



**Cambridge Assessment International Education**  
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

**HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)**

**9769/21**

Paper 2a European History Outlines, c.300–c.1500

**May/June 2019**

**2 hours 15 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper



**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

Answer **three** questions, which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper are worth 30 marks.

This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document consists of **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

**Section 1: c.300–c.632**

- 1 How effective were the reforms introduced by Diocletian? [30]
- 2 'Establishing a Church independent of any lay power was the greatest achievement of Gregory the Great.' How valid is this judgement? [30]
- 3 How important is economic decline in explaining the fall of the Roman Empire? [30]
- 4 How far were the Merovingian kings influenced by the legacy of the Roman Empire? [30]
- 5 What best explains why Justinian found it more difficult to govern his empire after 540? [30]

**Section 2: c.632–c.919**

- 6 'The Muslims were united while their enemies were divided.' How convincing is this explanation for the rise of Islam in the seventh century? [30]
- 7 Was military conquest Charlemagne's chief ambition? [30]
- 8 How far were the difficulties of Louis the Pious caused by the issue of the succession? [30]
- 9 Why was there so little resistance to the Viking attacks on continental Europe? [30]
- 10 Why did the rulers of Germany find it so difficult to enforce their authority in the period 843 to 919? [30]

**Section 3: c.919–1099**

- 11 How substantial were the achievements of Otto I? [30]
- 12 How successful, in the years 987–1108, were the early Capetian kings in maintaining their authority? [30]
- 13 ‘More effective in government than in war.’ Assess this judgement on Roger II of Sicily. [30]
- 14 How fully did Gregory VII achieve his aims? [30]
- 15 *(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)*  
What best explains the capture of Jerusalem in 1099? [30]

**Section 4: c.1050–1250**

- 16 How weak were the German monarchs in the period 1125–1152? [30]
- 17 How is the strengthening of the French monarchy under Philip Augustus best explained? [30]
- 18 ‘The successes of Innocent III far outweighed his failures.’ Did they? [30]
- 19 How far do divisions among the Muslims explain the success of the Reconquista in Spain and Portugal by 1212? [30]
- 20 *(Candidates offering Paper 5b: The Crusades should not answer this question.)*  
What best explains why the Third Crusade was more successful than the Second Crusade? [30]

**Section 5: Themes c.300–c.1200**

- 21 Did the strengths of feudal society outweigh its weaknesses in the early Middle Ages? [30]
- 22 How important were technological developments in stimulating population growth in the early Middle Ages? [30]
- 23 How influential were the friars up to 1300? [30]
- 24 How great a challenge were the intellectual developments of the twelfth century to existing ideas? [30]
- 25 What best explains the development of heretical movements in the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries? [30]
- 26 How innovative was the art and architecture of the eleventh and twelfth centuries? [30]

**Section 6: 1250–c.1378**

- 27 What best explains why, in the thirteenth century, papal aims in Sicily were not achieved? [30]
- 28 Was the Mongol impact on Europe in the later thirteenth and fourteenth centuries wholly negative? [30]
- 29 How effectively did Philip the Fair overcome his enemies? [30]
- 30 How far did the Avignon Papacy damage papal power? [30]
- 31 How effectively was the independence of the Italian city states maintained in the fourteenth century? [30]

**Section 7: c.1400–c.1461**

- 32 To what extent can the Conciliar Movement be seen as a reform movement? [30]
- 33 What best explains the frequency of the rivalry between the Italian city states? [30]
- 34 Why did Valois Burgundy play so significant a role in European politics in this period? [30]
- 35 'Internal weaknesses and divisions within Byzantium explain the fall of Constantinople.' Discuss. [30]
- 36 To what extent does the quality of French leadership explain the outcome of the Hundred Years War? [30]

**Section 8: c.1461–c.1516**

- 37 'Highly successful both at home and abroad.' Is this an accurate assessment of the reign of Louis XI? [30]
- 38 Does the desire to plunder the wealth of Italy best explain the Italian Wars? [30]
- 39 'Popes consistently got their priorities wrong in this period.' Did they? [30]
- 40 Should territorial expansion be seen as Ivan III's principal achievement? [30]
- 41 'Only a superficial unity had been achieved.' Discuss this view of the Spanish kingdoms in 1516. [30]

**Section 9: Themes c.1200–c.1516**

- 42 'More fictional than real.' Assess this view of chivalry. [30]
- 43 What best explains the developments in art and architecture in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries? [30]
- 44 How far was the pre-Reformation Church in need of reform? [30]
- 45 What best explains the origins of the Renaissance in Northern Italy? [30]
- 46 What best explains the Portuguese success in exploration and colonisation in this period? [30]
- 47 'A totally patriarchal society with a limited role for women.' How accurate a picture is this of the later Middle Ages? [30]

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