GradeMax

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname	Other names

Centre Number | Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Thursday 12 June 2025

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI04/1A**

History

International Advanced

PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

Option 1A: The Making of Modern Europe, 1805–71

You must have:
Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
  – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ▶

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SECTION A

Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

1 How far do you agree with the view that the decisive turning point in the downfall of the Napoleonic Empire was Napoleon's defeat at the 'Battle of the Nations' (October 1813)?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(25)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS

SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

2 How significant was the role of Mazzini in the growth of Italian nationalism in the years 1815–49?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

3 How far do you agree that, in the years 1862–71, Prussian success in unifying Germany was mainly due to Bismarck's skilful diplomacy?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☐ **Question 3** ☐

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS

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Extracts Booklet
Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ▶

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Extracts for use with Section A.

Extract 1: From A Forrest, *Napoleon*, published in 2012.

Despite a victory at Dresden in August 1813, the French went on to suffer a series of minor defeats that forced Napoleon to concentrate his forces around Leipzig. It was here, in October 1813, that the decisive battle of the war was fought. At the 'Battle of the Nations', the French fought the combined armies of Austria, Prussia and Russia. This coalition was supplemented by the armies of several of Napoleon's former German allies. These former allies now joined his enemies sensing that Napoleon was in decline.

The Battle resulted in huge losses on both sides. French deaths were estimated at fifteen thousand, while a further thirty thousand were wounded. It was a decisive defeat for Napoleon, which forced him to retreat towards the River Rhine and then on to French territory. The French inner empire was now also collapsing; Napoleon was forced to call up older French reservists and boys still too young to be conscripted.

French-controlled lands on the west bank of the Rhine, Holland, and then Belgium fell to the coalition forces. By the beginning of 1814, Blücher's army had crossed the Rhine, leaving the final stages of the war to be fought on the home soil of France.

Extract 2: From M Rapport, *The Napoleonic Wars*, published in 2013.

After the Battle of Borodino against the Russians in September 1812, Napoleon was in control of Moscow for only a month. The city around his base in the Kremlin was burned to the ground, probably by patriotic Russians. In October 1812, the disastrous French retreat from Russia began. The French retreated through a Russian winter that started early. The Russians kept up the pressure from behind, with Cossack soldiers hounding the French soldiers in the sub-zero temperatures. Only 20,000 men out of Napoleon's main invasion force escaped from Russia.

The terrible defeat in Russia in 1812 was a turning point. It devastated Napoleon's forces in the east. While he was able to replace the vast loss of human life, he never recovered from the dreadful death toll on the army's horses. Together, the Russian victory and the Spanish resistance energised the other European powers. The Russian invasion of Poland in the spring of 1813 encouraged the Prussians, still seething from the humiliations of 1806–07, to rise up against Napoleon. By June, the Sixth Coalition included Britain, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Prussia and Sweden. The allied forces, now including Austria, converged on Leipzig in October 1813 where in the epic three-day 'Battle of the Nations' the French lost vast numbers of men. French power in Germany now rapidly collapsed and the Napoleonic Empire unravelled.

Acknowledgements:

Extract 1 from: *Napoleon* by Alan Forrest © Quercus, 2012

Extract 2 from: *The Napoleonic Wars* by Mike Rapport © Oxford University Press, 2013