

# GCSE History

Paper 2 Period Study  
Question 3



# Question 3

## The importance of $X$ for $Y \dots$



## Q3: Explain...The importance of

3 Explain **two** of the following:

- The importance of the Paxton Boys (1763–64) for government in Pennsylvania. (8)
- The importance of the Boston Tea Party for relations with Britain, 1773–74. (8)
- The importance of the Battle of Saratoga (1777) for the American victory in the war. (8)

(Total for Question 3 = 16 marks)

**Question 3 is focused on importance of an event/person/development in relation to something else. It assesses the **concepts of historical significance and consequence**. This means you should focus on why it mattered, or what difference it made to Y.**



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**Question 3 is focused on importance of an event/person/development in relation to something else. It assesses the **concepts of historical significance and consequence**. This means you should focus on why it mattered, or what difference it made to Y.**

- You select **two** from a choice of three.
- When discussing the significance of an event, you should be able to explain its impact and the way it changed the situation or attitudes.
- Each is worth 8 marks.
- You should spend around 12 mins (ET: 15 mins) answering each.



# What does the question look like?

3 Explain **two** of the following:

**X**

**Y**

- The importance of the Paxton Boys (1763–64) for government in Pennsylvania.
- The importance of the Boston Tea Party for relations with Britain, 1773–74.
- The importance of the Battle of Saratoga (1777) for the American victory in the war.

(8)

(8)

(8)

(Total for Question 3 = 16 marks)

You have to choose **two** out of three options.

These are your three options.

Each answer is worth 8 marks, so the question is worth 16 in total.



British America, 1713–83:  
empire and revolution

Y

X

The importance of the

British weather

...for...

the mood of the  
British people

Wimbledon tennis  
tournament

Health services



Y

X

The importance of the

British weather

...for...

the mood of the  
British people

Wimbledon tennis  
tournament

Health services

An answer about the importance of the British weather for the mood of the British people, would contain very different information in comparison to an answer about the importance of the British weather on Wimbledon or on health services.



Y

X

The importance of the

British weather

...for...

the mood of the  
British people

- S.A.D.
- serotonin levels

Wimbledon tennis  
tournament

- playing conditions
- audience turnout

Health services

- cold-associated illness
- heatwaves





# How to answer the question

**3** Explain **two** of the following:

The importance of the Yalta Conference (February 1945) for relations between East and West.

(8)

- The importance of Khrushchev's Berlin ultimatum (1958) for tension between East and West.

(8)

- The importance of SALT 1 for relations between the USA and the Soviet Union in the 1970s.

(8)

**(Total for Question 3 = 16 marks)**



# How to answer the question

Superpower relations and  
the Cold War, 1941–91

- ✕ The importance of the Yalta Conference (February 1945) for relations between East and West.



## ✕ The importance of the Yalta Conference (February 1945) for relations between East and West.

The importance of the Yalta conference for relations between the east and west was that they were good as at Yalta in February 1945 there were a lot of agreements. At Yalta the big three, Britain, USA and USSR discussed what would happen to Germany once Nazi Germany was defeated. Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin agreed that once Nazi Germany was defeated it ~~so~~ would be split into four different zones each being controlled by Britain, USA, USSR and France. And in turn the city of Berlin would also be split into four zones controlled by each of the four countries. This was good for the relations of East and West as they

were agreeing to help each other. Another thing discussed in the Yalta Conference was that Stalin agreed to help the president of the USA Roosevelt ~~to that~~ to join the US side and fight against the Japanese, if the US agreed to help fight Nazi Germany with him, which would be to his favour as it was only the red Soviet army ~~it~~ alone fighting in Germany at that current moment. This agreement strengthened East and West relations as this agreement helped both of them out. Another ~~the~~ agreement that happened at Yalta was for Europe to all have ~~However Stalin still w~~ free elections again.



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## Another example

**3** Explain **two** of the following:

- The importance of the Gold Rush (1849) for migration to the West.
- The importance of the US federal government for dealing with law and order in the West.
- The importance of Red Cloud's War (1866–68) for relations between the Plains Indians and the US government.

(8)

(8)

(8)

**(Total for Question 3 = 16 marks)**




- ☒ The importance of the Gold Rush (1849) for migration to the West.






## ✕ The importance of the Gold Rush (1849) for migration to the West.

The Gold Rush was important because it increased migration to the West. Gold was found in Sutter's Mill, California in 1848, which caused mass migration to California in 1849. It meant that California's population went from 8,000 to 300,000 almost instantly. This led to an economic boom in California, ~~and also~~ because migrants were spending money in California. It also meant that California's cattle industry rapidly grew, due to more migrants settling there. In 1852, ~~due~~ due to a famine in China, the population of the Chinese went from 2,000 to 20,000. This mass migration of the Chinese was caused by the Gold Rush, as many people hoped for gold to start ~~over~~ anew. This mass migration also led to increased racism and lawlessness.

The Gold Rush led to ~~no~~ migration to the West due to the appeal of becoming rich and seeing the success of others. It was also important to migration as trails went directly to California. Although not many people found gold, it increased settlement ~~in~~ in the West as many people stayed in the West and formed gangs of unemployed people. This would further increase migration West due to the ever-growing population and thriving industries in the West, which were first caused by the Gold Rush, which would be appealing to eastern farmers and nessmen, so they may also migrate.

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# Questions for other options

Spain and the 'New World', c1490–c1555

The importance of the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494) for Spanish exploration.

British America, 1713–83: empire and revolution

The importance of the Paxton Boys (1763–64) for government in Pennsylvania.

The American West, c1835–c1895

The importance of the Sand Creek Massacre (1864) for relations with the Indigenous peoples of the Plains (Plains Indians).

Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91

The importance of the events in Hungary in 1956 for the development of the Cold War.

Conflict in the Middle East, 1945–95

The importance of the Cairo Conference (1964) for the Arab states in the years 1964–73.





Pearson

