

Principal Examiner Feedback

November 2009

IGCSE

IGCSE History (4380) Paper 3

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IGCSE History 4380 Paper 3

General

The Paper seemed to work well with candidates generally performing well on all types of questions and each of four themes and displaying a sound grasp of the idea of change. There were no rubric offences and the majority were able to complete their questions in the time allocated.

Parts (a) and (b) were very well answered with candidates able to use the sources effectively to stimulate three answers. There were some excellent answers to part (c) although some did not develop their answers sufficiently to achieve the higher marks. Although helped by the sources, candidates should be encouraged to use their own knowledge.

There were a number of strong answers to (d) although some lacked depth of knowledge, and/or gave a detailed narrative which failed to address the question set.

C1

Only a handful of answers.

- (a) Candidates were able to identify several problems with the cellar.
- (b) Generally sound own knowledge especially of miasma theory.
- (c) Some very strong answers although a number of students did not go beyond their source and use their own knowledge to explain the importance of the work of Pasteur.
- (d) A mixed bag. A few strong answers. Others lacked specific own knowledge.

C2

Only a handful of answers

- (a) Well answered with candidates able to identify several developments from the source.
- (b) Candidates did not always achieve level 2 due to over reliance on the source and failure to use own knowledge.
- (c) A number were totally dependent on the source and failed to bring in any own knowledge. Others, however, successfully used the sources to stimulate their own knowledge.
- (d) Some very well focused answers using precisely selected knowledge. Others, however, lost focus and explained other major medical developments of the twentieth century.

C3

A popular section.

- (a) Well answered with candidates using the source to give a number of factors
- (b) Again generally well answered using the source and own knowledge, especially of the convoy system, although some did not go beyond the source.
- (c) Generally well answered. Many used the sources to stimulate other factors especially breaking the code and own knowledge.
- (d) Some excellent answers focusing on the role of aircraft carriers during and after the Second World War with very good case studies of the Falklands War and the First Gulf War. Others, however, wrote at length about changes in the use of aircraft and did not focus on the theme of the question.

C4

The most popular section.

- (a) Well answered with candidates able to identify several factors.
- (b) Again generally well answered although some did not go beyond the source.
- (c) Some very strong explanations using the source although a number did not go beyond and develop their own knowledge.
- (d) Many strong answers with candidates evaluating the success of the UN. The Congo and Korean War proved especially popular. Some, however, wrote lengthy narratives about both events and UN intervention and made little or no evaluation of the role of the UN peacekeeping forces.

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