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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

HISTORY **9489/23**

Paper 2 Outline Study **May/June 2026**

1 hour 45 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions from **one** section only.
  - Section A: European option
  - Section B: American option
  - Section C: International option
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **4** pages.

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Answer **two** questions from **one** section only.

Section A: European option

Modern Europe, 1750–1921

1 France, 1774–1814

(a) Explain why there was opposition to the Directory. [10]

(b) To what extent was Louis XVI responsible for the outbreak of revolution in 1789? [20]

2 The Industrial Revolution in Britain, 1750–1850

(a) Explain why Chartism achieved none of the Six Points by 1850. [10]

(b) To what extent was it the willingness to invest in new enterprises that led to the rapid growth of industrialisation? [20]

3 Liberalism and Nationalism in Germany, 1815–71

(a) Explain why the dispute over the Hohenzollern candidature led to the outbreak of war in 1870. [10]

(b) 'The revolutions of 1848 in Germany were caused by the growth of liberal ideas.' How far do you agree? [20]

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Section B: American option

The history of the USA, 1820–1941

4 The Origins of the Civil War, 1820–61

(a) Explain why the Slave States were influential in Congress. [10]

(b) To what extent did the growth of abolitionism threaten the Union? [20]

5 The Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 1870s–1920

(a) Explain why Progressives introduced constitutional reforms. [10]

(b) 'Poor quality housing was the main cause of low life expectancy in Gilded Age cities.' To what extent do you agree? [20]

6 The Great Crash, the Great Depression and the New Deal policies, 1920–41

(a) Explain why the conservative right found the New Deal threatening. [10]

(b) How prosperous were Americans in the 1920s? [20]

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Section C: International option

International history, 1870–1945

7 Empire and the emergence of world powers, 1870–1919

(a) Explain why the Great White Fleet was sent on a world tour from 1907 to 1909. [10]

(b) 'Russia's military weakness was the cause of its defeat in the war with Japan (1904–5).' How far do you agree? [20]

8 The League of Nations and international relations in the 1920s

(a) Explain why the League of Nations failed to solve the dispute between Poland and Lithuania over Vilna (Vilnius). [10]

(b) How successful were attempts during the 1920s to deal with the problems caused by reparations? [20]

9 The League of Nations and international relations in the 1930s

(a) Explain why Hitler helped the Nationalists in the Spanish Civil War. [10]

(b) 'The policy of Appeasement was a failure.' How far do you agree? [20]

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