

General Certificate of Education  
June 2008  
Advanced Level Examination



## HISTORY

HS4H

### Unit 4

**Alternative H: Aspects of European and World History,  
1900 to the Present Day**

Wednesday 4 June 2008 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS4H.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

### Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

### Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.
- In answering Question 1(b) in Section A and your choice of question from Section B, you are advised to draw upon an appropriate range of historical knowledge and skills, to demonstrate overall historical understanding for the synoptic assessment requirements for this question paper.

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Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

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**SECTION A: CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, 1900 TO THE PRESENT DAY**

You must answer this question.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.

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- 1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A**

A brief text extract adapted from G D H COLE, *Europe, Russia and the Future*, 1941, discussing the economic influence that Germany gained over the countries of Eastern Europe in the late 1930s and how this enabled the Germans to introduce their political ideas to them. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

**Source B** In Prague, the Resistance prepared for a final blow against the tottering Nazi occupation regime. In April 1945 a Czech National Committee was formed, representing both Communists and non-Communists. On 23 April the government in exile broadcast an appeal to the nation, calling for a general strike and an  
5 uprising against the Nazis: 'Now the moment has come to repay the Germans for all those who have died and the tears and sorrows of the countless unhappy families of our nation.'

Adapted from C MACDONALD and J KAPLAN, *Prague in the Shadow of the Swastika*, 2001

**Source C** The cause of the fall of the Berlin Wall was the Hungarian decision in September 1989 to allow East German 'tourists' in Hungary to emigrate over the border with Austria. There was an economic background to the sense of frustration in the GDR. There was a declining trend in growth. In 1985 growth stood at 5.2%, by  
5 1989 it was 2.8%. The Hungarian decision not only gave an impetus to the emigration movement but it also gave confidence to the small dissident movement that had been gathering its strength in the GDR. On 12 September Democracy Now was founded. Mass demonstrations followed. On 9 November it was announced that borders between West Berlin and East Germany would be opened.  
10 The Berlin Wall was breached before midnight that same night.

Adapted from G SWAIN and N SWAIN, *Eastern Europe since 1945*, 1998

- Source D** By 8.30 on the evening of 8 November 1989, several hundred East Berliners had gathered at the Bornholmerstrasse checkpoint and soon began to shout ‘Open the Gate’. With the gathering crowd too large to be held back, the guards finally opened the barriers. Similar pressure elsewhere led to the opening of all
- 5 checkpoints by midnight. At the Brandenburg Gate young people climbed and danced on top of the Wall. The popular pressure was so intense that the final lifting of the Iron Curtain could not have been long delayed.

Adapted from M DENNIS, *The Rise and Fall of the German Democratic Republic 1945–1990*, 2000

- (a) Use **Sources C** and **D** and your own knowledge.

How fully do **Sources C** and **D** explain why the Berlin Wall was brought down?

(10 marks)

- (b) Use **Sources A, B, C** and **D** and use your own knowledge.

‘Throughout the twentieth century the peoples of Eastern Europe have placed the removal of external control above their desire for economic prosperity.’

Assess the validity of this view.

(20 marks)

**Turn over for the next question**

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**SECTION B: REGIONAL STUDIES**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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**Option A: Vietnam, 1954–1980**

- 2 'The USA was protecting its own global power rather than promoting democracy in Vietnam.'  
To what extent do you agree with this explanation of the USA's increasing involvement in Vietnam in the years 1954 to 1968? *(20 marks)*
- 3 'US militarism and imperialism were the Vietcong's greatest assets in their struggle for a united Vietnam.'  
How valid is this view? *(20 marks)*
- 4 'Vietnam had a period of successful political and economic reconstruction in the years 1975 to 1980.'  
How valid is this view? *(20 marks)*

**Option B: Co-operation in Europe, 1956–1991**

- 5 'It was more a political than a military alliance.'  
How valid is this view of NATO in the years 1949 to 1955? *(20 marks)*
- 6 'Margaret Thatcher achieved her political and economic goals in the European Community in the years 1979 to 1990.'  
How valid is this view? *(20 marks)*
- 7 'Enlargement of the European Community in the years 1973 to 1991 created a period of political and economic progress for its members.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

**Option C: The Middle East from 1945 to c1991**

- 8 'In the years 1964 to 1987 the PLO was ineffective because it was divided and it relied solely on terrorism to achieve its objectives.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*
- 9 'It was commitment to Islam, rather than a reaction to their economic problems, which led the people of Iran to overthrow the Shah in 1979.'  
To what extent do you agree with this view? *(20 marks)*
- 10 'United States' diplomacy continuously reinforced the political aims of the United Nations in Palestine in the years 1967 to 1991.'  
To what extent do you agree with this view? *(20 marks)*

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**Option D: China from 1949 to the Tiananmen Square Massacre, 1989**

- 11** 'A social and economic disaster.'  
How valid is this view of the record of the Chinese Communist Party in the years 1949 to 1962? *(20 marks)*
- 12** 'The Cultural Revolution was aimed at maintaining Mao's ideology rather than his personal power.'  
To what extent do you agree with this view? *(20 marks)*
- 13** 'A period of limited economic progress and complete political stagnation.'  
How valid is this view of Deng Xiaoping's achievements in the years 1978 to 1989? *(20 marks)*

**Option E: South Africa from Apartheid to Democracy: 1948 to the Present**

- 14** 'A social and economic disaster.'  
How valid is this view of the impact of Apartheid on South Africa in the years 1948 to 1978? *(20 marks)*
- 15** 'Repressive laws, rather than disunity amongst its opponents, enabled Apartheid to survive in the years 1948 to 1986.'  
To what extent do you agree with this view? *(20 marks)*
- 16** 'It was P W Botha's reformist policies, rather than external pressure, that led to the beginning of the end for Apartheid by 1989.'  
To what extent do you agree with this view? *(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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Question 1 Source B: C MACDONALD and J KAPLAN, *Prague in the Shadow of the Swastika*, Facultas Verlags und Buchhandels AG, 2001

Source C: G SWAIN and N SWAIN, *Eastern Europe Since 1945*, Palgrave Macmillan, 1998. Reproduced with permission of Palgrave Macmillan

Source D: M DENNIS, *The Rise and Fall of the German Democratic Republic 1945–1990*, Pearson Education, 2000