

Past-paper walk-through

Europe During the Interwar Period ■ 8.7

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2024 Set 1 Q4
- 2024 Set 2 Q4

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 4

2024 Set 1 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

(a) Describe one difference between challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the interwar period (1919 to 1939) and challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the post-Second World War period (1945 to 1989).

(b) Describe one similarity between challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the interwar period (1919 to 1939) and challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the post-Second World War period (1945 to 1989).

(c) Explain one reason why democracy spread in Europe in the period 1975 to 2000.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Describe one difference between the challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the interwar period [1919 to 1939] and the challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the post-War period [1945 to 1989]. (1 point) — accept any: In the interwar period, democracies were confronted by two major alternative ideologies [fascism and communism], while in the post-World War II period, they were only confronted by one, communism.; The United States played a much more active role in supporting European democracies in the post-WWII period than it had in the interwar period.; In the interwar period, Europe faced economic crisis [e.g., Great Depression], whereas in the post-War period, economic problems were addressed through financial aid [e.g., Marshall Plan].; Western European

Solution 4

democracies attempted more economic and political cooperation in the post-War period [NATO, the gradual creation of the EU].; After the Second World War, many democratic countries faced the challenges of strong anticolonial movements and eventual loss of most of their overseas colonies.; The Soviet Union and communism posed a much larger military threat in the post- WWII period.; Attempts by women to gain political and economic rights were more successful in the post-World War II period compared to the interwar period.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Describe one similarity between the challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the interwar period [1919 to 1939] and the challenges faced by democracies in Europe in the post-War period [1945 to 1989]. (1 point) — accept any: In both periods, democracies were confronted by powerful ideologies and non- democratic regimes that at times seemed more stable and capable, such as fascist regimes and the Soviet Union.; In both periods, communism posed a threat to the legitimacy of capitalist and democratic governments.; In both periods, democracies had to contend with economic instability.; In both periods, democracies faced social and economic upheaval associated with re-adjustment/reconstruction after a major conflict.; Nationalism challenged

Solution 4

democracies in both periods.; In both periods, the United States played an increasing role in European economic and political affairs.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one reason why democracy spread in Europe in the period 1975 to 2000. (1 point) — accept any: The collapse of the Soviet Union ended support for non-democratic regimes in Eastern Europe.; The fall of communist regimes in Eastern Europe, caused largely by internal failings, vindicated democratic approaches to government.; The creation of the EU and its expansion during this period reinforced the principles of democratic governments.; The continued prosperity of democratic countries provided justification for the value of democracy.; The influence of American capitalism and consumerism demonstrated the value of economic freedom and democracy to European states.; The death of

Solution 4

Spanish dictator Franco eliminated an authoritarian alternative to democracy that had persisted since the Second World War.

Question 4

2024 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Describe one major characteristic of the First World War.
- (b)** Explain one major cause of the First World War.
- (c)** Explain one way in which the First World War contributed to changes in European politics in the interwar period (1919 to 1939).

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Describe one major characteristic of the First World War. (1 point) — accept any: The war resulted in immense losses and disruptions for all involved states.; New technologies such as machine guns, poison gas, and airplanes upset traditional military tactics and strategies.; The war led to trench warfare and heavy losses of men.; The war became globalized as European powers attacked each other's colonies and used colonial resources and manpower to support the war effort.; The war led to total mobilization of people and resources, a total war that involved all of the population, including colonies.; Increased government mobilization of the economy led to the end of laissez-faire governments.; The government took unprecedented control of media and used propaganda to support the war effort.

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(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one major cause of the First World War. (1 point) — accept any:
Nationalism was closely linked to increased militarism and created high tensions in Europe, which eventually led to World War I.; European powers had undertaken a major expansion of their militaries and were involved in a major arms race before the war.; The assassination of the Austro-Hungarian heir to the throne led to a diplomatic crisis among the major powers in Europe.; Imperial competition for colonies and resources caused rivalry and hostility between major European powers in the decades leading to the conflict.; Due to the alliance system, all major European powers were brought into a Balkan conflict between Serbia and Austria-Hungary.; Germany sought to gain more land and economic resources in

Solution 4

Europe.; Leaders of states that faced internal divisions saw war as a means to provide unity.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one way in which the First World War contributed to changes in European politics in the interwar period [1919 to 1939]. (1 point) — accept any: The effects of the war led to protest and insurrection in the participating nations and eventually to revolutions that changed the international balance of power.; World War I debt and disrupted trade contributed to the weakening of European economies.; France and Britain received former German and Ottoman possessions in the Middle East through the mandate system, changing the imperial balance of power.; The Versailles settlement, which imposed reparations on Germany, prevented the Weimar Republic from establishing a stable political and economic system.; The harsh terms of the Versailles settlement led some nations to reject

Solution 4

liberalism and slip into more authoritarian rule such as fascism during the 1930s.; Perceptions of women's roles during and after the war effort changed and led to greater political participation including voting rights in some nations.; Aversion to the devastation of the war motivated efforts to avoid future conflict at all costs through the League of Nations, appeasement, and pacifism.