

Examiners' Report

June 2025

GCE History 9HI0 2D

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Introduction

It was pleasing to see candidates able to engage effectively across the ability range with A Level paper 2D, which deals with The Unification of Italy, c 1830-70 (2D.1) and The Unification of Germany, c 1840-71 (2D.2). The paper is divided into two sections. Section A contains a compulsory question that is based on two linked sources. It assesses source analysis and evaluation skills (AO2). Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth (AO1) by targeting five second order concepts - cause, consequence, change and continuity, similarity and difference, and significance.

Candidates appeared to organise their time effectively and there was very little evidence of candidates being unable to attempt both answers within the time allocated. There were fewer examples of illegible handwriting this summer but centres are reminded that examiners are only able to give credit for what they can read. After last series' introductory comments, there were less responses referring formulaically to the language of the mark scheme, and more responses that engaged with the substance of the questions being asked.

In Section A, the strongest answers were able to develop reasoned and supported inferences based on the sources. Such responses evaluated the sources thoroughly in relation to the demands of the enquiry on the basis of both the contextual knowledge that was on offer and through an awareness of the nature, origin and purpose of the source. There was, however, an increased tendency to see the sources as views (as with the extracts in paper 1) rather than as sources of evidence. For example, while the letters of the US diplomat in Source 1 do provide a view on the revolutions, the proclamation in Source 2 provides evidence of Austrian strength more through the inferences that can be made. There is also some evidence of candidates claiming that a source is not useful because it does not directly give information about the enquiry. The mark scheme clearly indicates that making inferences from the content is a central skill in evaluating sources.

There were fewer candidates this year who did not address the focus of the investigation and there are very few candidates now who do not use the sources 'together' in their response. Approaches vary in using the two sources together but that is perfectly acceptable, as long as it is present. Most candidates are now able to address the content of the sources with confidence but often do not meet Level descriptors fully because of limited contextual knowledge (BP2) or limitations to the evaluation (BP3).

Although there are fewer candidates providing contextual knowledge that is 'stand alone' and not clearly illuminating or challenging information and inferences, there were a significant number of responses that began with a brief summary of the focus of the investigation. This sometimes resulted in candidates beginning to answer the enquiry itself rather than evaluating the sources adequately. It also led to responses in which the candidate was using the content of the sources to exemplify the answer to the enquiry itself rather than evaluating the usefulness of the sources in relation to the enquiry. The impact of this was to hold down the marks that were achievable in this question.

In section B, it was clear that most candidates had a secure knowledge base, but this was not always effectively used to address the specific focus of the questions posed. Stronger answers clearly understood the importance of identifying the appropriate second order concept that was

being targeted by the question. Weaker candidates either engaged in a narrative approach that made links to the question in the conclusion or alternatively shaped their responses analytically but lacked sufficient substance and accurate contextual knowledge to support the arguments that they were making. It continues to be the case that there are a number of responses that have a tendency to only deal with one side of an argument; some of these were a sophisticated analysis of that one side, showing the links between the issues that were raised, but it is essential that candidates acknowledge the existence of a counter argument, where appropriate. Candidates are encouraged to ensure that they take the most appropriate approach to answering a question. Candidates should always aim to show the links between the issues raised, not merely to present a list of factors. Candidates continue to need to be aware of the chronological parameters of questions and to ensure that they write across the chronology. Equally, the evidence that is presented should come from within the timeframe of the chronology of the question.

2D.1 is the most popular of the two Options. Candidates for both Options were generally very well prepared with some excellent knowledge being shown and clear understanding of the second order concepts being assessed in Section B. There were some particularly strong responses in Section B to Q4 and examiners noted that many were interesting and enjoyable to read.

Please note: It is recommended that centres look at a selection of Principal Examiner Reports from across the different options within 9HI02 and previous series to get an overall sense of examiner feedback, centre approaches and candidate achievement.

Centres may wish to refer to the *Getting Started* guide that is to be found on the Pearson Edexcel GCE History website and to specific guidance and training materials that refer to AO2 source evaluation.

The candidates' performance on individual questions is considered in the next section.

Question 1

Candidates were required to evaluate two sources together (Source 1 – letters written from Rome by a US diplomat to the US government in the midst of the revolutions & Source 2 – a proclamation made by the Austrian General Radetsky to the people of Venice) in relation to an enquiry into the reasons for the failure of the 1848-49 revolutions in Italy.

There were some extremely strong responses to this enquiry with most candidates not only being able to make reasoned inferences from the Sources but also having considerable contextual knowledge to both illuminate and challenge the veracity of the Sources. For Source 1, candidates were able to make inference about the weaknesses of the revolutionaries themselves, highlight references to weak governance, excesses and divisions and, for Source 2, references to the strengths of the Austrian forces in the latter period of the revolutions. There was some very good use of knowledge of the events of the revolutions to illuminate the evidence provided. There was more reference to what was not mentioned this year and while this approach can be used effectively it does often lead to questionable assumptions being made. Many responses suggested that the diplomat in Source 1 only covered events in northern and central Italy but in the final paragraph the divisions with the Two Sicilies are clearly reference.

There was some good use of the provenance to support the evaluation of the sources, generally referring to the 'outsider' view from the US diplomat and the role of Radetsky as a key player in the revolutions. There were some questionable assumptions about the likely 'bias' of the US diplomat but there were some responses that were able to pick up on the tone of the author in reluctantly having to admit that the revolutionaries were not as liberal or as effective as he would have hoped.

There was some excellent use of the sources together with many of the candidates able to cross-reference both the failure of the revolutionaries themselves and the strength of Austria in both sources. Better responses were able to weigh up the relative usefulness of the sources with most coming to the conclusion that the letters of the US diplomat were able to give a wider, relatively neutral response to events. Weaker responses often answered the enquiry, using the sources as evidence rather than evaluating the utility of the evidence provided in the sources.

This is a high Level 4 response.

Source one suggests that the failure of the 1848 - 49 revolutions in Italy ~~was~~ was because of the inexperience and divisions between the Italian people themselves. The source states that the revolution has been 'undermined by the brutal acts of the ~~revolutionaries~~ revolutionaries themselves' and continues to assert that 'people living in the city and people living in the countryside have very different opinions about the revolution'. This indicates that despite the desire for unity and reform, the ~~the~~ fragmented identity and aims of the ~~an~~ Italian people undermined the 1848 - 49 revolutions, creating inevitable failure due to a lack of cohesion. At this time, the north of Italy was ~~the~~ industrialised, prosperous and mostly literate, acting as a hub for liberal discourse and secret nationalist societies like the Carbonari or Young Italy. On the other hand, the South was rural, poor and ~~was~~ lacked education, limiting the spread of nationalist ideas during revolutions. While this divide did create a

volatile social atmosphere, during the 1848 to 1849 revolutions, it exacerbated ~~spore~~ socioeconomic grievances and meant that regions became focused on their own desires, rather than the wider cause of national unification. In terms of provenance, source one is somewhat reliable as the format of a letter suggests a private, truthful perspective, not likely used for the purpose of propaganda. Also, as the source was written by an American diplomat, it lacks bias from one particular perspective and suggests that, as a removed view, ~~the source~~ it may not suffer from the writer's personal opinions on the unification cause. Therefore, the source is useful in showing how internal divisions weakened the unification efforts of the revolutionaries in 1848 - 49.

~~Furthermore, source~~ Source two, on the other hand, suggests that Austrian dominance, in response to the enduring efforts of ~~the~~ Italian revolutionaries, was the main reason for the failure of the 1848 - 49 revolutions. ~~The source states that~~ In the source, Radetzky states that if the revolutionaries refuse to

surrender, they 'will be given no opportunity to leave and will receive no mercy.' This indicates the brutality of the Austrian forces in ~~to~~ the north, suggesting that their cruel military suppression acted as a crucial reason for the failure of revolution. In 1849, at the Battle of Novara, Piedmontese troops, led by ~~By~~ Charles Albert, were severely outnumbered and ~~consequently~~ weak so, consequently, were defeated by Austrian troops who reasserted dominance over Lombardy-Venetia. Moreover, after this war, Charles Albert abdicated, highlighting the brutality of Austrian forces and the ~~impact of these in power within the~~ humiliating impact on those leading the unification cause between 1848 and 1849. In terms of provenance, the source is a direct account from Radetzky himself, showing an authentic Austrian attitude towards Italy and positioning ~~th~~ them as a main cause of revolutionary failure. However, as a proclamation, the source may suffer from bias or overstate the brutality of Austria, as Radetzky may have used this as propaganda to encourage anti-revolutionary sentiment or ~~to~~ to force nationalists into surrender. It does

however, act as a useful source of information in highlighting foreign dominance as a key contributor to the failure of the 1848-49 revolutions.

Used together, the sources can be very useful in displaying both the internal and external ~~can~~ causes of the failure of ~~the~~ revolution, creating a multifaceted perspective on why the revolutionaries were unable to achieve their nationalist aims in 1848-49. Both source one and source two highlight the role of the 'Austrians at Novara', indicating that external forces did contribute to the failure of revolution. Source one, however, only briefly mentions this ~~the~~ factor, whereas source two is entirely focused on Austrian dominance, suggesting diverging perspectives as a result of the viewpoint of the two writers. Also, while source one appears to be a private account of events in Italy, source two acts as a public proclamation, possibly used as propaganda. Therefore, while useful in showing the strength of Austrian suppression, ~~the~~ source two may overstate or ignore other factors, like internal divisions, that contributed ~~the~~ to the failure

of the 1848 - 49 revolutions in Italy.

Overall, sources one and two are very useful, if used together, in showing the various reasons for the failure of the 1848 - 49 revolutions. ~~Both~~ While source one highlights the more long term, internal divisions and localised aims as key factors that contributed to the failure of revolution, source two demonstrates the more short term catalyst for failure ~~of the~~, being Austrian dominance. Furthermore, source one is useful in offering a more removed, indirect perspective, lacking in bias or political motive; yet source two also introduces an interesting, but far more direct and ~~more~~ politically driven viewpoint. Therefore, ~~the~~ when used together, the sources are extremely useful in showing both outsider and insider perspectives on why the revolutions of 1848 - 49 failed, indicating that the cause was a complex interplay between many, not just one, factors.



This response exemplifies L4 in all of the three bullet points. This can be seen clearly in its evaluation of Source 1. The response analyses the source material, interrogating evidence to make reasoned inferences. It uses the source ('people living in the city and people living in the countryside...') to make a reasoned inference about fragmented identity undermining the revolution. Knowledge of the historical context is deployed to illuminate what can be gained from the source while displaying some understanding of the need to interpret the source material in the context and values of the society from which it is drawn – it uses knowledge of the north-south divide in Italy and an awareness that the revolutions exacerbated this, to support the reasoned inference. Evaluation of the source material uses valid criteria – accuracy of information and provenance – that is justified and applied, with reference to the removed view of the author. The same qualities are demonstrated for Source 2 and using the sources together.

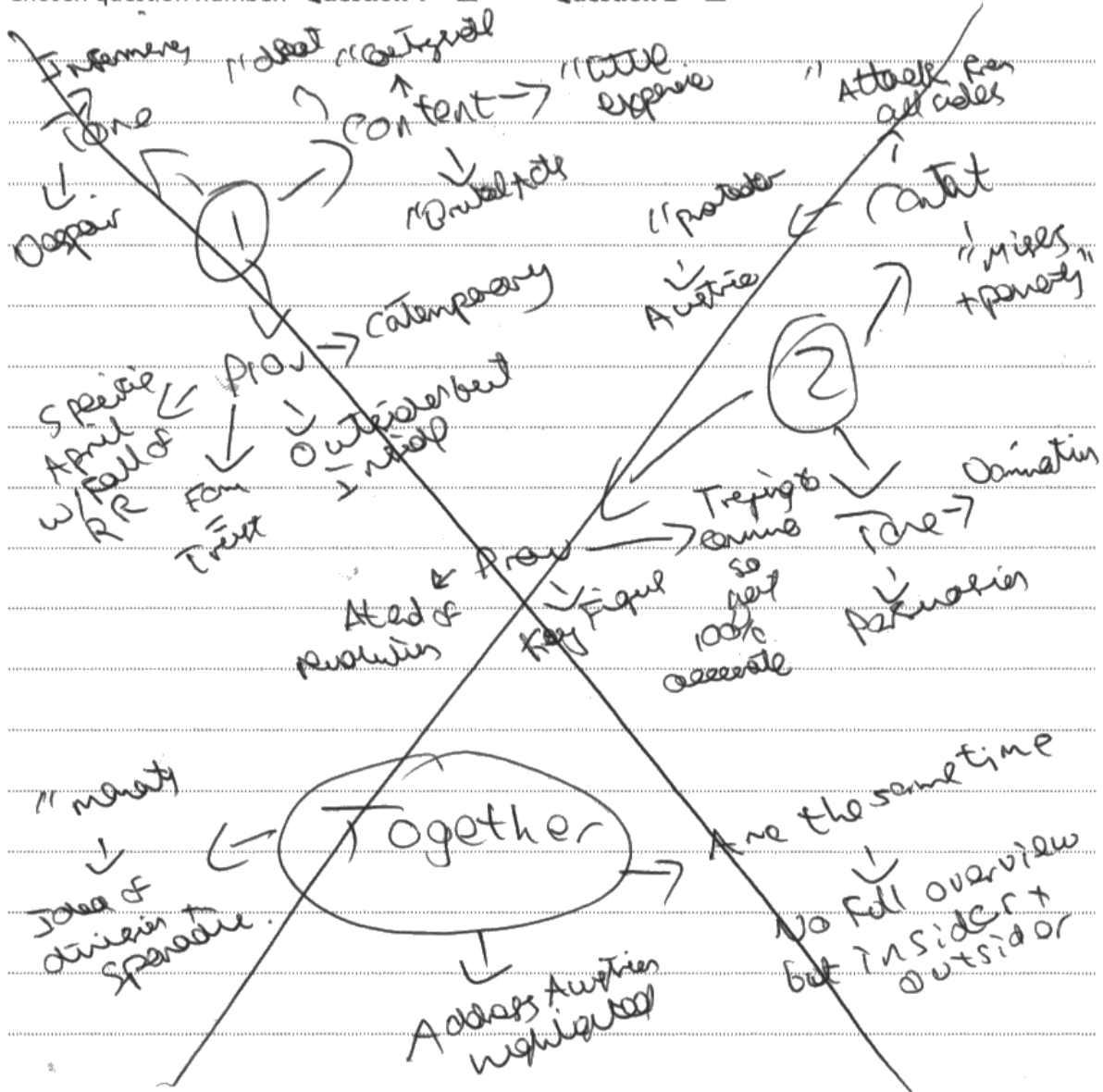


There is some reference to the weight of the Sources in the conclusion suggesting that when used together as a removed and direct perspective they are both extremely useful. However, to reach Level 5 the response needs to provide more justification of the weight the evidence will bear when coming to a judgement.

This is a Level 5 response.

Chosen question number: **Question 1** ☒

Question 2 ☒



The historian can make use of source 1 in investigating reasons for the Italian Revolution of 1848-49 failing thanks to its unique position of an outsider being embedded within the artist.

having "travelled through," Italy during the revolutions. This sees the letter produce accurate reports of why the revolution failed, for instance, "with so little experience and money" the Roman Republic was in a bad situation. This was reflective of the reality, where it took until June 1849 to establish a constitution, and at that point 20,000 French troops were already sieging Rome. Further to this, whilst the tone of despair used in the letter, such as, "a most unfortunate event", in regarding the abdication of Charles Albert, may suggest a preference for the democratic/republican revolutionaries, as a letter back to his own government, the diplomat is likely to provide information to the historian that is useful and accurate. It also has wide ranging content indicating of the failing in the revolution. For instance, "to those in the countryside, the revolution has been unacceptable." This is a useful insight into the narrow support base of the revolutionaries, as many peasants were annoyed with its middle class base who had profited from the sale of Church land under Napoleon 30 years earlier and charged high rent, see also Radetzky's return to Lombardy in June 1848, met with chaos. As such, by portraying wide ranging content regarding apathy in the country to revolution

and the inexperience of the Roman Republic, as well as reliable manpower, Source 1 is ^{very} useful for a historian to investigate reasons for the failure.

Source 2 is also useful in that it comes from a key figure in ending the revolution at a useful period. By May 1849, all revolutionary activity (for the Roman Republic, surely (that would be put down that month) and Venice. As such Rodet-Sky can help us understand why this came to be, which can be seen slightly in his denigrating tone, such as with the exclamation of "Venetians!" This gives away the strength of the Austrians in putting down the revolutionaries. Further to this, he references the "misery and poverty," felt by the Venetians. Whilst this may partially be motivated by a desire to convince them how bad their position is to convince them into surrender, it was not hyperbole as the Venetians had to survive over a year of siege by its fall, suffering from cholera and hunger. In a sense this helps suggest that, despite revolutionaries having great strength to hold on, the strength of the Austrians was critical. Yet this also comes at a cost to the value of the source, whilst it does reflect the strength of the Austrians, as Rodet-Sky's aim in this proclamation is to enhance the Austrian strength, it

does give a limited view. As such, although the ~~entire~~ may be accurate and reveals the Austrians as a key reason for the failed revolution, the prominence ~~limits~~ its usefulness to a historian, although it is still moderately useful. * of Source 2

When used together, however, we unveil more about the failure of the revolution in 1848-49. For instance, the emphasis placed on the Austrian strength by Source 2, "a victorious general," is supported in Source 1 which mentions the "defeat of Piedmont by the Austrians," as a key turning point - which it was as it secured the Austrian position and allowed them to focus on the siege of Venice. Also, Venice relied on Piedmont for protection after the Austrian Republic had not totally withdrawn. In addition, whilst neither source provides an overview of the entire event after the fall of the Roman Republic, their positions at the dawnings of the revolutionaries' fates allow them to pick up on key factors. They include how both of them pick up on the lack of divided motivation. Source 1 lists the various "aim of the liberal" with the various reasons for "Italy rejects Neapolitan domination" to "Tuscany refuses to unite with Rome" highlighting how the revolution was unable to work together and thus grasp a foothold against

The Austrian, French and restored order. This is backed up by source 2 as Rodet describes, "a year of revolutionary movement, months, a fitting description: The Five Days in Milan, formation of the Venetian Republic or the forming of a Constitution, handing back to the 1812 Austrian Constitution in Sicily in March all represent isolated movements, no united effort. As such, by reinforcing the idea of a strong Austria, and providing more context surrounding the limited nature of the revolutionaries, as well as a strong retrospective position of each of them, they are useful when used together.

In conclusion, the historian can make very good use of sources 1 and 2 to investigate the reasons for the failure of the 1848-49 revolution. Source 1 is packed full of detail and has a reliable perspective. Source 2 is more limited in its scope and may overexaggerate the role of the Austrians, but still provides a useful insight, especially when used with source 1, revealing the role of division in the failure of revolution. As such, sources 1 and 2 are very useful to investigate the reasons for the failure of the revolution 1848-49.



In this response it can be seen that the Level descriptors for Level 5 are met. The evidence for both sources is interrogated with confidence and discrimination to show understanding of the evidence provided by the US diplomat and the inferences that can be made from Radetzky's proclamation. Contextual knowledge is used to illuminate and challenge the evidence in the sources and is integrated with references to the values and concerns of the time. The evaluation of the sources together is particularly strong. There is a weighing up of the evidence through the response and in the conclusion.



At Level 5, responses often integrate the skills of the Level descriptors so that the evaluation takes all three bullet points into consideration at once. You can see this on page 2 of the response.

Question 2

Candidates were required to evaluate two sources together (Source 3 – an 1851 report by a Württemberg official relating to the renewal of the *Zollverein* & Source 4 – an article in *The Times* newspaper in 1853 about the development of the Prussian railways) in relation to an enquiry into the significance of Prussian economic development in the 1850s.

There were a wide variety of responses to the enquiry ranging from weaker Level 2 responses, where the Sources were comprehended rather than evaluated, through Levels 3 and 4 – with more evaluation of the usefulness of the Sources often using either provenance or content rather than both – to Level 5 responses that were able use the two Sources together to come to a reasoned judgement as to the utility of the Sources in relation to the enquiry. Almost all candidates were aware that the focus was on Prussian economic development in the 1850s and those that mentioned the 1840s and 1860s usually did so in relation to what was happening in the 1850s, so providing relevant and rewardable contextual knowledge.

There were some very strong reasoned inferences made from Source 3 in relation to how the points made about Württemberg could be used to make suggestions about the economic development of Prussia. Candidates used Source 4 to make inferences about the significance of the railways economically, socially, politically and militarily for Prussia. The provenance of the sources was generally used well to make comments about the purpose of the report in Source 3 and the potential bias of the article in Source 4. There were some candidates who used the tone of the newspaper article to suggest that there was some begrudging respect for developments in Prussia.

Most candidates felt that Source 3 carried more weight than Source 4, as although it was intended to persuade the Minister to renew the *Zollverein*, it had a sense of authority. Weaker responses were able to comprehend the sources and provide some contextual knowledge of economic developments in Prussia in the 1850s.

This is a 'best-fit' response. The candidate has written a response that meets different Levels of the Level Descriptor for different bullet points. Overall, this response is Level 4 minus for BP1 and BP2 but Level 2 minus for BP3 - this means that the response has been awarded a high Level 3 mark.

Source 3 and 4 are both useful when investigating the significance of Prussia's economic development during the 1850s. While source 3 talks upon the influence of the Zollverein and the importance of trade, source 4 highlights the heavy use of technology and railway. Both sources offer convincing arguments for why there's economic development in Prussia during the 1850s.

Firstly, source 3 can be seen as useful for an investigation into the significance of Prussian economic development during the 1850s due to the influence of the Zollverein. For example, this customs union allowed Prussia to push for unification in Germany, while also settling Prussia at the top of Europe. The Kleindeutschland solution meant the creation of a unified Germany, excluding Austria and source 3 says, "more significant trading activity has developed between the south German states and Prussia." This shows the growing power of Prussia during this period, while also demonstrating the vast economic power they were gaining through their trades with other states & countries. The source itself was written by a senior official from Württemberg, who says

that "Prussia recognises the mutual advantages to our economy as well as to its own industrial export markets". This shows that many southern states began to recognise the individual power of Prussia and the exclusion of Austria, demonstrating the power imbalance between the two. During this time in history Prussia also began developing through industrial means: the move from agricultural ways of living and working, meant the creation of factories, railways, etc, which was very high in production. However, factories and other industrial advancement required things like coal and iron, which Prussia could acquire through trade alone. Thus building up their trading centres and in turn prospering economically. Source 3 and senior officials also label Prussia as "easy to cooperate with," which further shows the more power of Prussia than Austria and in result of that may encourage other states/countries to follow suit, thus once again boosting Prussia's economic development. Therefore, source 3 can be useful when investigating the significance of Prussian economic development in the 1850s as it shows the use of the Zollverein and high trade points.

On the other hand, source 4 can also be seen as useful when investigating the significance of Prussia's

economic development during the 1850s due to the use of technology advancements. For example, the further developments in railways during this period allowed Prussia to heavily increase economically, source 4 demonstrates that, "the government intends to reduce ticket prices & use the railways for the public good." While before this period trains were mostly used for trading ~~needs~~ ^{goods} (such as coal), the movement towards public benefit would increase the economy of Prussia. Charging the public for travel would elivate economy development within Prussia and is something that most, if not all, citizens would be using. The source also speaks upon the military use of railways saying, "The Prussian military newspaper has complained about the movement of troops by railway." The main problem stems from military officers losing any sort of command when on trains; and only way of gaining this back is through driving the train. Seeing how important railways became in regards to military - Austro-Prussian War, Denmark War (1848 and 1866) and the Seven Weeks War (1866) - meant that using them to transeer soldiers was a must. Allowing officers to drive the train, meant that more jobs would open up for previous train drivers, thus helping add to Prussia's economic development. Therefore, source 4 can be seen as useful when investigating the significance of Prussia's

economic development built in the 1850s through the sources use of railways and technological advancements.

Both sources were written at the time of the 1850s and therefore show an accurate representation of how life was at the time, and the economic impact that held.



This response does tend to use its knowledge as context before analysing the source material but there are elements of L4 for both BP1 and BP2. In paragraph 1, the response demonstrates BP1 and BP2 working together at Level 4. At the end of the first page there is valid inference referring to the growing power of Prussia and at the top of the second page the selection of material ('...recognises the mutual advantages...') leads to a reasoned inference about the southern states recognising the individual power of Prussia and the imbalance of power. This is strengthened by contextual knowledge of the situation that the author, as an official of Württemberg, was writing in. For BP3, the evaluation of the source material is related to the specified enquiry but with limited support for judgement. The final sentence is L1 stereotypical. There is no direct reference to the provenance for Source 4 but in assuming that the official in Source 3 is reliable it is noting the position of the author. Content is validated by accuracy but this is essentially asserted.



It is important to evaluate the sources together and to come to a judgement on the usefulness of the sources in providing evidence for the enquiry. Valid criteria can include the accuracy of the information and/or the veracity of the source provenance that goes beyond noting the authorship of the source.

Question 3

Of the two Italy questions, Q3 was the less popular. Candidates were expected to determine the extent to which they agreed with the statement that, in the years 1849–56, Piedmont developed into a politically stable and economically prosperous state. Most candidates did address both the political and economic situation and those who were able to evaluate stability and prosperity were able to access Level 4 and Level 5.

There were some very good answers to this question and there were very few responses below Level 3. Candidates generally used the statement as a basis for discursive and exploratory analysis of the political and economic developments in Piedmont during the period. Most candidates agreed that there was political stability and economic success but the stronger responses were able to determine relative stability and prosperity. These responses often questioned the level of political stability with disagreements about the religious hold over secular life and the extent to which Piedmont was prosperous by the end of 1856. There was some excellent and very detailed knowledge of Cavour's economic policies and their impact on Piedmont, while the political situation was often less well addressed. Many, however, did address the *Statuto*, the *connubio*, the influence of the Papacy, and the influence of political emigrés.

This is a mid Level 5 response.

Chosen question number: Question 3 ☒ Question 4 ☒

Question 5 ☒ Question 6 ☒

P1: Statute stability - VE, control of Army

P2: Other political events

P3: economic prosperity, +trains, industry, Mines.

Between 1849 and 1856, Piedmont underwent significant development economically in terms of industry and transport. While this was occurring, many political events that may suggest ~~certain~~ levels of instability were occurring, such as issues with religion and foreign affairs. But, to some extent the stability the Statute brought did help to counteract this.

The Statute being maintained after the first war of Italian independence ~~to~~ ultimately helped bring about political stability in Piedmont to some extent. For example, the Statute made Victor Emmanuel the leader of ~~of~~ the state, establishing Piedmont further as a constitutional monarchy. This provided a

good amount of stability to Piedmont, as ultimately the King had the power to ~~check~~ challenge what was occurring in Parliament. While it could be argued that such a concentration of power with one person could lead to it being abused (thus leading to instability), in reality it was not often that Victor Emmanuel did this. However, one good example of this was in the Crimean War. Prime Minister Cavour ~~by Parliament~~ decided ^{by Cavour} that Piedmont would not intervene, ~~however~~. But Victor Emmanuel vetoed this decision, and Cavour was forced to send 20,000 troops. This ultimately ended up being a good foreign policy decision, proving that Victor Emmanuel's role did to ~~some extent~~ help Piedmont develop into a politically stable state. Furthermore, the liberal aspects of the constitution also helped Piedmont become politically stable. Aspects such as the granting of a Parliament and ~~limited~~ some freedom of speech and press helped satisfy liberals' demands that had initially demanded such changes from Charles Albert in 1847-48.

This meant there was no challenges to the role of the king or parliament. This overall stability that the Statute helped to provide, underlaid both the political and economic developments in Piedmont that occurred from 1849-56.

~~There were at~~ However, there were also other political developments in Italy from 1849-56. For example, the Siccardi Laws in 1855 were a set of anti-clerical laws that limited the powers of the church. It was these sorts of laws, ~~the~~ which ~~for~~ removed pensions for monks and nuns as well as other limitations to the church, that brought significant political controversy with them, being heavily debated and protested by the right. Despite this, stability was maintained overall, as political manoeuvrings like the Connubio helped to keep parliament together. The Connubio ~~helped~~ was the bringing together of ^{the} centre-left and centre-right in parliament over anti-clericalism. This alliance did bring a ~~cert~~ degree of stability, as it

helped difficult laws like the Sardinian Laws to be passed. There were also other bills that brought controversy and outrage, for example the bill in 1852 on civil marriage, however stability was ultimately maintained despite the resignation of a prime minister. This acts as evidence of the statute and political system in Piedmont in general working, as there was no collapsing of Parliament or anything similar despite controversial bills.

Furthermore, there was some economic development in Piedmont that points^{*} it being economically prosperous. For example, the building of railways was rapid in Piedmont compared to the rest of Italy, with 40% of railways ~~being~~ in Italy being in Piedmont. While these helped economic development to some extent, helping transport goods and people, there were still few compared to somewhere like Britain; a comparison of 0.003 km per capita versus ~~the~~ 0.7 km in Britain. This is also true of industrial

development in Piedmont, ~~which~~ while there was some growth, it was limited by the lack of coal in the region, meaning it was instead imported from places like Britain. This meant that any growth that did occur was slow, with only 114,000 industrial ~~and~~ workers in Piedmont.

In addition, along with this limited growth, the public debt in Piedmont skyrocketed in the period, going from 130 million lire in 1849 to over 700 million by 1859. While this extends past 1856, this growing debt was consistent in the whole period, hence showing that while Piedmont did not economically regress overall, with GDP going up 1.2% a year, growth was not rapid either.

Overall, ~~the Statute was~~ Piedmont was very politically stable by 1856 compared to ~~1849~~ 1849, primarily due to the role of the Statute. However, the extent to which it was economically prosperous is questionable, as while there was growth, it was limited.

But, this growth was arguably driven by Cavour ~~and~~ -with his passion for trains, and government spending, showing the role of the state again.



This response explores the suggestion that Piedmont became politically stable and economically prosperous in the period 1849-56. It provides evidence for stability and prosperity but also challenges the extent to which Piedmont was stable and prosperous. The response discusses the political situation more than the economy but there is sufficient to meet to demands of the question. Level 5 qualities are seen in the awareness of the extent to which the statement can be agreed upon.



It is always important to consider the time parameters of the question being asked. This question covers the time period 1849-56 and so does not require a discussion of events after 1856. It could be relevant to suggest that Cavour's diplomacy after 1856 reflected Piedmont's development in the period 1849-56 but a discussion of Franco-Piedmont relations would not be relevant. Addressing the time period is part of the skill of understanding the demands of the question.

Question 4

Candidates were expected to determine the accuracy of the statement that, in the years 1856–70, the process of Italian unification was almost wholly dependent on the role of France.

Many of the responses to Q4 were a pleasure to read. Most candidates were able to address the significance of France but the strongest got to grips with the reference to dependency. Although the majority referred to the obstacles that France put in the way of unification so questioning dependency, there were a few that suggested that the obstructive nature of the French presence in Italy really did show that unification was dependent on the French. These responses often cited Piedmont's takeover of the central states in response to Garibaldi's march towards Rome and that Rome could only become the capital once the French had finally withdrawn.

It was possible to achieve higher level responses either by addressing the question as a yes/no response or by determining dependency relative to the role of other forces, nations or individuals in the process. Overall, there was clear engagement with the question resulting in discursive and analytical answers.

There was a tendency this year, across all of the Italian questions, for candidates to use Piedmont and Italy interchangeably across the whole period and also for candidates to refer to Italy as a nation before 1861. This has not been as noticeable in the past and centres are advised to encourage candidates to be more precise in their use of the term 'Italy' as opposed to 'Italian'.

This is a Level 5 response that fully meets the Level descriptors.

Chosen question number: Question 3 ☒

Question 4 ☒

Question 5 ☒

Question 6 ☒

The role of France was extremely significant between 1856 and 1870, and it is a fair to say they were the most significant factor, however Italians themselves also played a key role, with individuals such as Cavour and Garibaldi also having key influences on unification. The word "dependant" in the statement does suggest that ^{the} unification process was not only helped, but it was also dependant on how France viewed moves made due to their strong links to the Pope, potentially showing how unification was dependant on moves France made. However individuals in Italy had too much of an impact to be ignored so it cannot be fully dependant and only partially, or "almost" as stated in the question.

The role of France between 1856-70 cannot be disputed, and their impact was sustained throughout the period. Firstly, French bankers such as Rothschild and Latiffe invested in Italy, helping build the Mount Cenis tunnel that began in 1857 and was finished in 1870, linking Italy with France and providing vital links for trade. This shows France aiding Italy in growing their infrastructure, and this gave Piedmont greater opportunity to become a world power,

and grow links for transport between Italian states. Although this is based in the North, it does improve unity between Northern states as they can trade with growing infrastructure. Italy was then reliant on Napoleon III and France for the Second war of Italian unification in 1859. After the Orsini bomb plot¹⁸⁵⁸ Napoleon could have started war on Italy, but he chose to agree the Plombières Pact in late 1858, agreeing to help with 200,000 troops. This shows Italy being dependant on France in order to get the Military Capacity to Challenge Austria in the North. However it could be argued that it was down to Victor Emmanuel and Cavour who persuaded the French to come to save Italy that the French got involved. The French then helped to win the battles of Magenta (4th June) and Solferino (24th June) in 1859, with the French doing all the fighting and having 12,000 casualties in the battle of Solferino. This again shows how Italy were somewhat dependant on the French military strength to try and expel Austria, and they helped geographic unity by getting Lombardy. However it could be said that Italy also had courageous battlers here, with Garibaldi's small army winning battles, however their impact at this point was insignificant compared to the dependency on France. The French influence was sustained, not always positively, but it does show how progress to unity was dependant on French actions. The French held troops in Rome until the September

Convention in 1864, with Rome remaining ununified and preventing geographical and spiritual unity. They left after agreeing for the Capital to be moved from Turin to Florence, but were back in 1867. Geographical unity could not be fully complete until they gave over Venice after Austria gave it as a gift and then left Rome finally in the late 1860s / 1870 to fight the Franco-Prussian War. This shows how ultimately, the French had so much influence over the outcome of Italy, particularly in the North and central areas, giving them Lombardy and Venice and controlling the outcome of Rome. Their relationship with the Pope meant they somewhat had control over 90% of the population who were his followers.

However individuals such as Garibaldi's Role cannot be underestimated, giving Italian nationalists a character to get behind and although not as significant as the French, the unification process also depended on them. Garibaldi's influence from 1856-70 was very high, with his small army winning small battles in the 1859 War, and his influence grows in 1860 when him and his "thousand" conquered Sicily^{against 2,000 men}, and then Naples, bringing most of the South into Piedmont control after he met Victor Emmanuel II at Teano in 1861, handing over control of these areas and the Papal marches. This shows how significant Garibaldi was in geographical unification, possibly more significant than France, as he had interest in

the South rather than just the North, allowing for full geographical unification to occur. He then left for 3 years but was back with the Party of Action in 1864 to finally unify the remaining areas. It could be said however, that Garibaldi's influence was limited by France, who by holding troops in Rome meant he couldn't conquer it, showing how dependant Italy was on movements by France because as soon as they left in 1870 it could be taken.

Another key individual, in manipulating help from France, and building the strength of the North was Cavour. Cavour's influence from 1856-70 personally is stopped when he dies in 1861, however his foundations built go on to help Italy grow and unify. Cavour ensured that after the Orsini bomb plot, he persuaded France and Napoleon III to help, after their presence at the Congress of Paris in 1856 and the fact France owed them. This persuasion and pragmatism meant Italy could begin to unify in the North. However his influence was limited militarily as the armistice and peace of Villafranca were signed by Napoleon without the consent or presence of Cavour, enhancing French dependency on Italian affairs and hindering Cavour's significance. Cavour was also the one so interested in railways and invested in the infrastructure. Although he was reliant on French investment, he also was the one who swayed them to invest in the first place.

Overall, the unification of Italy was somewhat dependant on France, but other factors influence was far too great to not acknowledge and say that they had no influence. France wasn't the only international power who had a say on unification, Lord John Russell's self determination gave Italy the confidence to keep going after 1859, Prussia having wars with France and Austria weakened them enough to get them to leave Italy, and Austria had a influence, although not positive, as they ~~held~~ held Lombardy and venetia in this time. However of all of them, France had the most ~~de~~ influence and Italy depended on their movements to unify the most, not just geographically but economically with the investment. Italian individuals such as Garibaldi are the ones who actually made unification happen, especially with the South, but at all times they did have what France thought in the back of their minds, and the initial drive of a army came from France to inspire Garibaldi to go further. This shows how Italy was dependant on France, but not almost wholly, just somewhat.



From the beginning, in the introduction, the response establishes an understanding of the conceptual focus of the question and begins to explore key issues and make judgements. Key issues relevant to the question are explored by a sustained analysis of the relationship between key features of the period. There is a sustained analysis from paragraph to paragraph, as the opening lines of the paragraphs suggest, and within each paragraph. In paragraph 1 there is a sustained analysis of dependency in relation to the French but also at the end in relation to Italian contributions. Sufficient knowledge is deployed to demonstrate understanding of the demands and conceptual focus of the question, and to respond fully to its demands. The paragraph on Garibaldi outlines the key essentials about Garibaldi's contribution and in the Cavour paragraph there is clear acknowledgment that he died part way through the process. Valid criteria by which the question can be judged are established and applied and their relative significance evaluated in the process of reaching and substantiating the overall judgement. Criteria for being wholly dependent is established throughout but an example in paragraph one, on page 2, shows an internal evaluation of significance, where the role of the French in battle is evaluated against the Italian contribution. The conclusion is focused on dependence on France and evaluates relative significance to come to a judgement.



Always focus on the wording of the question. Here, the question wording and conceptual focus of the question is on the extent to which the process of Italian unification was dependent on the French.

This is a lower Level 4 response.

Plan:

Role of France:

- Provided 200,000 troops for Second War of Italian Independence. ^{Plombiere-Canav}
- withdrew troops from Rome - Austro-Prussian War.
- Garibaldi in South.

In the years 1856-70, the process of Italian unification became increasingly likely as a result of many factors. ~~One factor is~~ It can be argued that this process ~~was~~ was almost wholly dependant on the role of France. In this essay, I will use the role of the French in the 2nd Italian War of Independence, the Austro-Prussian War and Garibaldi's expedition to the South to investigate which factor was the most significant towards Italian Unification. I will compare the arguments by their ~~impact~~ impact on Italy.

Firstly, the role of France in the Second Italian War of Independence in 1858-59 can be argued as a primary motivating factor of the process of Italian Unification. Before the war started against Austria,

Napoleon III met with Cavour at Plombières. This meeting was extremely impactful because France agreed to provide 200,000 troops to help Italy become free of Austrian dominance. This had a significant impact on the chances for Italian Unification by helping Piedmontese troops win the Battle at Magenta and Solferino. However, this had a disappointing impact as Austria managed to hold the Quadrilateral. Therefore, the French impact wasn't that successful. Furthermore, it can be argued that it was more the role of Cavour and his diplomatic skills, which provided the 200,000 French troops. Overall, I would disagree that the role of France in the Second Italian War of Independence was not depended on ~~to~~ in the process of unification as it more than less underlines the role of Cavour.

Additionally, the French played a significant role and helped the cause for Italian unification massively by withdrawing their troops from Rome ~~in 1866~~. This was an extremely impactful contribution of France as it left Rome defenseless, allowing Italian troops to storm the city and capture it. Although it was the French who withdrew their troops, this wouldn't have happened without the Austro-Prussian War.

France only withdrew their troops as a result of ~~the~~ their borders being attacked by Prussian troops. Therefore, it is inaccurate to say that it was ~~the~~ primarily the responsibility of France for allowing Italian troops to capture the ~~defenceless~~ defenseless Rome. Similarly, to the Second War of Italian Independence, ~~the impact on Italy is~~ French impact on Italy is overlooked as a result of the responsibility of others.

Finally, it is inaccurate to say that the process of Italian unification was dependant on the role of France because it was Garibaldi's expedition to the South which had the greatest impact on Italy. In 1860, Garibaldi led a group of 1000 volunteers to Sicily ~~to fight the~~ in aims to capture the South. After ending Bourbon rule capturing Palermo, Garibaldi entered Naples. Having captured both Sicily and Naples, ending Bourbon rule, he handed the Southern states to Victor Emmanuel at Teano. This was a ~~a~~ significant contribution towards the process of Italian Unification as ~~it~~ ^{it gave} ~~allowed~~ Victor Emmanuel control over both the North and South. This is more dependable than the role of France as it had a greater impact on Italy, making unification more possible.

Overall, I believe that it is inaccurate to say that the process of Italian unification was almost wholly dependant on the role of France in the years 1856-70. Although France did have a role to play, I believe that France ~~took the credit~~ undermine the importance of both Cavour and the impact of the Austro-Prussian War. In my opinion, I believe that it was Garibaldi's conquest of the South which was depended on. The work of Garibaldi ~~had~~ the greatest impact on Italian unification as it combined the North and South under the control of one leader.



This response clearly meets the Level descriptor for Level 3 but there is a focus on the the extent to which Italian unity was dependent on France and it does attempt to explore the nature of the French contribution, which suggests Level 4 qualities. The response is limited in range, covering mainly the period between 1858 and 1861, but there is analysis of key issues relating to the process of unification in the north and the south and the argument is organised and communicated with clarity.



Always provide sufficient contextual knowledge to support the argument being made and to cover the period of the question.

Question 5

Of the Germany questions, Q5 was more popular than Q6. For Q5, candidates were expected to determine the extent to which they agreed with the statement that the economic crisis (1846–47) was the most significant short-term cause of the 1848–49 revolutions in Germany.

Most candidates were able to discuss a range of short-term causes of the revolutions, including developments in liberalism and nationalism, the constitutional crisis in Baden and the impact of the 1848 revolution in France. There was some good knowledge of the economic crisis that went beyond the harvest failures of 1846–47 and looked at industry and urbanisation. Most candidates were able to concentrate on the short-term influences of liberalism and nationalism in the 1840s. There were very few that were unable to distinguish between long-term and short-term influences but some candidates did address underlying factors and this did undermine the arguments being made. Knowledge of the role of the 1848 revolution in France was often confused with that of 1789 leading to some inaccuracy and irrelevance. There was some good discussion of the relative importance difference causes but in general responses remained in Level 3 and Level 4 with causes being outlined but the overall judgement not being convincingly made. There were few responses that actually linked the causes to the actual events of the outbreak of the revolutions themselves so making it difficult to determine the impact of the causes being discussed.

This is a Level 4 response.

~~In the years 18~~
 The 1840s was a time of significant political turmoil within the German confederation with growing discontent from the lower classes being transformed into intense revolutionary fervour that spread across the confederation in the years 1848-9. It can be argued that the 1846-7 economic crisis was not the most significant short-term cause of revolution but it was in fact the political factors like the growing liberalism in ~~the~~ Prussia through the ascension of Frederick Wilhelm VI ^{which allowed revolutionary sentiments to grow} and the growth of agitation in the middle class ~~there~~ ^{the} through the Heppenheim and Oldenburg ~~and~~ ^{was also a sig} ~~mass~~ ^{do} that caused the outbreak of revolution in the years 1848-9.

The growth of liberalism in Prussia in the 1840s can be seen as ^{an} 'incredibly significant short-term cause of revolution. ~~in the~~ ^{year} Frederick Wilhelm VI took the throne upon the autocratic ruler Frederick Wilhelm.

Frederick Wilhelm VI took the throne in 1840 in Prussia, he was VII, ~~dealt~~ in 1848 while being a conservative man at heart, Wilhelm VI and believing in the divine right of kings and conservative rule, Wilhelm VI made it clear that he was willing to make some liberal concessions upon his ascension. Wilhelm abolished press censorship and reinstated liberal academics to their previous posts at university like Ernst Arndt at Bonn and allowed for the creation of the Prussian estates in 1847 that arguably acted as a parliament. Wilhelm's more liberal stance gave Prussians hope of a more liberal Prussia, allowing for the growth of liberalism and nationalism across the lower classes as Wilhelm's concessions demonstrated a modernising Prussia. However, Wilhelm quickly reinstated press censorship to pacify the junkers and dissolved the Prussian estates as he grew anxious of ~~a~~ liberalist sentiments and growing radical junkers. Wilhelm's facade of liberalism outraged liberal Prussians as it was evident that his cloak of liberalism was used to appease Prussians, ~~thus~~ triggering numerous revolutionary fervor and mass demonstrations in Berlin. The false pretence of liberalist Prussia

fueled revolutionaries in Prussia as it demonstrated the aristocracy's ~~the~~ lack of ~~of~~ ^{of} working and middle class issues, increasing revolutionary fervor. While the economic crisis ⁽¹⁸⁴⁶⁻⁷⁾ did further motivate revolutionaries and cement their grievances, the conservative rule by Frederick Wilhelm VI and his how he gave liberals a taste of a liberal ~~Prussia~~ Prussia and took it away demonstrates how it was political issues and not economic issues that were the most significant short term cause of revolution.

Another political influence that was a short term cause of revolution in the Confederation was the growth of the middle class. The middle class were intellectuals ~~and~~ academics who held the positions of teachers or lawyers who began to emerge across Europe in the 19th century. The middle class ~~shifted~~ drastically shifted the class system and were the biggest class, dominating the confederation by the 1840s. The middle class grew increasingly agitated with their lack of political voice ~~and~~ leading them to call for reform.

against autocratic rule. This highlighted the evolving nature of the confederation and the increasing revolutionary sentiments that spread across the confederation. The middle class used their influence to attempt to call for reform at the ^{no}Heppenheim meeting in 1847, that called for several reforms across the confederation which were ignored by the ruling classes, fueling revolutionaries. This highlights the growing political frustrations that were rapidly spreading across ~~German~~ the confederation as the middle class grew more frustrated and were jealous of the French monarchy, ~~displeased~~ and inspired by the violence in the 1848 February days, causing violence to break out and spread across Germany in 1848-9, illustrating the impact of short term political factors in causing revolution.

The economic situation (1846-7)
While being a less significant cause for revolution holds some weight in causing revolution as it angered

revolutionaries. The potato blight in 1846 and 1847 caused the harvest to fail across Germany causing discontent and starvation across the Confederation, fueling revolutionary sentiment. The working and middle class were neglected by the aristocracy as they ~~are~~ and had no assistance in this period. This caused many Germans to flee to the USA as wages increased and the price of rye went up by 60% in the years 1846-8, causing further discontent and frustration among the lower classes - allowing revolutionary fervour to increase across the Confederation with mass demonstrations and growing agitation being ignored by parliament. While the economic situation caused immense distress for the lower classes in the years 1840s, the political factors can be seen as a more significant ^{short} cause of Revolution.

1611

Overall, the short-term cause of Revolution can be seen as the being political discontent through the falsehood of Prussian

liberalism and the rising middle class causing political discontent across the confederation that gave weight to the economic crisis. The already growing discontent was only fuelled by the economic crisis of 1846-7, highlighting how it was less significant than the political factors for the short term cause of revolution across the confederation in 1848-9 not the economic crisis.



Key issues relevant to the question are explored by an analysis between key features of the period, although treatment of issues is uneven. Key issues such as the growth of liberalism in Prussia and the role of the middle classes, as well as the given factor of the economic crisis, are considered. The growth of liberalism in the Prussia paragraph is the strongest analytically while the given factor is less well developed. This indicates that there is sufficient knowledge to demonstrate understanding of the demands and conceptual focus of the question and to meet most of its demands. Valid criteria by which the question can be judged are found in the conclusion – with reference to where the economic crisis fits into the political discontent – but there is limited establishment of the criteria. The overall judgement is supported but the limitations on the development of the economic crisis mean that the evaluations are only partly substantiated. The answer is generally well organised. The argument is logical and with some clarity but there is not always coherence or precision, e.g. unsure of whether addressing revolutions or a revolution in some places.



Try to use the given factor - here the economic crisis - as the foundation of the response so that the exploration of the focus of the question is sustained.

This is a Level 5 response.

Chosen question number: Question 3 ☒

Question 4 ☐

Question 5 ☒

Question 6 ☐

The wave of revolutions that swept across and engulfed Europe in the years 1848-49 reached Germany swiftly, triggered by numerous accumulative variables that lay the groundwork for disaster. These short-term triggers built upon a pre-existing notion of dissent and instability, erupting in revolutions and uprisings across the minor states, Prussia, and Austria in particular. A collection of historians may perceive the economic crisis of 1846-47 in Germany as the most pivotal and important cause for upheaval, due to pressure applied by failing harvests and the potato blight. However, a wider historical consideration of the exterior political climate, most poignantly France, and the incentive this brought to Germany, combined with sentiments of nationalism and liberalism perpetuated by students, artisans, professors and the industrial middle class is fundamentally necessary in understanding the cause of revolution.

The economic crisis of 1846-47 in Germany,

while arguably not the main reason for revolution, was a vital exemplification of a political and social phenomenon known as 'hunger politics'.

Many working class agrarian workers were disenfranchised during the 19th century, and lacked political or governmental knowledge, with many still conforming to the agricultural feudal system. However, when basic necessities are

not met, ~~as~~ for example the failed harvests of 1846-47, political engagement and ~~dis~~ dissent increases, hence the term 'hunger politics'. This lack of income and ~~and~~ food source was exacerbated

by a subsequent potato blight, when a vegetation disease made ~~numerous sources~~ of food the staple food stuff inedible.

This prompted ~~state~~ national starvation and plunged thousands into poverty, resulting in protest, resentment and desperation. This could be observed by many as a 'main cause for ^{the} revolutions in the following year.

Conversely, it could be said that 'hunger politics' dispels this - the harvests of 1848 and 1849 were successful, and tension greatly decreased as rural settlements regained a consistent, reliable

income and source of food. Paired with the lack of working class political engagement for most in mid 19th century Germany, it could therefore be argued that the economic crisis was not consequential as a short-term cause of the 1848-9 revolutionary movement, but rather an example of agricultural turbulence and recovery, a common feature in that particular field of employment.

It could be interpreted by historians that it was in part the exterior political climate of Europe that infiltrated Germany, with ideas given greater agency to spread due to industrial development ^{and} transportation. Industrialisation occurred in Prussia in the early 1840s, with other German states catching up in following years. The implementation of tens of thousands of railway lines across Germany not only inter-linked states, but Europe too.

This allowed for a rapid dispersion of newspapers, pamphlets and therefore ideas. ~~about~~ News of the revolutions across Europe reached Germany quickly, and spread further through verbal transference. Countries under France was a key country involved in

revolutions that spoiled Germany. Due to the violent dissolution of the Monarchy in 1789, France was feared by German officials and Royals and Conservative Princes of each state, and renowned by the German public as a potent revolutionary force. Any underlying resentment within States, therefore, would've been accessed, when news of revolutions outside of Germany spread, aided by Industrial progress. Arguably, the European political climate and ~~transgression~~ ease of the spread of ideas due to ^{rapid} transportation growth was a more significant short-term cause than the economic crisis of 1846-7.

^{were not necessarily short-term}
The emergence of nationalist and liberal ideas within Germany, beginning a few decades before the revolutions of 1848-9; however, ~~were~~ ^{they} posed little-to-no influence over public opinion due to being restricted by Metternich's ~~Klemmerson~~ Metternich's repressive censoring policies such as the Six Articles and Carlsbad Decrees (1819). ~~However~~ This loss of influence during the mid 1840s arguably allowed for a resurgence of German nationalism, aided

again by industrial transport development. The nationalist German newspaper 'Die Deutsche Zeitung' spread nationalist idealism throughout German states, deposited via railways, which drastically worked hand in hand with the German public becoming informed of international revolutions and uprisings. This did not just influence the proportion of German society, ruined by the economic crisis, but any literate German citizen, accessing a far wider scope consequentially. Students and universities had previously held demonstrations of nationalistic sentiment, such as the Hambach Festival of 1832 attracting 20,000 artisans, educators, university students and Homers, Metternich's descent into irrelevance as a statesman, in the mid to late 1840s meant that demonstrations, meetings and ideas crushed by his legislation gained confidence and returned, motivated into collective action.

It would be inconsistent as a historian to purposefully ignore the economic crisis of 1846-7 solely due to successful harvest the following year. It undeniably took numerous lives through starvation and malnutrition and utter

poverty, and some resentment was likely to have remained even following recovery. However, to ~~also~~ ^{isolate products} label the event as the most significant short-term cause of the 1848-9 revolutions in Germany would be false. The reality of 'hunger-politics' meant that the most politically active members of society were middle-class liberals, conservatives, radicals and nationalists, beginning as small, low-scale groups in the decades before the 1840s but rising to the occasion of revolution following Metternich's demise. This short-term transfiguration can be reasoned through industrialisation's role in allowing for rapid access to newspapers, transfixing ideas across German states and informing the literate of ^{the} ~~the~~ external political climate in Europe - a tidal-wave of revolution.



This response is Level 5 in that there is a clear exploration of the short-term factors that led to the outbreak of revolution with an emphasis on how the factors impacted on actual outbreak of revolution in 1848. There is an understanding that, although the economic crisis was influential, the economic situation in 1848 was actually improving. There is a sustained discussion of the economic crisis in relation to the political causes. The response shows that, although liberalism and nationalism were in some sense underlying causes, there were specific short-term political circumstances that led to revolution. The response specifically refers to the influence of the revolution in France in 1848 and the waning powers of Metternich in the later 1840s. There is sufficient knowledge to meet most of the demands but it is the exploration of the key issues that moves the response into Level 5.



Always try to ensure that the response is fully focused on the question. Here, rather than just explaining the short-term cause of the revolutions, there is a focus on relationship between the causes and the actual outbreak of revolution.

Question 6

Candidates were expected to determine the extent to which they agreed with the statement that the Frankfurt Assembly (1848–49) had little significant long-term impact on the process of German unification. Candidates were required to analyse what difference the Frankfurt Assembly made/what contribution it made in the long-term to the process of German unification. The focus is on the legacy of the Frankfurt Assembly.

Some responses addressed the short-term limitations in relation to long-term influences and/or compared the limited impact of the Frankfurt Assembly long-term to its short-term success. However, any approach that addressed the extent to which the Frankfurt Assembly impacted later events was rewardable. Weaker responses only described the Frankfurt Assembly in the years 1848–49, often with only an asserted judgement at the end stating that it was a failure so did not have a long-term impact. Those that discussed the failure of the Frankfurt Assembly as an implicit agreement with the statement and referred to influences on the nature of the final unification, eg with regard to *Kleindeutschland*, were able to achieve strong Level 3 and Level 4 marks. The strongest responses were those that recognised how the failure of the Frankfurt Assembly provided ‘lessons’ for the future or impacted attitudes toward unification in the future, eg references to Bismarck’s attitude to unification, the role of Piedmont, the failure of the liberals and the rise of national liberalism and the *Kleindeutschland/Grossdeutschland* debate.

There is no specified time period for the question. It was not expected that responses would address impact across the whole period to 1871 but that candidates showed some awareness of the processes and developments that unified Germany.

This is a Level 4 response.

The Frankfurt Assembly was created by revolution to unify Germany, ~~and~~ unfortunately it had only remained for 2 years, this was primarily due to a lack of cooperation within the movement and internal conflicts between radicals and liberals, ~~that~~ whilst this happened it had faced rejection from King Frederick William IV. ~~That~~ all these factors play a key role in why the Frankfurt Assembly had little significant long term impact on the unification of Germany, in this essay I ~~will agree~~ agree with this statement and show why ~~I~~ I agree.

One reason why I agree that the Frankfurt assembly had little significant long term impact ~~on~~ on the unification of Germany is that its operation ~~where~~ only lasted for 2 years and ~~where~~ limited by its internal issues. When the Rhine crisis had taken place in

1840, Germany had seen a significant rise ~~with~~ of nationalisation and this was further increased when there was a rise in economic disparity, which caused many people to demand for improvements and better trade between states, whilst this happened the rising new middle class after industrialisation were demanding a constitution and a right for everyone. Both these radical and liberal views formed a key part of the Frankfurt Assembly, however this became the main reason for ~~conflict~~ conflict within the movement as ~~the~~ radicals were demanding immediate impact and ~~the~~ liberals were wanting a constitution, with disagreements over the tactics the impact of the movement was therefore limited. Further ~~due~~ due to ~~the~~ the ineffective and unclear objectives, King Frederick William IV refused to take a crown which was offered to ~~the~~ ~~on~~ him, he stated ~~that~~ that this crown would be from a "Crown from the gutter", the main reason of this was that, he believed in nationalism ~~the~~, which was a core objective of the Assembly,

However he did not agree with the
Bismarckian as he believed that this
would reduce his power as King of Prussia
~~due to not being able to gain~~
~~the support of Prussia state~~ ~~Prussia as~~
~~the support of a major economic power~~
~~the~~ Assembly had to dissolve, there
fore reducing its impact.

Another reason why I agree with the
view that the Frankfurt assembly had
little significant long term impact was due
to it being overshadowed by Bismarck's
contribution to the unification of Germany.
Otto von Bismarck was chosen to be
the prime minister of Prussia in the year
1862, he ~~was~~ had a similar objective
as the Frankfurt assembly ~~however~~, the unification
of Germany, however he wanted this under
Prussian rule and he believed that the
only way it can be achieved is through
war and fighting rather than advocating
and speeches, this was seen specifically
when he ~~stated that~~ said "Blood and
Iron" this quote heavily implies his more
violent approach. He used his ideology of
Real Politics by first trying to ~~win~~

Create problems with Austria, he achieved this by ~~the~~ going to war against Denmark. Over the disputed areas of Schleswig and Holstein, he decided to ally with Austria to gain victory, after they won ~~Austria~~ ^{with} Austria and Prussia gained Schleswig, this was all part of Bismarck's plan as this led to a feud between Austria ~~and~~ and Prussia which led to the seven week war in 1866, where Prussia had ~~a~~ won by using ~~the~~ ^{its} railway system, however Prussia didn't fully destroy Austria as it didn't want other countries to interfere, so ~~it~~ ^{he} left them not severely harmed. After this victory he was able to successfully unify the north of Germany by creating the North German Confederation, ~~he~~ to ~~achieve~~ full unification he decided to ~~start~~ start a war with France, he did this through editing a EMS sent by the king, ~~that~~ which agitated ~~it~~ angered the French, through this Bismarck was able to gain

Support from all States and achieve the unification of Germany by creating the German Empire in 1871, his real political ideology and tactics had a much more long lasting impact on the unification of Germany, and is widely regarded as the main cause of the unification, ~~therefore~~ therefore proving that the Frankfurt Assembly ~~had~~ ~~did not have~~ a had little significant long term impact on the process of German unification. ~~due to~~

However as a weak counter argument could be said that the Frankfurt assembly had laid the groundwork for the success of the movement. This was because it had created the initial idea of a unification of Germany, and had promoted the ideas of nationalism and economic trade, ~~it~~ ~~forming~~ The revolutionaries who created this assembly brought together the concerns of the people ~~such as~~ as on topics such as the economy and trade and constitutional rights, due to this foundation, key leaders such as

Bismarck were able to go on and achieve the unification of Germany. ~~It can also be said that therefore~~ ~~creating a long lasting~~ as it had put the concept of nationalisation and unification in people's minds, and the concept had been put across, therefore showing that the Frankfurt assembly did have a long term impact on the process of unification of Germany. However, I find this argument weak compared to the others as it fails to acknowledge the fact that the process of unification was taken out by the likes of Bismarck. Therefore, he had a more significant long term impact.

Overall Both arguments are valid, the argument ~~against~~ agreeing that Frankfurt Assembly did ~~play a~~ ~~big~~ have a significant ~~long~~ long term impact as it had laid the foundation of the concept of unification. However, this argument severely falls well in front of the view that it ~~did not~~ ~~have~~ ~~any~~ had little significant impact.

as this due to many internal divisions, lack of clarity and the achievement of the movement being ~~overthrown~~ overthrown by Bismarck's Domineer and tactics, therefore I ~~believe~~ agree with the statement that the Frankfurt Assembly ~~did not~~ had a little significant long term impact in the process of German unification.



This response has used knowledge and understanding of the failure of the Frankfurt Assembly and the role of Bismarck in the unification process to produce an argument that agrees with the statement in the question. It uses the limited success of the Frankfurt Assembly to show that there was little chance for long-term significance and provides an alternative factor for unification in the long-term. The response itself meets the qualities of the Level descriptor for Level 4.



This response reaches higher Level 4 because it is exploring the relationship between the key issues; for example, the discussion about a weak counter argument being that the Frankfurt Assembly had laid the groundwork for the success of unification. Rather than writing a list of paragraphs addressing the key features, try to link the paragraphs into a discussion of the question being asked.

Paper Summary

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

Section A

- Candidates should read the question carefully and ensure that they explicitly address the focus of the enquiry rather than merely discussing the issues raised by the sources in general terms
- Candidates should be aware that inference is a central skill being tested; evaluation of the sources requires the reader to 'stand back' from the source to determine what the historian can 'gain' from its content
- Candidates should read the caption and make full use of the provenance when evaluating the sources
- Contextual knowledge should be used to illuminate and discuss what is in the source, rather than provide an answer to the enquiry. Long descriptions of linked events are unlikely to gain much, if any, credit
- Candidates should ensure that their responses address the demands of all three bullet points that are assessed in this section of the paper.

Section B

- Candidates must provide precise contextual knowledge as evidence. Weaker responses generally lacked depth and sometimes range
- Candidates should avoid a narrative/descriptive approach; this undermines the analysis that is required for the higher levels
- Candidates need to be aware of key dates as identified in the specification so that they can address the questions with chronological precision
- Candidates should try to explore the links between issues rather than merely presenting a list of factors
- Candidates should ensure that they deal with both sides of an argument where the question requires this.

Grade boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-boundaries.html>

