

Past-paper walk-through

The Fall of Communism ■ 9.7

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2024 Set 1 Q4
- 2023 Set 1 Q4
- 2023 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

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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

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

Question 4

2023 Set 1 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Describe one cause for the development of the Cold War in the mid-1900s.
- (b)** Explain one way in which the Cold War affected Europe in the second half of the 1900s.
- (c)** Explain one reason why the Cold War ended in the late 1900s.

Solution 4

(a)

Mark scheme

- Describe one cause for the development of the Cold War in the mid-1900s. (1 point) — accept any: The previously existing fear of the spread of communism in the West after the Bolshevik Revolution.; The Soviet occupation of Eastern Europe and the installation of communist regimes (Iron Curtain/Eastern Bloc).; The Soviet fear of another invasion by Germany/the West as had happened in the World Wars. The development of nuclear weapons first by the United States and then the Soviet Union.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way in which the Cold War affected Europe in the second half of the 1900s. (1 point) — accept any: Both sides created economic unions (EEC/COMECON) to bind nations together and advance their economic ideologies.; Alliance systems of mutual security were created in the West and the East (NATO/Warsaw Pact).; The United States played a much greater role in Western European culture, economics, and politics than it had before the Second World War (Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine).; Eastern and Western Europe followed very different economic and social paths, as the West embraced individualism, capitalist consumerism, and social welfare programs, and the East pursued a more collective system based on central planning and suppression of

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dissent.; Fears of nuclear conflict and mutually assured destruction (intensified by arms race) loomed over European society.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one reason why the Cold War ended in the late 1900s. (1 point) — accept any: Economic discontent in the Eastern Bloc grew, manifesting in opposition movements such as Solidarity in Poland.; Soviet Premier Gorbachev implemented economic and political reforms that allowed for more criticism of the government and openness to the West.; A western arms buildup, in addition to the drain of the Afghanistan War, pushed Soviet military spending beyond the state's capacity to maintain.; Unlike prior uprisings against communist rule in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union refused to intervene against the uprisings in Eastern Europe in 1989.

Question 4

2023 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

(a) Describe one significant change to European politics or society caused by nationalism in Europe during the period 1900 to 1950.

(b) Explain one way in which nationalism led to a change in European politics or society during the period 1950 to 2000.

(c) Explain one way in which nationalism contributed to a continuity in European politics or society during the period 1950 to 2000.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Describe one significant change to European politics or society caused by nationalism in Europe during the period 1900 to 1950. (1 point) — accept any: Nationalism and national rivalries led to two major and highly destructive European conflicts (the world wars).; Nationalism encouraged greater government control over society in totalitarian governments.; Nationalism contributed to the breakup of some multiethnic empires (Austria Hungary, the Ottoman Empire) at the end of the First World War and loss of territory by others (e.g., Germany and Russia losing territory to Poland).; Nationalism led to the creation of new states in Eastern Europe at the end of the First World War.; Growth of nationalism and

Solution 4

independence movements in European colonies forced a change in domestic politics in Europe as countries faced the possible loss of empire.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way in which nationalism led to a change in European politics or society during the period 1950 to 2000. (1 point) — accept any: The excesses of nationalism discredited it in the eyes of many people after the Second World War and encouraged support for organizations like the UN.; In reaction to nationalistic politics and war, Western European governments pushed for the creation of the European Union.; The Soviet Union attempted to suppress nationalism in the Eastern bloc.; With the collapse of the Soviet Union, some multiethnic countries in Eastern Europe split into smaller countries based on nationality (Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia).; In some areas of Europe, national minorities within existing states began to agitate for autonomy or independence (Catalans, Basques, Scots,

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Ireland).; The Cold War, rising out of competitive nationalism, created changes in politics and society within the European continent (Space Race, Arms Race).

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one way in which nationalism contributed to a continuity in European politics or society during the period 1950 to 2000. (1 point) — accept any: Nationalism continued to fuel conflict, as in the breakup of Yugoslavia or the “the Troubles” in Northern Ireland.; Migration continued to be a contentious issue in European countries, raising issues of national and religious identities.; Nationality continued to be an important component of most people’s identity in Europe, despite transnational organizations and ideologies and despite globalization and greater interconnectedness.; Despite changes in boundaries, the nation-state continued to be the primary basis for the political systems and political structures of Europe in the postwar period.; National cultures and languages continued to

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provide most Europeans with a sense of belonging.; Germans continued to see themselves as one nation, contributing to the reunification of Germany at the end of the Cold War.; Some of the motivations that led to nineteenth-century Imperialism continued to inform European politics and society after World War II.