



# Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2023

Pearson Edexcel International  
Advanced Level In History (WHI01)

Paper 1C: Germany: 1918-45

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The entry for this paper was the largest of the four papers that make up WHI01 and saw an increase on previous series. Candidates chose two questions from four.

#### Question 1

This was a generally well answered question. Many candidates were very knowledgeable about the work of Stresemann and it's impact on the Weimar Republic. Many balanced that with consideration of other positive impacts such as culture, economic growth and prosperity, the development of welfare programmes, political changes and changes for women. Those candidates who determined criteria for their overall judgement scored the highest.

#### Question 2

Some candidates who answered this question completely ignored the issue raised by the question and focused entirely on Hitler and Munich Putsch. However, there were some very knowledgeable answers that focused on the Bamberg Conference and its importance as an event and then balanced that against other events, e.g. Munich Putsch, trial and imprisonment and the banning of the Party. Those candidates who determined criteria for their overall judgement scored the highest.

#### Question 3

This question was answered by some candidates. Some candidates saw the question as one about 'how successful' and while that was not the precise focus of the question credit was given where it was appropriate. Some candidates had a good understanding of the notion of Hitler as a 'lazy dictator' and this was also credited. Some considered the idea of 'well-managed' in relation to key policies and how there were enacted and this was also credit worthy. Those that established criteria to support their judgement scored the highest.

#### Question 4

There were varied responses to this question. However, there were many candidates that were knowledgeable in relation to Allied resources. Some candidates wanted this to be a more open question about why Germany lost the war and listed as many reasons as they could remember, which meant that their answers lacked focus on the issue raised in the question. However, those that balance the stated factor with others and made criteria based judgement scored marks in the higher level.

#### Points to consider:

- This is a 'Depth study with Interpretations' which means that knowledge on it own is not enough. Knowledge needs to be applied to the interpretation that is raised by the question and judgements made.
- The time allowed for this examination is sufficient to allow a small amount of planning time for each answer.
- When judgments are made they need to be supported with criteria – it is not sufficient to state that a factor or consequence/effect/impact is the most 'important' or 'significant' without explaining the basis upon which that judgment has been made.

