

History route 1
Higher level and standard level
Paper 2

Friday 15 May 2015 (afternoon)

1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different topic.
- Each question is worth **[20 marks]**.
- Questions in this paper must be answered with reference to events and developments in medieval Europe and the Islamic world.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[40 marks]**.

Topic 1 Dynasties and rulers

1. Examine the reasons for the emergence of **one** of the following empires: Umayyad; Abbasid; Carolingian; Angevin.
2. Evaluate the success of **one** female ruler of a medieval European state.
3. Examine the factors that led to the formation of Christian **or** Islamic states prior to 1000.
4. With reference to **one** medieval European **or** Muslim ruler, discuss the importance of law and administration to the maintenance and expansion of their authority.
5. “William I (1066–1087) was more successful in establishing his power than Louis VI (1108–1137).” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
6. To what extent was **either** Mu’awiya (661–680) **or** al-Mu’izz (953–975) a successful ruler?

Topic 2 Society and economy

7. Examine the importance of the development of money and exchange systems in medieval Europe.
8. Evaluate the non-economic contributions to society of religious communities in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
9. Evaluate the effect of the rise of towns on the social status of the nobility in medieval Europe.
10. Examine the reasons for the success of trade in the Islamic world.
11. Examine the significance of religious places of worship, religious festivals and shrines in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
12. “The manorial system was created because of the economic weakness of medieval Europe.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Topic 3 Wars and warfare

13. With reference to **one** war in medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world, examine its effects and results.
14. “The First and Second *fitnas* (656–661 and 683–685) were not caused by religious factors.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
15. To what extent was Muslim weakness the principal reason for the success of the First Crusade?
16. To what extent were booty and territory the major reasons for the Muslim wars of conquest?
17. With reference to **either** the Hundred Years War in the period 1337 to 1396 **or** the Anglo-French wars in the period 1154 to 1204, examine the results for both England **and** France.
18. Evaluate the impact of the changes in weapons and tactics on the conduct of warfare in the medieval period.

Topic 4 Intellectual, cultural and artistic developments

19. Discuss the reasons for, and the results of, increased literacy in medieval Europe.
20. Evaluate the reasons for, and the results of, the golden age in the Islamic world.
21. Examine the significance of the development of vernacular writing in medieval Europe.
22. To what extent was the 12th-century renaissance caused by the influx of classical ideas from the Islamic world?
23. “Religion was the primary influence on artistic works.” With reference to **either** the medieval European **or** Islamic world, to what extent do you agree with this statement?
24. Evaluate the intellectual and cultural influences of the great mosques in the Islamic world.

Topic 5 Religion and the state

25. To what extent did clerics play an important role in the administration of government in medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world?
 26. To what extent was Gregory VII (1073–1085) successful in expanding the power of the Papacy?
 27. To what extent was the Sunni/Shia divide the result of non-religious factors?
 28. Examine the reasons for the rise and fall of **one** opposition movement in **either** medieval Europe **or** the Islamic world.
 29. To what extent was European anti-Semitism based on economic factors?
 30. “The persecution of heretics in medieval Europe was as much to do with politics and economics as it was to do with religion.” Discuss.
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