied to the whole period. Connected to this was the inability of some candidates to apply terminology using correct grammatical forms. In particular, candidates had difficulty applying the correct form of the gain, consolidate, brutal and repressive.

Question 1

E1 The Road to Unification: Italy, c1815-70

Once again the 'Unifications' were the amongst the most popular Topics in Option E. Candidates are well prepared, have a sound knowledge of the content and are able to reach a judgement. However, in this session many candidates did not focus on the wording of the question as readily as in the past and many knowledgeable candidates were limited to mid-to-higher Level 4 by a lack of direct focus on the questions. Centres combining Topic 1 with Topic 5 should note that there were a few very unfortunate responses which mistook the questions as referring to the attitude of the Catholic Church towards Mussolini and the consequence of the defeat of Austro-Hungary in World War 1.

This was the less popular of the two questions available. Most candidates concentrated, as would be expected, on the period of the papacy of Pius IX but many failed to refer to the period from 1815 at all and some failed to take the response to 1870. Most candidates were able to refer to the expectations that came with the election of Pius IX and to the disillusion connected to the 1848-9 revolution and the subsequent reaction of the Catholic Church towards nationalist and liberal politics. However, few connected the papacy to nationalist aspirations or really considered the effect of the reaction on the progress of nationalism. There were many answers which were able to attempt analysis but produced a confused chronology leading to Level 3 rather than Level 4 responses. The more able candidates firmly placed the arrival of Pius IX in the context of the Vienna Settlement and the Troppau Protocol, analysed the papacy of Pius IX with reference to nationalism and finished with a clear explanation of the events of 1870. Most candidates were able to determine some change over time and show a pattern of change. Some of the best responses suggested that there was really no change at all and that, although Pius IX raised expectations, the conservatism of the Church remained constant.

Question 2

Most candidates chose this question and were able to discuss the role of the Austrian defeat in 1859 with good understanding. The more able candidates were able to determine the significance of the defeat in 1859 in relation to other events that took place during the time period 1859-1870. Some suggested that although the defeat was significant in decreasing the power of Austria within the Italian peninsula there were other events more significant for the process of unification; usually with reference to the conquest of Sicily and Naples. Others took the view that Austrian defeat was catalyst for all of the other events leading to the take-over of Rome in 1870. However, many knowledgeable candidates failed to read the question carefully or spent far too much time establishing the context of the Austrian defeat. Too many responses chose to discuss factors or themes rather than events and/or discussed the significance of events/factors before 1859 leading to high-Level 3 or low-mid Level 4 responses; to gain the higher Levels some recognition of the significance of events 1859-70 was required. A significant number of candidates confused the chronology of events to the extent of undermining the whole response. A significant minority of answers seemed to conflate the events of 1859 and 1866 suggesting that Austrian influence was completely eradicated in 1859. It would have been good to have seen more responses referring to the role/significance of plebiscites of the northern and central states in the process of unification.

(This page is for your first answer.) ... Austria 1859, Garibaldi, V&R

By the year 1870 Italy was united and Victor Emmanuel II was declared king of a constitutional monarchy. There were a number of significant events that led up to this point including the defeat of Austria in 1859, the conquest of Sicily and Naples and the annexation of Rome and Venetia.

Before 1849 the Austrians had proved a significant obstacle towards Italian nationalists. They quelled revolutions under the firm hand of Metternich. In 1848 Radetzky, General of the army defeated Charles Albert's troops at Custoza and then Novara. Italian forces were unable to gain any progress as long as the Austrian forces were in the way. So, when Austria were defeated in 1859 the pathway was clear for a united Italy. Cavour, the prime minister of Piedmont had met Napoleon III at ^{Plombières} ~~Orange~~ after their relationship started after the Crimean war 1854. There they agreed

(This page is for your first answer.) ~~that~~ the French would assist Piedmont to destroy Austria forced. Piedmont would gain Lombardy and Venetia and France would annex Nice and Savoy. The ~~to~~ war started ~~in~~ in 1859 and the joint forces prevailed. ^{at Magenta + Solferino} At the treaty of Villafranca, after the Austrians called a ceasefire the terms of Piedmont gaining Lombardy and Nice and Savoy going to France. By popular demand both Tuscany and Emilia also joined the Piedmontese and a large North Italian state was recognised under Victor Emmanuel II. This war was significant because the main obstacle to unification was destroyed so Italy could then go on to unify the whole peninsula. Also the French proved to be good allies and the Balbo consensus for nationalism under Piedmont was fully realised. If the Austrians had still remained dominant Italy would have struggled to advance towards unification.

Another significant event in the year 1859 to 1870 was the conquest of Sicily and Naples by Garibaldi. Garibaldi was a Mazzinian disciple and a true royalist, loyal to Victor Emmanuel II. After coming out of retirement ~~as~~ he took ~~with~~ the Thousand troops to invade Sicily, after consent from his king. They arrived in Marsala on 6th May with a little luck when avoiding the British garrison. They then marched on Palermo the capital, now with 3000 troops under Garibaldi's command.

(This page is for your first answer.) Garibaldi was able to overthrow the regime and introduce Piedmontese laws such as freedom of the press. He was successful in inspiring the peasants to help them with this. Later Garibaldi advanced on Naples, after he crossed the strait between Sicily and mainland and King Ferdinand had fled the city so Garibaldi went on now with approximately 40,000 men and declared himself the dictator of two Sicilies. All the time he fought for Piedmont and Victor Emmanuel II. These Southern states weren't enough for Garibaldi who wanted to advance on Rome. However, on hearing this Cavour sent troops down through the Papal states, fearing he'd aggravate France. They stopped Garibaldi's forces and he handed over leadership to Victor Emmanuel II at Teano on 26th October 1860. Garibaldi had successfully taken the opportunity and united North and South states. He was loved by the people and was an inspirational leader. Without Garibaldi's physical presence unification with the South would have been difficult. He was the catalyst and facilitator for the success. All of Italy was united except Venetia and Rome.

^{Other} ~~Other~~ significant events ~~was~~ were the acquisition of Venetia in 1866 and Rome in 1870. Venetia had been lost during the first war of independence and was

(This page is for your first answer.) under Austrian control. The Austro-Prussian war 1866 enabled Italy to gain the province back. Italy had made alliance with Prussia that they would fight after 3 months of a war against Austria. Also France made alliances with both Prussia and Austria to stay neutral in return for Venetia which they agreed to cede to Italy in 1859. It was a win win situation. Prussia won the war at the Battle of Sadova that's to the breech loading needle gun and Italians forcing Austria to fight on two fronts. At the Treaty of Prague afterwards France was given Venetia for staying neutral and they ceded that to Italy. ~~The~~ Rome was the sensible capital for a united Italy when the franco-Prussian war broke out the long standing a French garrison of 20,000 men were needed as reinforcements and so left. The Italians saw the ideal opportunity to gain Rome. After small scale fighting against Papal soldiers ~~the~~ Rome decided unanimously to join Italy. ~~At~~ The whole united Kingdom of Italy was united in 1870. These significant events led to the final stages of unification. without them Italy was incomplete. The two wars helped give opportunity to unite.

To conclude, there were many significant events leading to Italian unification in 1870. The defeat of

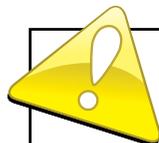
(This page is for your first answer.) Austria at Magenta and Solferino 1859 removed the biggest obstacle in the way of unification. Garibaldi's conquest of the South was the catalyst for the unification with the North and the two wars in 1866 and 1870 were instrumental to the finalising of the kingdom. Overall, it can be assumed that the defeat of Austria was the most significant. That event was black and white. Previously, Italy couldn't progress and after they could. Garibaldi was merely a facilitator whose opportunity could have happened another way, and the annexation of Rome and Venetia were the icing on the cake for an already strong Italian state.



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Examiner Comments

This is a high Level 4 response. It is focused on events in the period 1859-1870 with a good understanding of the key issues. It has well-developed paragraphs outlining the contribution of the different events to Italian Unification and reaches a judgement in the conclusion. However, it does not establish relative significance explicitly enough within the main body of the response to access Level 5.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Try not to begin paragraphs by creating a list of factors, e.g. 'Another significant event...', 'Other significant events...' etc. Use the beginning of paragraphs to develop your argument, e.g. 'The defeat of 1859 may have undermined Austrian influence in Italy but it was Garibaldi's conquest of the South that would unite Italy geographically.'

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer ☒.
If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒
and then put a cross in another box ☒.

Chosen Question Number:

Question 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Question 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Question 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Question 10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(This page is for your first answer.)

Plan

- Austrian defeat vs Nap. + Pied.
 - ↳ Lombardy
 - ↳ Early French retreat
 - ↳ NO Venetia
- National Society / Central Italy
 - ↳ Etruscan Duchies
- South-Italy / Garibaldi
 - ↳ Only Northern parts of Italy
- Veneto
 - ↳ 1864 - Austro Prussian war
 - ↳ Political deal.

^{final}
The Austrian defeat ^{at} Solferino in 1859 resulted in the acquisition of Lombardy by Piedmont - Piedmont's first increase in ~~territory~~ territory since being given Nice and Savoy. Although it can be argued ~~that~~ Piedmont and France could have made greater gain with a longer war - ~~was~~ Was Austria's defeat the most significant event in the process of Italian Unification?

(This page is for your first answer.)

Austria's two major defeats at Magenta and Solferino were the first time 'Italy' had been a match for Austrian forces. Earlier attempts at Unity, led by Charles Albert had failed badly for Piedmont ^(or expansion?). For Piedmont (with a large amount of support from France) this could be seen as Italian fighting to be free of foreign power, or aggressive military expansion. With the French's heavy losses at Solferino - Napoleon III declared an early peace - winning ~~to~~ Piedmont only Lombardy of the promised Lombardy and Venetia. How significant was this? On a geographical scale, not very far, only two states were 'United' but it ~~was~~ ~~state~~ was the first major addition to Piedmont (becoming the Kingdom of Italy in 1870 with most other states under control) and removed a large part of the Austrian influence in the Italian peninsula.

Another factor to compare to Austrian defeat is Garibaldi's unexpected conquests in the south. A Sicilian revolt aided by Garibaldi's 1,000 quickly took Sicily and Naples and would have marched on Rome without meeting Victor Emmanuel II at Teano - where Garibaldi handed over his conquests. Garibaldi's handing over his conquests was a large part in uniting 'Italy' because Cavour and Victor Emmanuel never had plans to annex/unit.

(This page is for your first answer.) the poorer regions in the South. Compared to Austrian defeat Garibaldi did more to unite 'the kingdom of Italy' as a romantic fighter than Austrian defeat in 1859 which was more about the expansion of Piedmont - as evidenced by Cavour's outburst at French Surrender.

The Central duchies and the Romagna were somewhat ~~un~~ important to Piedmont's government - and without acquiring them ~~was~~ one cannot say Italy was 'united'. The work of the Piedmontese National Society played a large role in ~~subverting~~ ^{annexing} central Italy. ~~Without the National Society it was likely~~ Run by Cavour agents ~~they~~ seized power when the ~~greatest~~ ~~and~~ ~~monarch~~ fled in the wake time was right. This was opportunistic - probably never a main goal of Cavour which were Lombardy and Venetia - but still significant in becoming fully 'Italy' ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ companion to Austrian defeat, the central states didn't yield anything as attractive as Lombardy but were significant.

The addition of Venetia and Rome in 1864 and 1870 served to ~~to~~ finish Italian Unification. The Austro-Prussian war resulted in the annexation of Venetia and so

(This page is for your first answer.) Some could argue is equal to the Italian/French defeat of Austria, but I stand that the first Austrian defeat resulted in increased patriotism whether for Piedmont or Italy is another matter.

With the French withdrawal of troops ~~far~~ from Rome as a result of the 1870 Franco-Prussian war the path was ~~was~~ clear for the 'Italian Army' (proclaimed after Garibaldi handed over his conquests) to retake ~~Italy~~ Rome as it's capital. Without a Franco-Prussian war it was unlikely Italy could have ~~attacked~~ ^{acquired} Rome without French intervention due to their garrison - so it can be argued Prussia was responsible for placing Piedmont and later Italy in good position to continue unification. The capture of Rome may not have been a large area (the Romagna had ~~been~~ unified alongside central Italy) but it was the ~~centr~~ people's desired capital and ~~ed~~ its absence from the Kingdom of Italy had been a sore blow to ~~R~~ Romantics.

Compared with Austrian defeat ~~nowhere~~, how was it significant?

The ~~er~~ annexation of Rome signified the final main Italian peninsula - with only small pieces to be added in later decades ~~but~~ how Rome finished it Austrian defeat had been ~~at~~ its start and ~~so~~ I would place them equal.

In Conclusion Austria's defeat ~~may~~ was an important factor - on par with the capture of Italy's capital Rome

(This page is for your first answer.) but not as important as Garibaldi's conquest in the south - ~~but~~ because it was unlikely Piedmont would have taken the south of it's own volition.



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Examiner Comments

This is a low-mid Level 5 response. It is directly focused on the significance of the defeat of 1859 in relation to other events in the years 1859-70 with an understanding of the key issues. Although not detailed it has adequate range and depth for a lower Level 5 response.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

This response uses the beginnings of paragraphs to further the argument. These sentences show that the question has been understood.

Question 3

E2 The Unification of Germany, 1848-90

Candidates are generally well prepared and have good understanding of the content of the Topic and centres are clearly teaching candidates across all four bullet points in the specification. Many candidates are able to deploy supporting evidence succinctly but some responses lacked clear exemplification and/or explanation of points made.

Most candidates were able to discuss the role of economic policies with regard to the process of unification. However, many knowledgeable candidates were limited to Level 4 by a lack of focus on the concept of a 'driving force' providing alternative 'other factors' which were often generally relevant but not explicitly discussing the forces/factors which pushed unification along. It was possible to establish extent either by a discussion of economic factors alone or with reference to the relative importance of other factors. There were perhaps a disappointing number of candidates who view economic policies purely as the *Zollverein* and even those who did not tended to assert rather than explain the role of economic policy in achieving unification. Indeed, this was the case with other forces/factors mentioned as well. It is important that their actual significance to unification is explained rather than the context or what happened. More able candidates tended to see economic policies as part of a complex interaction of events which combined to see the creation of the German Empire in 1871. These responses often showed how the *Zollverein*, state support for the railways, state intervention in technical advances and education and exploitation of natural resources provided the wealth and infrastructure for Bismarck's *realpolitik* to bear fruit. Some more able candidates also suggested that failure of all the *Zollverein* states to join with Prussia in 1866 gave lie to the assertion that a trading union would automatically lead to political leadership.

(This page is for your second answer.)

Prussian - ^{300%} Zollverein
↓ taxes, free trade
united economically → army returns Roon

driven by needs of people?
Bismarck.

→ railways

The process of German unification can be argued to have highly depended on the developing Prussian economy and the ~~consequences~~ consequences this had allowing it to become a European superpower. However, it could be argued that the improving economy would not have been achieved without the diplomacy of Bismarck and his tactical decisions to improve Prussia as a power. It could also be said that the needs of the German people and progress of revolutionaries encouraged German leaders to ~~put~~ change and become a united country.

however, ~~and~~ ultimately it can be said that Prussian economic measures allowed other steps to be taken towards Unification.

(This page is for your second answer.) and gave characters such as Bismarck, to make decisions to lead to German unification.

During the years of 1840 ideas from the German people towards German nationalism were growing. Events in Paris and changing attitudes in Europe saw a desire for less monarchical power and a new fairer way to be. The consistent desire from revolutionaries for German Unification could be seen as an important reason for German Unification. Characters including the Duke of Baden encouraged this feeling for change with his liberal reforms. Continuing unrest from peasants ~~was~~ laid pressure on leaders for change with the potato blight highlighting the severe economic status. Needs for industrial workers also drove forward the argument of the revolutionaries with city conditions dismal and 6 people sleeping per bed showing severe overcrowding. Clearly, the need for German Unification was a strong feeling among the people of Germany and could be seen to have played a small role in provoking the ~~Prussian~~ leaders for change and a better standard of living.

(This page is for your second answer.) It can be seen that the need of the German people was insignificant for certain leaders and did not encourage them to achieve German Unification for the good of the people. Bismarck, a key character towards the process of German Unification was not focused on the needs of the people but the needs of Prussia to develop itself as a super-power. Bismarck agreed after the events of Hertz-Castle that he did not care much for what the people of Germany thought and if the events had affected them. Bismarck was ruthless in driving forward the goals of Prussia and depicted the realpolitik attitude through his continually harsh and Prussian-focused decisions. Bismarck was crucial in engineering war with France and his tactical ~~author~~ authorship of the Ems telegram - 1871 - show this attitude by changing the phrasing and shortening the telegram. Bismarck managed to humiliate the French. His tactical nature can be seen further with his dealings with Austria and his authorship through the events of Schleswig and Holstein. The victory for Austria and

(This page is for your second answer.) Prussian power was shown to be completely tactical from the ~~Austrian~~ ^{Prussian} leader as he used the victory to allow him a reason to go into war with Austria at a later date.

Bismarck utilized the prosperous Prussian economy to improve the strength of Prussia and its ability to become a leading power. His decision to create army reforms in 1858 with the help of Roon, saw ~~the~~ the Prussian army significantly grow in power and capability. New weapons were brought and Prussia had leading technology putting them ahead of the capability seen in the Austrian army. Their advanced mapping system also allowed them to become a leading power fighting for Germany nationalism. Bismarck's priority to make Prussia stronger ~~at the~~ ~~and~~ proved crucial in the process of Germany unification and allowed them to become more powerful than Austria.

Despite Bismarck's skillful diplomacy, ~~his~~ his actions would not have been possible without the strong financial position in Prussia. The Zollverein was a key aspect that allowed ~~for~~ Prussia to gain power and

(This page is for your second answer.) encourage German Unity.

Revenue increased by 300% through the development of the Zollverein, showing its importance in improving Prussia's strength, and consequently promoting German nationalism. The abolition of taxes between states allowed free trade that saw prosperity for Germany. The united tax system was a contributing factor towards German nationalism. Prussia was also fortunate with high amounts of ~~coal~~ coal, iron and metals that outshone the agricultural outputs of Austria. This allowed Prussia to grow its technology and it became leading with railways uniting areas of Germany. This strength Prussia had economically allowed it to excel as a leading power and push forward unification.

To conclude, the economic strength of Prussia was crucial for German unification as it allowed ~~them~~^{it} to be a leading power. Bismarck's diplomacy also was crucial as he effectively utilised the economic strength. The combination of both ~~of~~ aspects made Prussia

(This page is for your second answer.) *central in the German unification.*



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Examiner Comments

This is a mid-Level 4 response. It is focused on the process of unification with a discussion of some of the key driving forces. The points are well-developed with good supporting evidence. However, the organisation of the paragraphs in the main body of the response makes it difficult to determine what the given factor of the question actually is.



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Examiner Tip

Organise the response to reflect the introduction. The introduction here would suggest that there is going to be a discussion of economic policies in relation to other potential driving forces. However, it discusses other factors before showing the significance of economic policies leading to a lack of direct focus.

Question 4

There were relatively few responses to this question but it was a pleasure to see more responses than was perhaps expected. Candidates choosing this question were often very well prepared and there were some very good answers. However, there were also some responses which showed very thin knowledge indeed and even misread the time period of the question. Most competent responses were well-focused Level 4 answers that concentrated mainly on Bismarck's battles with the Centre Party and the Socialists suggesting that although he remained in control these were not wholly successful. However, there were several excellent responses which analysed Bismarck's relationship with a range of parties highlighting his early alliance with the National Liberals and later move towards more conservative elements. Very few responses commented on his failure to manipulate the Reichstag parties during the events of his final downfall.

Question 5

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

Topic 3 has become by far the most popular topic of Option E and, as such, responses vary widely in their quality. Most candidates are well prepared with good knowledge of the content covered in the specification but there are a significant number who find it difficult to select supporting evidence which is wholly relevant to the questions asked or who make assertions without justifying or explaining the points made. A significant number of candidates also produce responses with a very confused chronology; in this session the chronology of both Mussolini's rise to power and his foreign policy in the 1920s were often inaccurate. Candidates also still confuse foreign policy with economic policy and assume Mussolini was prominent in politics before World War 1. Centres should also consider clearly defining the chronology of Mussolini's relationship with the Catholic Church and the Papacy; a significant number clearly believe that the Lateran Treaties were signed in 1925 or before. Although Q5 was the more popular, the two questions appear to have provided a clear choice for the candidates.

Although many candidates were able to produce a sound response to Q5 the overall quality of the responses was somewhat disappointing. This was a wide-ranging question and the mark scheme allowed for candidates to discuss either general factors or the more specific reasons for the gaining and consolidation of power but to achieve at the higher levels at least some acknowledgement of the difference between gaining and consolidating power was required. A disappointingly large number of responses often ignored the key events, particularly the March on Rome, and/or produced a confused chronology veering between events before and after 1922 with little coherence; many candidates, in particular, produced confused accounts of Mussolini's relationship with the Catholic Church. Added to this many candidates assumed that the key factor referred solely to the weakness of the Liberal State rather than a broader discussion of political opposition, including the Socialists. The selection of supporting evidence regarding the Liberal State often then led to weak arguments relying on the contextual background of the period before 1919. Many responses relied on assertions rather than clear explanation of how weaknesses led to the gaining of or consolidation of power. For example, asserting that Mussolini took advantage of the weaknesses of *Trasformismo* but not explaining how he took advantage of Giolitti's offer of political participation. Such responses often gained high Level 3 or low-mid Level 4.

However, there were also some very good responses which were able to analyse the extent to which Mussolini both gained and consolidated power as a result of the weaknesses of political opponents. These responses acknowledged the role of a variety of political opposition including liberal, socialist and Catholic politicians in relation to other factors such as the role of violence, the attitude of the elites and the attraction of Fascism. Several of these suggested that while weak political opposition may have allowed Mussolini to take power it was a combination of intimidation, elite support and political manipulation that allowed him to consolidate his position. Other response suggested that rather than weak political opposition it was the perceived strength of the socialists which allowed Mussolini to come to power. The key feature of these responses was the ability to create a coherent and chronologically secure discussion of both the events and forces which led to both the gaining and consolidation of power in the relevant time period.

Question 6

This question gave candidates the chance to discuss Mussolini's foreign policy across the whole period. The most obvious approach was to acknowledge the events post-1939 and then to analyse the extent of success and failure before this date. However, fewer candidates than expected realised the need to discuss the position both pre-and post-1939 assuming that the statement with regard to the period after 1939 was a certainty. Therefore, examiners were directed not to expect a detailed discussion of the post-1939 period but some acknowledgement of these events was required to achieve at Level 5. Most candidates produced a response covering quite a narrow chronological range concentrating on the 1930s while including some extra reference to the Corfu Incident. A significant minority of responses clearly confused the chronology of events, often undermining the argument and leading to contradictory statements. However, the wording of the question did lead to some very convincing arguments and interesting answers which showed explicit understanding of events. Those candidates who were able to relate success and failure to the emergence of the Axis in the 1930s were particularly effective; tracing the failures of post-1939 to Mussolini's move towards Germany and away from the western democracies. Others traced the seeds of failure further back in the 1920s.

Most candidates have a very good understanding of the events in Abyssinia and the Spanish Civil War and were able to see a turning point in the 1930s. A small minority of candidates continue to believe that Mussolini's foreign policy was entirely related to the domestic 'battles'. It is also worth noting that once again some candidates clearly stated that at both Adowa and in 1935 the Abyssinian forces were armed with little more than spears when this was far from the position in reality.

(This page is for your second answer.)

Mussolini in the War
Hitler → Diplomacy → Abyssinia
(Spanish Civil War)

In 1939 World War Two began, a year later in 1940 Italy joined the war. During the war Italy suffered badly in the Balkans and North Africa and so showed the bad foreign policy of the country's dictator during ~~the great~~ the war. However, before the war Mussolini was also heavily involved in the foreign policy, most notably in the 1935 invasion of Abyssinia and the diplomatic situations of the 1930s. However, successful Mussolini's pre-war foreign policy was is debatable.

(This page is for your second answer.)

~~Mussolini's~~ Mussolini's foreign policy was undoubtedly unsuccessful during the war as Italy struggled and was eventually invaded in 1943. Before the war Italy spent 11.8% of GDP on the military and claimed to have 8,000,000 bayonets ready, where in reality it only had 800,000 troops, who not all ~~were~~ were well-equipped. In ~~October~~^{September} 1940 Italy invaded Egypt, followed by Greece in October. Italy could not cope on both fronts and the German General Rommel had to take over in North Africa in January 1941, while German troops swept through the Balkans in little over a week. The failures continued and in ~~18~~ July 1943 the allies successfully invaded Sicily. It is clear then the Mussolini's foreign policy was unsuccessful during the war.

The alliance with Germany was key

(This page is for your second answer.)

to ~~keep~~ supporting Italy during the war and the forging of this alliance was one piece of Mussolini's policy pre-WWII. Mussolini and Hitler first met in 1934 in Venice. The meeting did not go well however, as the two clashed over Austria. However, during the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) Hitler and Mussolini was brought together by their support for the fascist General Franco and signed the Rome-Berlin axis in 1936. In 1937 Mussolini visited Berlin and then signed the anti-Comintern pact. The co-operation then turned into a full military alliance in 1939 with the Pact of Steel. Mussolini clearly sustained a good alliance with another 'great power' which proved essential to the country later on and so the strength of the alliance can be seen as one piece of foreign policy which was successful.

(This page is for your second answer.)

When moving closer to Germany, Mussolini moved further away from Britain and France. His relations with the other great powers is another pre-WWII piece of foreign policy. In 1935 he signed the Stresa Front with Britain, France and Germany, showing good relations with the other countries. However, his 1935 invasion of Abyssinia angered Britain and France, ~~who~~ despite the fact the Suez Canal was left open for Italians. Furthermore Britain and France, still offered an alliance in ~~the~~ 1939, showing that Anglo-Italo-French relations were still reasonable good. Therefore his European diplomacy could be seen as another of Mussolini's foreign policy successful.

The invasion of Abyssinia did however put a strain on these relations and this event should be also taken into account when considering pre-war foreign policy.

(This page is for your second answer.)

In October 1935 Italian forces invaded Abyssinia as it was surrounded by other Italian colonies and was not controlled by another European power. Due to advanced technology the Italians had the war won by May 1936. Although propaganda hailed the mission as a great success, it did bring a strain to the nation. The deficit rose from 2.5 billion Lira, to 76 billion Lira and in 1936 Mussolini was forced to devalue the Lira by 40%. Due to the adverse effects of the invasion of Abyssinia on Italy, it is probably fair to say that this was one piece of Mussolini's pre-WWII foreign policy which was unsuccessful.

Overall, it is clear to see that Mussolini's foreign policy in World War Two was unsuccessful. Many military failures, including

(This page is for your second answer.)

a naval defeat at Taranto put a strain on the nation, which became reliant on German coal and oil. This therefore shows how ~~unlike~~ a piece of Mussolini's pre-war foreign policy, the alliance with Germany, was successful, as it brought some benefits to the nation when it was struggling in the war. Furthermore, during the tense diplomacy of the 1930s, Mussolini was able to keep relations with a number of other countries reasonably well and so should be considered another minor success in foreign policy. However, this is largely outweighed by the poor decision to invade Abyssinia which adversely affected Italy, especially economically. Therefore it is sensible to ~~conclude that~~ only partly agree that only after 1939 did Mussolini's foreign policy become unsuccessful.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a mid-Level 4 response. It is well-focused and has an understanding of the key issues of the question. It has a well developed discussion of foreign policy both before and after 1939, but is concentrated on the period 1935-43 leading to some imbalance. The argument put forward is not always convincing.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Always try to cover the whole time period of the question set.

Question 7

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

Once again it is a pleasure to note that candidates studying this topic are gaining in confidence with material across all the four bullet points of the specification. Centres should be congratulated for preparing candidates to deal with a complex content and chronology so well. It is very rare to find a candidate who confuses the Nationalists and Republicans although a few responses did suggest that some of the more conservative parties were part of the myriad elements of the Republican divisions. Most candidates who chose to answer the question on Francoism were confident in their supporting material but there were a few who mistook the time period for the Civil War.

Most candidates came to the question able to discuss a variety of factors and with adequate supporting material. Responses tended to be differentiated through the ability to show clearly the effect of internal political divisions on the effectiveness of the Republican forces and/or the ability to show the relative importance of the given factor in the Republican defeat. Many responses described the internal political divisions both before and during the war but were unable to explain how they affected the prosecution of the war itself; a brief reference to the 'war within a war' in Barcelona would have at least shown some understanding. Some of the most effective responses were able to show how internal divisions had a direct influence on other factors leading to defeat, such as foreign intervention, military tactics and political leadership. Some less able candidates also tended to briefly acknowledge the divisions or dismiss the internal divisions with little development quickly moving on to a discussion of other factors, particularly, foreign intervention or the leadership of Franco. These responses did not show the importance of other factors in relation to the internal divisions but merely asserted them leading to focused (Level 4) but not directly focused (Level 5) answers.

There were several high level responses which coherently argued for the importance of other factors but which were able to show why they were more important. For example, arguing that despite internal disputes the Republicans were able to hold on to their urban strongholds but only until Franco had amassed the means to make his final assault. There was some tendency to produce formulaic answers which are evidenced by the number of candidates who wrote in relation to Nationalist victory rather than Republican defeat.

(This page is for your first answer.)

The nationalist victory in the civil war came after three years of brutal fighting and despite the initial republican advantage, the nationalists were triumphant. Internal divisions amongst the left were crucial to the republican downfall and although other factors played a key role as well, the internal divisions are the root of all the ills of the left.

Internal divisions amongst the left were stark. First of all, there was a clear lack of consensus regarding the aims of the left. The anarchists and marxists both wanted immediate revolution whilst the socialists and communists wanted the same reforms but at a slower pace. These divisions were detrimental as they struggled to rally around leaders such as Caballero, who was too moderate for the liking of some. These tensions actually boiled over with riots occurring in

Republican zones with 300 people killed in Barcelona, highlighting the divisions. Without any unity, the war effort was severely hindered as rather than focusing on the enemy of the Nationalists, they were focusing on the enemy within. These divisions alone may not be important enough to be the main causes of Nationalist victory, but they also acted as a stimulus for other factors which proved detrimental.

(This page is for your first answer.) Internal divisions lay the foundations for other problems the left had, most crucially, the detrimental effects of foreign aid. While it must be acknowledged that an increasing loyalty to appeasement meant that a ~~foreign~~ ^{European} war was unlikely to distract ~~foreign~~ the Germans and Italians from their support, the 1937 non-intervention pact meant that foreign aid, or a lack of it, was playing the left. Yet they still received the International Brigades who were ideologically motivated and certainly contributed to the war effort but this was ~~mostly~~ undone by the divisions of the left. Due to the divisions, Soviet aid, undoubtedly the most significant, proved debilitating. As there was disunity amongst the left, Stalin found it easy to manipulate ~~Spain~~ the Republicans in order to prolong the war and drain the resources of other foreign powers. Stalin's installation of Negrin, a more dictatorial leader who controlled his zones through repression and censorship highlighted how the divisions were exacerbated by foreign aid, but were also the cause of it going so wrong. ~~The~~

The left's decision to implement their political ideology in their army was also a fundamental error but again, this brought about by the issue of solidarity. Despite $\frac{17}{21}$ of the leading army commanders being extremely loyal to the left at the outset of the civil war, the tactics of the Republican militia were praised. George Orwell comments "no heels, no badges, no heel-chinking" highlighting the lack of discipline and equality within an army. This is problematic as Franco, renowned for his discipline troops and conventional military tactics, would completely annihilate the Republicans if they were to adopt such a tactic. This problem stems back to the internal divisions as there was no leader to rally around and therefore no leader to provide the Republicans with the discipline and motivation they sorely lacked.

(This page is for your first answer.) ~~Finally, Franco's military tactics~~

Internal divisions seem to be the most important factor of why the Republicans were weak - It seems to be the foundation of all of their problems, but this is made abundantly clear by the polar opposite which were the nationalists under Franco. Franco's leadership ensured that all the mistakes of the Republicans were not repeated ~~and~~ and elucidates how for every Republican weakness, there was a nationalist strength to exacerbate matters further. In conclusion, it seems that Franco's tactics and the successes of the right were marginally more important as while the left was substantially weaker, their strength was required for victory.

⊛ His military tactics were also a perfect blend of intimidation and bribery. His earlier ^{experience} ~~experience~~ of the Canary Island meant that he was respected by all but also gave him access to the vast tobacco plantation located there. This provision of cheap tobacco as well as medicines such as Toledo ~~liquor~~ which emboldened Franco's core for his troops meant that the atmosphere was a perfect blend of content and coercion, crucial for keeping the nationalists united.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is a Level 5 response. It is directly focused on the question asked with an explicit understanding of the key issues. The supporting evidence is well selected and has both depth and range. This is a clearly integrated response with reference being made to the given factor throughout.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Try to make sure that the beginning of each new paragraph is linked in some way to the paragraph before or clearly state when a new point is being made.

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer .

If you change your mind, put a line through the box
and then put a cross in another box .

Chosen Question Number:

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| Question 7 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Question 8 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Question 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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From the outbreak of the Spanish civil war, historians have argued that the main reason for the Republican defeat was due to internal political divisions while others argue it was in fact foreign intervention, unity or lack of military tactics which caused their loss.

Foreign Intervention is argued to be the main reason for Republican defeat as Britain and France both decided not to intervene, ~~while~~ the ~~Republican~~ Republicans got weapons from the USSR in a vast quantity which helped them in supplying their army. However, most of these weapons were old and outdated and so hindered the Republicans more than aiding them. Also, while the Republicans got this the Nationalist foreign intervention came in the form of Germany who got completely involved in the war as well as supplying weapons also took on a

(This page is for your first answer.) more pro-active role and successfully captured the Basque region from the Bombing of Guernica and also got help by the airlift of the army of Africa which resulted in them getting more troops. And so, in this in comparison to Republican foreign intervention was much greater. However, it could be said that there are more important factors within the army itself that played a larger role than this.

Political divisions
It could be argued that ~~leadership~~ was the reason for Republican failure. This is because the Nationalists had General Franco who had clear aims and motivated troops to fight whereas, the Republicans had a series of prime ministers throughout the war's period and lacked a clear aim which created misunderstandings with no one knowing what they were fighting for which didn't happen for the Nationalists as it wasn't so politically based and had ~~a better~~ leadership ~~and~~ little experience with the Republicans lacked.

Another reason which is said to of resulted in the Republican failure in the civil war was the

(This page is for your first answer.) military tactics from the Republicans. This could partially be due to the fact its leadership was based in government not a military background and so in a war situation had ~~a no~~ strategy. For example ~~the~~ at the start of the civil war the Republicans held the upper hand by gobbling Madrid and separate Nationalist zones. However, during the civil war they only defended never aimed to gain & so arguably they couldn't of actually won.

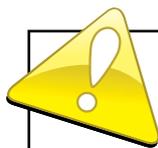
Also, unity is said to be one of the key factors which resulted in the loss of the war. This is because in the middle of the civil war the Nationalists split up the Republican zones. This resulted in a lack of communication and knowledge of what was going on between areas and so also resulted in a lack of common goals where in comparison the Nationalists were unified under one leader unlike the multiple prime ministers during the wars period on the Republican side. For example they had such a lack of this that civil wars within the civil war broke out in places like Barcelona.

(This page is for your first answer.) When added together as a whole without foreign intervention both sides would of lacked weapons but for the Nationalists they also gained advice, this lead to greater military tactics on their side while the Republicans tactics came from the Cortes rather than anyone with war or military experience however, this could of been said to of come from Political divisions which caused this one with no common aims or leadership. ~~But this~~ And, without this happening it is arguable that the Republican side may of had more unity leading to a victory on their side. Weighing up these factors I think it was overall the lack of military tactics as this was ~~not~~ primarily a war and the Republicans didn't know what to do or how to win as although these other factors could of improved it if they were better it was this that lost them the war overall.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is a typical of a low Level 3 response. It attempts analysis and has some understanding of the focus of the question. A series of relevant factors are discussed briefly with some secure supporting material. It is not really clear what the given factor of the question is; in this case the lack of development of the internal divisions within the Republicans. A Level 2 response, may have more detail but lacks an attempt to explain.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Always try to develop, explain and analyse the given factor in as much detail as possible even if you are arguing that another factor is more important.

Question 8

It was pleasing to see that more candidates chose to answer this question than was expected. Almost all candidates argued that despite beginning his rule with clearly both brutal and repressive policies, Franco's style of rule changed over time leading to a less brutal and repressive but nonetheless very conservative Spain. Some candidates did struggle with the term 'brutal' and appeared to interpret the meaning as oppressive or mean. Very few candidates failed to discuss repressive or conservative measures, such as the Press Law, Clerical Laws and Civil Code or to mention the essentially repressive policy of autarky; although some spent too much time discussing economic policy. However, there was less discussion of the brutality of the 'purification' process and effects of the Law of Political Responsibilities with more than a few merely referring vaguely to continued terror. Most candidates determined a turning point towards the end of the 1950s with the arrival of the 'technocrats' of Opus Dei but were not as aware of the political changes, such as the Law of Political Associations and Organic Law of 1967, which broke further ties with the Falange. More able candidates were able to clearly establish the early brutality of the regime combined with the repressive control of society and the economy followed by a move to a still controlling but less harsh political, social and economic climate from the late 1950s. There were also some excellent responses which were able to comment on the innate conservatism of the whole period and highlighted this with reference to the return to a more repressive and, indeed at times, brutal response to opposition in the last years of Franco's rule.

Question 9

E5 Germany Divided and Reunited, 1945-91

Candidates for this topic are usually very well grounded in the overall context and themes of the post-war period for Germany. Knowledge is usually good but there is a tendency to focus on questions which candidates want to answer rather than the question on the paper itself. This can lead to responses which have some relevance but are not focused enough to achieve beyond mid-Level 4. This is also highlighted by the selection of supporting evidence which may have some relevance and allow some analysis but which is not relevant enough to explain clearly a response to the exact question asked. In both of the questions set this June, responses tended to be imbalanced towards establishing the context of the situation under discussion; for Q9 the 1950s and for Q10 the mid-1980s.

This question allowed for some interesting discursive responses and the best answers were often those which challenged the stability of West Germany in comparison to the East. There were a few responses which were able to succinctly discuss the true nature of a repressed but 'stable' political situation in the East, the extent to which West Germany was truly democratic and the potentially destabilising emergence of left-wing terrorism in West Germany in the 1970s. A few candidates seemed to assume that the only political threat to West Germany was from the nationalist far-right. Most candidates were able to refer to the creation of the 'niche' economy in the East and the threat to the 'economic miracle' of the West in the late 1960s and early 70s. However, far too many responses were focused on the contextual underpinning of what happened immediately post-war and in the 1950s; although relevant and, when well handled, capable of reaching the lower bands of Level 4, responses which concentrated on the events of the 1950s without any clear connection to the 1960s and 70s were only attempting analysis with some understanding of the question (Level 3). There were a significant minority of responses that produced a very confused chronology with Ulbricht being in control until the end of the period and severe unrest occurring in East Germany in the 1960s. A lack of clear chronology also led to a few responses referring to mass migration across the borders in the 1970s. As previously stated though, the best responses led to some of the most interesting and thoughtful answers produced across the whole paper.

Question 10

As with Q9 many candidates spent too long discussing the context for the failure of Communism in East Germany, leaving them with little time to discuss the process of rapid re-unification from 1989-90. Once again the effective use of context clearly related to the events of re-unification could lead to well-focused (Level 4) responses, but many spent so much time discussing the events leading to the fall of the Berlin Wall that they did not have enough time even to describe re-unification. A number of candidates answered the question with no reference to Chancellor Kohl at all.

Overall candidates handle the chronology of the events of the 1980s well but many seem to think that East Germany collapsed almost immediately on Gorbachev's coming to power. Some excellent responses were able to weigh up the importance of the forces needed to bring about 'rapid' re-unification and this was the differentiating factor between high Level 4 responses which discussed a variety of factors bringing about re-unification and Level 5 answers which focused on the speed of events. The best responses often explained how Kohl's certainty that re-unification was the only way to prevent upheaval in both 'Germanies' inter-twined with the desires of many East Germans for re-unification, the acceptance of the West Germans of his plans and the reluctant, but crucial, support of both Western politicians and Gorbachev.

Question 11

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

This is a popular topic often found in combination with Italy (E3) or Spain (E4). Since the beginning of the qualification candidates have been well prepared, if not always chronologically secure, with regard to events pre-1979, so it is a pleasure to find that centres are now more confident in approaching the bullet point relating to the nature of Arab nationalism post-1979. The candidates who chose Q12 were rarely doing so because they could not do Q11 but because they were confident in being able to answer Q12. The supporting material being delivered for this bullet point is now much more appropriate and there is a sense of thematic breadth being established across the two bullet points focused on Arab nationalism.

This was the more popular of the two questions. Although contextual understanding was clearly relevant, if not vital, to this question many responses became imbalanced with too much background material and not enough direct focus on the failure of the UN Plan. This was compounded by a disappointing number of candidates who seemed to have accurate knowledge of how the Plan came about or what it actually suggested. The chronology of events was often confused with some candidates suggesting that the White Paper of 1939 or even the Balfour Declaration were connected to the Plan. There were a few poor responses which made some relevant but vague and generalised statements about Jewish-Arab relations. The majority of responses were confident in discussion of the contextual background but unable to make a clear connection to the details of the Plan and/or the events which followed. However, there were also some very accomplished responses that were able to connect the long-term context to the details of the Plan referring to the effects of the land distribution, the 'kissing-points' and the status of Jerusalem. The better responses were also clearly aware of both the Jewish and Arab initial responses and the rapidity by which it became clear that peace was unlikely. The higher Level responses were some of the most interesting to read across the whole paper.

Question 12

Centres have clearly been reflecting with candidates on the growth of Islamist politics and the nature of Arab nationalism post-1979. Most candidates who attempted this question were able to discuss the Iranian Revolution with some confidence. However, a few responses did try to shoe-horn their knowledge of events from pre-1979 into a relevant answer. The focus of the question was the significance of the Iranian Revolution and was not a straightforward multi-causal question which did mean that candidates who produced a more 'formulaic' style of answer rarely achieved above mid-Level 4. The mark scheme allowed for candidates to respond to the question through a broad analysis of the significance of the Iranian Revolution or by relative comparison to other factors. Most candidates chose to compare the Revolution with other factors, such as the decline of the 'Nasser' form of Arab nationalism, the decline of the traditional PLO, the situation in Lebanon, the declining influence of Egypt and foreign intervention in the Middle East. There was some interesting discussion of the factors limiting the influence of the Revolution with reference to Iran being both non-Arab and Shiite and to the effects of the long, drawn-out Iran-Iraq War. Some candidates had a very good understanding of the complex political loyalties of the different sects and states within the Middle East and Gulf regions. Most responses suggested that the Iranian Revolution acted more as a potential role model than a facilitator of Islamist politics with other factors being more important in its growth. There were some very interesting and thought-provoking responses.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Don't attempt to predict questions or create model answers based on the presumed wording of a question. This can limit revision, lead to lack of choice and/or to a lack of explicit focus, resulting in lower levels being awarded.
- Analyse causation using a variety of methods. Factors influencing causation are usually addressed with confidence but questions which require learners to weigh up the relative significance of long-term against short-term/immediate factors less so.
- Pay greater attention to the analysis of concepts other than causation; also consider the relative significance of a number of outcomes and reflect on issues concerning change over time within the period of study.
- Use historical words and phrases appropriate to the period of study and to deploy these with some fluency.
- Finally, centres are strongly advised to acquaint candidates with the format of the answer booklet before sitting the exam, particularly in which part of the booklet to write the two answers.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

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