

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION JANUARY 2019

HISTORY – EUROPE AND AMERICA

Time Allowed - 1.5 hours

Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B.

SECTION A

- 1. What was distinctive about the Annales School?
- 2. 'In almost all historical instances, we can see the action of individuals but their underlying motive is hidden from us'. Do you agree?
- 3. Do historians still need to visit archives?
- 4. What is the relationship between History and Memory?
- 5. Is all history biased?
- 6. Should statues erected to Confederate generals in the USA be taken down?

SECTION B

Early and Medieval Period

- 7. Analyse the motivations of those who went on the First Crusade.
- 8. Was the First the only successful crusade?
- 9. Was Norman Sicily a 'multi-cultural' kingdom?
- 10. What can Vincent Kadlubek tell us about twelfth-century Polish society?
- 11. Analyse the differences and parallels between Reconquest and Crusade.
- 12. How and why have interpretations of the crusades changes since c. 1950?
- 13. Was war or disease the greater cause of change in medieval Europe? You may confine your answer to a single country.

- 14. In what ways did the relationship between population and resources change in medieval Europe, 1200 and 1500? You may confine your answer to a single country.
- 15. What was the role of the Church within medieval society?
- 16. What were the main consequences of the Black Death?
- 17. 'Travel and mobility were essential for the functioning of medieval society.' Discuss.
- 18. Why is 'medieval' sometimes used as a pejorative, and is this justified?

Early Modern Period

- 19. Was a full 'Renaissance' possible outside of Italy?
- 20. Did the growth of print really transform culture in Europe?
- 21. 'In aiming to reform and restore, Luther was history's most glorious case of failure'. Discuss.
- 22. Should the Counter Reformation be better termed the Catholic Reformation?
- 23. Does the reign of Louis XIV mark a significant watershed in the history of the early modern period as a whole?
- 24. Assess the significance of Christopher Columbus' 'discovery' of America in 1492.
- 25. Were Europeans guilty of genocide in the new world?
- 26. 'Africans were active participants in the Atlantic World' (John Thornton). Discuss.
- 27. Why is the French Revolution in 1789 considered to be the end of the early modern period?

Modern Period

- 28. What were the causes and outcomes of the Reign of Terror?
- 29. To what extent were the 1848 Revolutions in Europe a success?
- 30. Account for the victory of the Union in the American Civil War.
- 31. Account for the unification of **either** Italy **or** Germany in the nineteenth century.
- 32. Identify and assess the three most significant factors that led to the outbreak of World War One.
- 33. "Women played an essential role in both of the Russian Revolutions of 1917 and in the development of the new Soviet state." To what extent is this statement true?
- 34. Why did the German Second Empire collapse in 1918?
- 35. How did the hyperinflation 1918-1923 impact Germany?
- 36. How did Stalin transform the Soviet Union in the first decade of his rule?
- 37. To what extent was Hitler a 'strong' leader?

- 38. Was the Wall Street Crash or other problems in the American economy chiefly to blame for the economic depression of the 1930s?
- 39. In what ways did Roosevelt's New Deal change the relationship between the federal state and American citizens?
- 40. What role did the 'Berlin Blockade' play in the origins of the Cold War?
- 41. How successful was the African-American civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s?
- 42. How can the United States intervention in Vietnam best be explained?
- 43. How convincing is the argument that Ronald Reagan won the Cold War?
- 44. Why did communism collapse in Eastern Europe after 1989?