

Section 1: c. 300–c. 632

- 1 How successfully did Constantine deal with the problems which faced him?
- 2 How great was the significance of demographic change in the late Roman Empire?
- 3 What best explains the fall of the Roman Empire?
- 4 'A series of able leaders.' How valid is this view of the Visigoth rulers of Gaul?
- 5 How far was Justinian motivated by his hopes of military conquest?

Section 2: c. 632–c. 919

- 6 How far was the rise of Islam the result of the weaknesses of its opponents?
- 7 How substantial were the achievements of Charles Martel?
- 8 What best explains cultural developments under Charlemagne?
- 9 'Trade routes are the main reason for patterns of Viking settlement in ninth-century continental Europe.' Discuss.
- 10 How effective were the rulers of Germany in the period 843–919?

Section 3: c. 919–1099

- 11 How far had the Holy Roman Empire been revived by 1039?
- 12 To what extent do favourable circumstances explain the survival of the early Capetian kings?
- 13 What best explains the outbreak of the Investiture Contest?
- 14 How successful was Basil II as ruler of the Byzantine Empire?
- 15 *(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)*
‘It succeeded against all the odds.’ Discuss this view of the First Crusade.

Section 4: c. 1050–1250

- 16 How successfully did Frederick Barbarossa achieve his aims in Italy?
- 17 To what extent does the weakness of the Angevins explain the success of Philip Augustus over them?
- 18 What best explains the problems faced by Innocent III in obtaining obedience from the rulers of Western Europe?
- 19 How well governed were Spain and Portugal in the eleventh and twelfth centuries?
- 20 *(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)*
How stable were the Crusader States in the period 1095–1204?

Section 5: Themes c. 300–c. 1200

- 21 Who won and who lost from the development of feudal society in the early Middle Ages?
- 22 How far was the growth of towns in the early Middle Ages the result of developments in trade?
- 23 How important was the role of individuals in explaining the success of the monastic reform movement of the twelfth century?
- 24 What best explains the intellectual developments of the twelfth century?
- 25 How threatened was the Church by heresy in the late twelfth and the thirteenth centuries?
- 26 Why was there so much new building in the eleventh and twelfth centuries?

Section 6: 1250–c. 1378

- 27 What best explains the impact of the War of the Sicilian Vespers?
- 28 How far did Louis IX succeed in achieving his aims?
- 29 Why was Philip the Fair able to strengthen the Capetian Monarchy so significantly?
- 30 Why did the Papal residence in Avignon last so long?
- 31 To what extent were the Italian city states poorly governed in the fourteenth century?

Section 7: c. 1400–c. 1461

- 32 How substantial were the achievements of the conciliar movement?
- 33 Was Venice the most successful Italian city state in the first half of the fifteenth century?
- 34 'An event of only symbolic importance.' Assess this view of the fall of Constantinople.
- 35 How serious a threat to established authority was the Hussite movement?
- 36 'The greatest success of Charles VII was to gain financial independence for the French monarchy.' Discuss.

Section 8: c. 1461–c. 1516

- 37 Were the early Italian Wars of 1494–1516 anything more than a power struggle between France and Spain?
- 38 'Dominated by purely worldly considerations.' How valid is this judgement on the Papacy in this period?
- 39 'A purely destructive force.' Discuss this view of the Ottoman Empire in this period.
- 40 Was Ivan III anything more than a successful military leader?
- 41 How successfully did Ferdinand and Isabella deal with the internal challenges to their authority in this period?

Section 9: Themes c. 1200–c. 1516

- 42 How far did developments in art and architecture in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries depend on the support of wealthy patrons?
- 43 ‘The pre-Reformation Church was characterised by piety and reform.’ Was it?
- 44 How substantial were the social and economic effects of plague in later medieval society?
- 45 ‘Its economic prosperity explains why the Renaissance began in Italy.’ Does it?
- 46 ‘Greed was the principal motive for overseas expansion and exploration in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries.’ Discuss.
- 47 What best explains attitudes towards the ‘outcasts’ of society in this period?

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