



Cambridge Assessment
International Education

Example Candidate Responses – Paper 1

Cambridge IGCSE™ / IGCSE (9–1)

History 0470 / 0977

Cambridge O Level

History 2147

For examination from 2024



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Introduction

The main aim of this booklet is to exemplify standards for those teaching Cambridge IGCSE / IGCSE (9–1) / O Level History, and to show how different levels of candidates' performance (high, middle and low) relate to the syllabus requirements. This document helps teachers to assess the standards required to achieve marks beyond the guidance of the mark scheme.

In this booklet, candidate responses have been chosen from the June 2024 exam series to exemplify a range of answers.

For each question, the response is annotated with examiner comments about where and why marks were awarded or omitted. This is followed by comments on how the answer could be improved. There is also a list of common mistakes and guidance for candidates.

Please refer to the June 2024 Examiner Report for further details and guidance.

Note: The questions for these example candidate responses were taken from 0470 Paper 11, June 2024 which differ to the 0977/2147 June 2024 questions. However, the question format and skills are the same.

The questions and mark schemes are available on the [School Support Hub](#)

[0470 June 2024 Question Paper 11](#)

[0470 June 2024 Mark Scheme 11](#)

Past exam resources and other teaching and learning resources are available on the [School Support Hub](#)

How to use this booklet

This booklet goes through the paper one question at a time, showing you the high-, middle- or low level response for each question. In the left-hand column are the candidate responses, and in the right-hand column are the examiner comments.

Example Candidate Response – high	Examiner comments
<p>(a) There were many changes made to Germany's border after the treaty of Versailles. First, they were made to demilitarize the Rhineland, which is the border between Germany and France. France were also given Alsace-Lorraine, which is land between the two countries that Germany stole during WW1. ^{and France wanted back} Furthermore, Germany had to give up the 'Polish Corridor' to Poland as well.</p> <p>(b) The Treaty of Versailles (TOV) had many important political consequences for Germany from 1919 to 1929.</p>	<p>1 The candidate correctly identifies a territorial change and says to which area it applies.</p> <p>2 The candidate identifies a second term – the loss of Alsace-Lorraine, and also states what happened to the area.</p> <p>3 This term is an accurate territorial change but is not relevant to the question which asks about changes on Germany's western border.</p>
<p>Responses are written by real candidates in exam conditions, demonstrating the types of answers for each level. These could be used to discuss and analyse the answers with learners in the classroom to improve their skills.</p>	<p>Examiner comments explain where and why marks were awarded. These help to interpret the standard of Cambridge exams to help learners refine their exam technique.</p>

How the candidate could improve their answer

(b), (c) The candidate could have made sure that all of their arguments had a direct link to the question focus.

This section explains how the candidate could improve each response. It helps learners to improve their exam technique.

Common mistakes and guidance for candidates

(a)

- Some candidates wrote lengthy answers which were not necessary.
- When considering the territorial changes made to Germany in the Treaty of Versailles, candidates sometimes confused the Ruhr and the Saar, or the Ruhr and the Rhineland.

(b), (c)

- The explanations required candidates to consider the impact of the factor or event that they had identified. This would allow candidates to access Level 3 and above.

This section lists common mistakes as well as helpful guidance from the examiner. This will help your learners to avoid these mistakes. You can use this alongside the relevant Examiner Report to guide your learners.

Question 5

Example Candidate Response – high

Examiner comments

(a) There were many changes made to Germany's border after the treaty of Versailles. First, they were made to demilitarize the Rhineland, which is the border between Germany and France. France were also given Alsace-Lorraine, which is land between the two countries that Germany stole during WW1. Furthermore, Germany had to give up the 'Polish Corridor' to Poland as well.

(b) The Treaty of Versailles (TOV) had many important political consequences for Germany from 1919 to 1929. Firstly, the Germans were very angered by government officials signing the treaty, especially because of the war guilt clause that blamed them. This led to many extremist groups forming such as Freikorps and Spartacists. Germans felt the government had stabbed them in the back and no longer trusted them. There were also many uprisings as a result of the political instability after the monarchy was abolished such as the Spartacist uprising where the Freikorps were made to kill them.

In addition, the reparations of £6.6 million massively hurt the German economy, ^{and} even led to hyperinflation. Due to this, more Germans referred to communism as the living conditions were very low and in 1923, 4.3 million people were unemployed in Germany. They did not believe the government were able to repair the country and did not trust them, either. Therefore conforming to extremist ways, making the government

Very unstable and overall a mess. Hyperinflation also then led to the Weimar government which fell and caused the eventual rise of Hitler.

1 The candidate correctly identifies a territorial change and says to which area it applies.

2 The candidate identifies a second term – the loss of Alsace-Lorraine, and also states what happened to the area.

3 This term is an accurate territorial change but is not relevant to the question which asks about changes on Germany's western border.

Mark for (a) = 4 out of 4

4 The candidate identifies an aspect of the Treaty of Versailles that angered the people and provides an example – the War Guilt Clause.

5 The candidate explains a political consequence of the signing of the Treaty, and links to a particular group, so the response is awarded Level 3, 4 marks.

6 The candidate attempts to link this sentence to the fall of the monarchy to the Spartacist uprising, but both events are prior to the signing of the Treaty, so are not relevant.

7 The candidate identifies and describes a second aspect of the Treaty of Versailles, but the political consequences are generalised and lack explanation.

8 The final point attempts to link hyperinflation to the rise of Hitler, but this is not linked to a political consequence, such as the Munich Putsch.

Mark for (b) = 4 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

(C) I disagree with this statement as the demands of Clemenceau were not met as far as he would have liked. Clemenceau was under pressure from the French citizens to cripple Germany completely, as many were still angered by the state they were left in after WWI. Clemenceau wanted to treat Germany harshly and completely disband the country but Wilson and Lloyd-George did not agree. He also wanted complete control of German Saar land, but was only granted 15 years. Due to the continuous threat they posed to France, he also wanted them to have no ^{armed forces} ~~government~~, yet they were still permitted 100,000 men. ^{France} Lastly, he wanted harsher repercussions as he felt ~~he~~ ^{France} had suffered the most in the war as many of the battles were fought there. 10

11 Secondly, Wilson and Lloyd George were also at the forefront of many discussions as many of their demands were met. Wilson's main concern was not to treat Germany too harshly, which meant he refused a lot of Clemenceau's proposals. He was also able to achieve his aim of starting the ^{League of Nations} ~~World~~ and could put forward his 14 point plan for world peace. Furthermore, Lloyd-George was very much interested in the growth of his own Empire, wanting to reduce Germany's naval force to nothing as they were a threat to Britain's navy as well as gaining territories. Overall, The other two big world leaders were also very much at the forefront of the discussions. 12

9 The candidate starts their answer by disagreeing with the statement before stating Clemenceau's aim to treat Germany harshly, linked to the public pressure that he was facing.

10 The candidate provides support for the argument, with details of the Treaty provided, indicating that Clemenceau did not dominate the discussions as he was not able to achieve his aims. At the end of this paragraph, the response has achieved Level 3, 4 marks.

11 The candidate provides an alternative argument on the same side – that rather than Clemenceau, it was Wilson and Lloyd-George who dominated the discussions.

12 The candidate provides examples of how Wilson and Lloyd-George achieved their aims before explaining that this meant they were 'very much at the forefront of the discussions'. This second explanation on the same side moves the response to Level 3, 5 marks.

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

c However, on the contrary, Clemenceau did gain a lot from the Treaty. Firstly, over 13% of Germany's territory were given away to other countries, separating Germans as well as Britain and France splitting Germany's African territories, limiting Germany's empire completely. In addition the military was reduced to only 100,000 men, 0 ships, 0 aircraft, also hindering Germany's power and threat. ¹³

Secondly, France got a lot for themselves, such as Alsace Lorraine given back and the Saar land for 15 years. While the reparations weren't as high as France wanted, Germany's economy was still completely crippled. The Rhineland was also demilitarized, eliminating any threat of Germany invading France again. So, whilst he didn't get all of his needs met, Germany were treated extremely harshly due to Clemenceau. ¹⁴

In conclusion, I disagree, because whilst Germany was treated extremely harshly, and France gained a lot from the treaty, both Wilson and Lloyd George also left with gaining things and limited Clemenceau's desires. ¹⁵

¹³ In the next paragraph, the candidate tries to provide balance to reach Level 4, but the terms of the Treaty are described rather than linked to the question focus.

¹⁴ The candidate provides balance by considering how Clemenceau dominated the discussions since he was able to achieve a lot for France from the Treaty. This is supported by precise information, and by the end of the paragraph, the response has moved into Level 4, 8 marks, for one explanation on one side, and two on the other.

¹⁵ The candidate attempts a conclusion, but this is summative rather than a comparative judgement.

Mark for (c) = 8 out of 10

Total mark awarded = 16 out of 20

How the candidate could improve their answer

(b), (c) The candidate could have made sure that all of their arguments had a direct link to the question focus.

Example Candidate Response – middle

Examiner comments

a)	<p>The Treaty of Versailles had important changes in the German territory, Germany lost 10% of its land. In the western border Germany lost Alsace-Lorraine, which was given back to France. Alsace-Lorraine was a territory taken by Germany in an invasion in 1870. Another change was the demilitarization of the Rhineland. France wanted the Rhineland to become an independent state, so it could be protected from Germany, but instead it was demilitarised, no German army or troops could be there.</p>
b)	<p>The Treaty of Versailles had important political consequences for Germany. Before the war ended, the German Kaiser abdicated. A new democratic government called The Weimar Republic stepped in. The first president, Friedrich Ebert, was who signed the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. People referred to this as a stab-in-the-back, and was referred to as the November Criminals. This led to distrust of the government. More extremist groups like Communism or Nationalism rose to unhappiness of the state. The Treaty of Versailles and all the civil unrest, which caused the Spartacist uprising (Communists), Munich Putsch (Hitler and Nazis), Kapp Putsch. The Treaty of Versailles reduce the military to 100,000 soldiers, which left many experienced soldiers jobless. They formed the Freikorps, which when the Allies told Germany to dissolve them, there was an overthrow revolution. The government almost lost</p>
b)	<p>The Treaty of Versailles had important political consequences for Germany. Before the war ended, the German Kaiser abdicated and a democratic government called the Weimar Republic was established. The first president, Friedrich Ebert, was who signed the Treaty of Versailles. This was called a stab in the back, people referred to the Weimar as 'November Criminals'. This caused many extremist parties like Communists or Nationalists to rise because people felt betrayed by the democratic Weimar Republic. The Treaty of Versailles caused civil unrest due to reparations, Army reduction, lost land. The Germans felt humiliated, many were left jobless and with thirst for revenge. In 1919, there was a communist uprising called the Spartacist uprising, which threatened the government to includ become communist. Later in 1920, the Kapp Putsch was a revolution made by the Freikorps, ex-soldiers that got fired thanks to the Treaty of Versailles. In 1923, a group made up of resentful people who hated the Treaty of Versailles called the Nazis, also attempted to overthrow the government. The Treaty of Versailles had a lot of political consequences because it left the Germans with a feeling of treason and revenge.</p>

- 1 The candidate states that Alsace-Lorraine was given back to France.
- 2 The candidate provides another valid territorial change.
- 3 The candidate provides additional information, explaining what the demilitarisation meant, but maximum marks have already been achieved.

Mark for (a) = 4 out of 4

- 4 The candidate provides an explanation of a political consequence at the start of their answer. They identify that the Weimar Government was seen as 'November Criminals' as they signed the Treaty of Versailles, and that the consequence of this was the rise of Nationalists who felt betrayed. The response at this point is awarded the bottom of Level 3 for one explanation.

- 5 The candidate follows the first explanation with an attempt to link the Spartacist uprising to the consequences of the Treaty of Versailles, but this is invalid since it was signed after the Spartacist Revolt.

- 6 The response ends with an attempt to link the Kapp Putsch and Munich Putsch to the Treaty of Versailles for a second explanation. However, this is linked to the resentment of the government which has already been credited earlier in the response so cannot be awarded Level 4.

Mark for (b) = 4 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – middle, continued

Examiner comments

c) planning	
yes	no
- They got reparations	- Other countries also needed reparations
- Alsace-Lorraine, 2 colonies	- Didn't get Rhineland
- Heavy disarmament	- Still had military
- Without him, Britain and US would not have done much	
Answer ↓	
Clemenceau's demands did have considerable influence in the Versailles discussions. Clemenceau demanded many things that were considered to be too harsh from Britain and US, but in the end, he partially got what he wanted. Clemenceau wanted reparations, high reparations to be paid. In the end he got Germany to pay £6.6 billion in reparations. However, the reparations weren't only demanded by France, other winning countries like Britain or Belgium needed them too. Clemenceau requested for Germany's territories to be reduced a lot. Germany lost all of their overseas colonies, 20 Two of which were given to France. France also got Alsace-Lorraine back. Clemenceau also wanted for the Rhineland to become an independent state to have a buffer state. It wasn't independized, but it did get disarmed. Clemenceau wanted to cripple Germany enough so they wouldn't be a threat anymore, for that he demanded disarmament. He did get Germany to lose all of their airforce, tanks, submarines, Navy, and for the army to get reduced to 100,000, but which was a huge loss for Germany, but France wanted absolutely no army. USA also wanted disarmament but the British were scared that Germany could never rebuild themselves and loose a trading partner. Many of the harsh aspects of the treaty were pushed by France, which was the only country, who wanted to cripple Germany. In the end, he did get most of his demands partially, but it did dominate the discussion considerably.	

- 7 The candidate sets out the argument they are going to make – that Clemenceau had considerable influence, but still did not achieve everything he wanted.
- 8 The candidate explains that Clemenceau mostly did get the territorial changes that he wanted, and also recognises why he wanted some of these changes. This moves the response into the bottom of Level 3, 4 marks. The response states that not everything was achieved but does not link to the question focus.
- 9 The candidate identifies that another aim of Clemenceau was to prevent Germany being a future threat to France, and lists some of the terms that achieved this.

- 10 The candidate recognises that Wilson and Lloyd-George had different aims, but this is not linked to the question focus.
- 11 The candidate explains that Clemenceau achieved his aim to cripple Germany. This is the second explanation on the same side, so the response moves up within Level 3 and is awarded 5 marks.

Mark for (c) = 5 out of 10

Total mark awarded = 13 out of 20

How the candidate could improve their answer

- (b) The response does not move up within Level 3 since the specific aspects of the Treaty that caused the feelings of 'treason and revenge' were not stated for the Freikorps and Nazis.
- (c) The candidate could have clearly provided arguments on both sides to achieve Level 4.

Example Candidate Response – low

Examiner comments

(a) There were many peace negotiations in Paris. One of the most significant one was the changes made on Germany's territorial spaces, for example the changes to Germany's western border. The reason these changes happened were because of the war reparations Germany had to pay after WWI. The Paris Peace Conference agreed that Germany's territorial space had to be reduced and that they could only have 100,000 troops. These harsh treatments eventually led to the outbreak of WWII.

(b) The Treaty of Versailles had extreme consequences towards Germany. In the political aspect, Germany even after the war was not in a position where they could be economically stable and also pay war reparations. The Treaty of Versailles demanded that Germany pay war reparations for the damages they had caused during WWI. These reparations included having a smaller army, reducing and redistributing their land, and paying other countries who had been affected by them money. Thanks to these over-the-top demands, Germany was left in a position where they were destroyed economically since they had been in a war and they were also forced to make their army smaller, making them extremely vulnerable to future attacks, leaving people in Germany suffering and angry at the situation. ~~and this eventually laid the grounds for WWII.~~ This eventually laid the grounds for WWII.

1 Whilst the candidate starts the response attempting to give a change to Germany's western border, reparations are not a valid example of a territorial change.

2 The candidate provides a second example of a term of the Treaty of Versailles but it is a military rather than a territorial change.

Mark for (a) = 0 out of 4

3 The candidate makes a valid identification of an aspect of the Treaty of Versailles that had political consequences for Germany. This is credited at the bottom of Level 2.

4 The candidate's explanation that follows the earlier identification links to economic rather than political consequences, and therefore cannot be credited at Level 3.

5 The candidate correctly states that the military restrictions made the people in Germany angry. The reason for the anger, e.g. the resulting increase in unemployment is not explained, and therefore the response moves to the top of Level 2 rather than into Level 3.

Mark for (b) = 3 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – low, continued

Examiner comments

(C)	Clemenceau demands dominated the discussion at Versailles is a statement in which I agree completely. The reason why I agree so much is because George wanted to not punish Germany for their actions since he was scared that if Germany ever recovered there would be consequences for their actions.
6	Wilson from the USA was neutral since he believed that there had to be consequences but there couldn't be that harsh. And since the USA was far away from Germany there was no impending danger. This were the big three dictations. But Clemenceau wanted Germany to pay for what they had done. This is what eventually happened there was reparations for what Germany had done like making their army smaller, land distribution and making them pay for what they had done. The reason why I believe Clemenceau was the one that eventually had it his way was because of the reasoning behind his actions. The most known reason was because Germany had caused caused damage to France leading the leader (Clemenceau) to be pressured by the public to take actions over what had happened.
7	
8	

6 The response starts with a description of Lloyd-George's and Wilson's aims; however, these are not made relevant to the question. Level 1 is awarded for description of the topic.

7 The candidate identifies one of Clemenceau's aims which moves the response into the bottom of Level 2.

8 The candidate describes what happened to Germany in the Treaty of Versailles, linked to Clemenceau's aims and therefore moves to the top of Level 2. The candidate makes no attempt to link these points to an assessment of whether this meant that Clemenceau dominated the discussions, therefore the response is unable to be awarded Level 3.

Mark for (c) = 3 out of 10

Total mark awarded = 6 out of 20

How the candidate could improve their answer

(b), (c) The candidate could have shown relevant knowledge of the subject content and been able to identify relevant points but was unable to reach Level 3 as they did not provide explanations. The candidate could have made more explicit use of the question in the answer to show how their identifications were relevant to the question focus.

Common mistakes and guidance for candidates

(a)

- Some candidates wrote lengthy answers which were not necessary.
- When considering the territorial changes made to Germany in the Treaty of Versailles, candidates sometimes confused the Ruhr and the Saar, or the Ruhr and the Rhineland.

(b), (c)

- The explanations required candidates to consider the impact of the factor or event that they had identified. This would allow candidates to access Level 3 and above.

Question 6

Example Candidate Response – high

Examiner comments

<p>a</p> <p>1</p>	<p>The League of Nations helped refugees in one of their commissions, with provided prisoners and refugees of the war with a safe trip back to their country of origin. 2</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>It also provided the Nansen Passport, made by a Norwegian expert. In the 1930's, the League couldn't help much as there was a refugee crisis, in which their efforts weren't enough to solve it, and the League faced economic problems which reduced its ability to help. 4</p>
<p>b</p>	<p>The Manchurian Crisis was important because it showed that the League had no authority over important countries, like Japan, as seen when Japan left the League when it was stated that they were at fault in this incident. As the League had no army, it couldn't stop Japan with violence, because the countries in the League were economically weak (due to the case of depression of 1929) and the US wasn't</p>
	<p>in the League and didn't want to stop trading with Japan, economic sanctions were inefficient either. 6</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Moreover, the Manchurian crisis showed Hitler that he could get away with many things, such as invading another country. He now knew the weakness of the League and this incident inspired him to exploit them.</p>

1 The candidate recognises that a commission was established to help refugees.

2 The candidate makes a second valid point – that they returned refugees to their country of origin.

3 The candidate identifies The Nansen Passport as a specific example of the work of the League of Nations.

4 The candidate states that the League's economic difficulties hindered their work with refugees, but this is not the focus of the question and therefore cannot be credited.

Mark for (a) = 3 out of 4

5 The candidate starts their response by identifying that the Manchurian Crisis was important because it showed that the League had no authority.

6 By the end of the paragraph, the candidate explains several ways in which the crisis revealed the League's lack of authority, moving the response into Level 3, 4 marks.

7 The candidate identifies a second reason – that the crisis encouraged Hitler to invade other countries, but no mention is made, for example, of the reoccupation of the Rhineland, so the response does not move into Level 4.

Mark for (b) = 4 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

c On the one hand, the League dealt with international disputes well in the 1920s as seen in the Åland Islands incident in 1920-21, where Finland and Sweden were disputing about the ownership of those islands. Sweden claimed that it belonged to them as most of the people living there were Swedes. The League proposed that Finland stayed with the ownership but Swedish customs and culture were to be applied. Both countries agreed and the dispute was deemed a success. **8**

Moreover, in 1921, Germany and Poland were fighting for the Upper Silesia region. The League proposed a plebiscite and the region was decided to be Polish. Both countries agreed with the resolution. Furthermore, in 1925, Greek soldiers were killed by Bulgarian soldiers so Greece invaded Bulgaria. The League demanded for Greece to leave the region and it did but stayed bitter as the League seemed to favour big countries rather than small ones. **9**

On the other hand, the League didn't deal with international disputes well in the 1920s, as in 1923, an Italian representative was killed when monitoring the border between Greece and Albania. Mussolini, the Italian leader,

blamed the Greeks and demanded compensation. The League proposed that the Greeks give the money to them and they would store it until the killer's identity is revealed. Mussolini disagreed and went to the Council of Ambassadors where Greece was deemed at fault and Greece had to give the money to Italy. This happened thanks to France who had a deal with Italy to defend each other from Germany. This incident showed that the League had little authority and that resolutions could be corrupted by a powerful country inside the League. **11**

8 This first paragraph clearly explains how the dispute over the Åland Islands can be considered a success. It provides accurate support of what happened, and that a successful conclusion was reached since both countries accepted the decisions made. By the end of the paragraph, the response has reached Level 3, 4 marks.

9 The candidate attempts to provide another example of the League's success, but the support is inaccurate and cannot be credited.

10 The candidate attempts another example of success but describes rather than explains.

11 The candidate provides balance with a paragraph explaining why the Corfu Crisis can be considered a failure of the League, so the response moves to Level 4, 7 marks, for one explanation on each side.

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

In addition, in 1920, Poland invaded Vilna, part of Lithuania, claiming it belonged to them. The League demanded for them to stand down, and they say they would but instead continued with the invasion. Lithuania asked the League for help but they didn't do anything. ~~as they~~ It is believed that they did that because of an Alliance that Britain and France had with Poland ~~with~~ which stated they would protect it. Once again, the ~~interests~~^{interests} of the ~~big~~ big countries at the League dictated the resolution.

In conclusion, the League dealt with international disputes well in the 1920s as they prevented wars in every single conflict. Although their weaknesses were exposed in their failures, they showed that they could manage to deal with international disputes well enough to maintain world peace. 12

12 The evaluation starts by arguing that the League was successful since it prevented wars. Whilst the candidate recognises that weaknesses were shown, they reach a judgement that one of the main aims of the League – to maintain world peace – was achieved. This is more than a summative conclusion, and the overall evaluation moves the response to Level 5, 10 marks.

Mark for (c) = 10 out of 10

**Total mark awarded =
17 out of 20**

How the candidate could improve their answer

(b) The candidate could have ensured that identified points were supported by specific contextual knowledge.

Example Candidate Response – middle

Examiner comments

(a) The League of Nations set up the Refugees Committee, to return all the people which had fled due to the war. Some were returned home, others were sent to new locations, due to not having a home.

(b) The Manchuria crisis was important, due to it showing the incapability of the League of Nations during the 1930s. The crisis was handled terribly by the League due to bad organization and the Big leading powers of, France and Britain not reaching an agreement. Since the early days, the crisis was handled badly due to its far location and the personal interest of the Big two, having delayed for almost two years the ~~rejected~~ solution plan, due to the League being inefficient, and wasting time due to fear of war with Japan. Ignoring the invasion of China, only for greed and what would be good for their interest.

Secondly, the crisis was ~~crucial~~ ^{crucial} due to ~~its~~ it ~~is~~ contradicting itself and its aims, since it let an Empire like Japan get away with invading a smaller nation. This showed how the League was out of ~~control~~ power when big nations attacked, resulting on a weaker moral and image shown to the world; it showed the corruption present, and selfishness of the League, portraying it as a liar and taking credibility and trust from it.

1 The candidate identifies the Refugee Committee.

2 The candidate recognises that some refugees were returned home whilst others were relocated. A fourth point is not attempted.

Mark for (a) = 3 out of 4

3 The candidate identifies a way that the crisis impacted on the League which is credited at the bottom of Level 2 for one identification.

4 The candidate identifies a second reason for importance, moving the response to Level 2, 3 marks. Neither of these identifications can be credited at Level 3 as they lack specific contextual support about the crisis.

5 The candidate makes an additional identification, but since the response is already at the top of Level 2, it remains at 3 marks.

6 By the end of this paragraph, the candidate explains how the credibility of the League was damaged by the inability to stop a large power. The response moves to Level 3, 4 marks for one explanation.

Mark for (b) = 4 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – middle, continued

Examiner comments

(c) The golden years of the League of Nations were the 1920's, this is due to there many successes and little failures. The work of the League, was knowned during the time, mainly for its achievements

The best years of the League of Nations were the 1920's, due to its multiple achievements, mostly done by its committees. The League was knowned for its health, work^{and} refugees committees, they brought pride and a sense of achievement to the League. During the 1920's, the committee of work achieved in some nations better living conditions such as, a 48h week shift of 8h **7** at a day, and a restriction of ~~to~~ working hours for young children. The League did manage to succeed on committees affairs, but due to lack of funding, it never finished its projects.

The League was knowned for its aid to the population, mostly ^{effective} when dealing with small disputes within countries, **8** such as ~~a~~ It showed its capability of making peace and fulfilling its aims, having increased trading relationships between nations, leading to more peaceful relationships. The League showed the support it had between nations, ~~and how~~ ~~with~~

~~However, during the 1920's~~
It was showed that small disputes were handled with ~~efficiency~~ efficiency and

7 In this first paragraph, the candidate does not address how the League dealt with international disputes which is the focus of the question.

8 The candidate attempts to address the question focus, but the comments are generalised and descriptive and are awarded Level 1.

Example Candidate Response – middle, continued

Examiner comments

(c) ability, yet when it came to international disputes, the League always struggled. This showed the gaps between the leading powers (Britain and France), and how the decisions were based on self interest. The international dispute that started the downfall of the league, was Corfu on 1923., it showed how bigger more influential nations could ~~we~~ fulfill their demands, and smaller nations had to take it. During the Corfu incident, some Italian soldiers and general Tellini were killed by some Greek soldiers, this happened due to a border malorganisation. As a result, Italy invaded Corfu and demanded 50m euros as reparations. The League saw the dispute with worry, due to war with Italy possible. Because of the war scare, the big nations, decided to let Italy win, ~~gave~~ making Greece pay reparations and apologise, this showed ~~the~~ ~~we~~ how ~~the~~ the League let big nations get away with invasion or harm to little nations.

In conclusion, The League of Nations was successful when dealing with their committees and small disputes, showing courage and organisation. However, when it came to international disputes, it was slow and inefficient to provide a solution, which satisfied the big two and the bigger nation.

9 The candidate accurately identifies a dispute that was a failure and the response moves to Level 2, 2 marks.

10 The candidate explains the reasons why the League failed over Corfu and provides some contextual support to move the response to the bottom of Level 3, 4 marks.

11 The candidate provides a summative conclusion rather than an evaluative one. The response is also still in Level 3, so would be unable to move to Level 5.

Mark for (c) = 4 out of 10

Total mark awarded = 11 out of 20

How the candidate could improve their answer

(c) The candidate should have explained an argument on each side and supported their explanations with specific contextual knowledge.

Example Candidate Response – low

Examiner comments

Question 6) - Section A core content

a) a) The league of Nations helped refugees be giving them somewhere to live. They also made this side party's that were mostly controlled by the treaty of Versailles. Even though the performances since 1920s to 1930 wasn't very efficient after all the defeats the league had like Italy and Japan. Within general the league of Nations barely helped the refugees just giving them the minimum of the basics.

b) b) The Manchurian Crisis was an important point because it showed everyone in the world how powerless is the ~~the league of Nations~~ league of Nations. It was like a domino effect that led to each country slowly see how powerless is the league. The crisis was also important because it made another uprasing of problems and even a potential ally to Nazi Germany.

In addition it also affected ~~the~~ Soviet Russia as they got a tremadose loss against Japan that shocked everyone around the world. As I said before it would work as a domino effect because Japan wouldn't stop there but it would invade other close countries. In simplification it was really important because it showed league of Nations weakness and future on because of this event made Japan joined Nazis.

1 The candidate provides a valid identification.

2 The failure of the League with Italy and Japan is not the focus of the question.

3 This sentence could be relevant to the question but is too generalised to allow for it to be credited.

Mark for (a) = 1 out of 4

4 The first sentence identifies a valid way in which the Manchurian Crisis was important, to be credited at the bottom of Level 2.

5 This is a repetition of the previous point.

6 The candidate makes a link here to the anti-Comintern Pact which is repeated at the end of the response. The pact was specifically against Soviet Russia, and no link is shown to the Manchurian Crisis.

7 The candidate makes reference to the Russia-Japanese War which is not relevant to the question.

Mark for (b) = 2 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – low, continued

Examiner comments

c) C) The league of nations in general was bad at taking care of international disputes even in the 1920s. Firstly there was the Manchuria event where they looked completely useless only using appeasement that mostly never worked. With also showing how they only relied on other countries' army like France and British.

8 Secondly we can go to another failure of the league disputes began Italy's invasion of Abyssinia where as again the league tried appeasement and taking Mussolini's oil supply at the same time not to anger him as they saw him as a potential ally. But within the end both Japan and Italy left the league.

9 In the other hand they were some disputes that they did handle perfectly without any consequences. One of them must be the partition with Iran and Turkey another subject they did great was the partition like the anti-slavery where their goal was to stop it or minimize it. Even though this partition wasn't as big as the league they still did great job on taking care of international disputes on these subjects.

To summarize it all in my conclusion I give my opinion that the league of nations didn't do a great job with international disputes and didn't go as well as these small parties.

8 The question asks about the 1920s, so the Manchurian Crisis and appeasement in the previous paragraph, and the Abyssinian Crisis referred to in this paragraph, are not relevant and cannot be credited at Level 2. Since reference is made to international disputes, Level 1 is awarded since it writes about the topic without addressing the specific question.

9 The candidate makes reference to success with slavery here, but the focus of the question is on international disputes.

Mark for (c) = 1 out of 10

**Total mark awarded =
4 out of 20**

How the candidate could improve their answer

- The candidate needed to make sure their answers addressed the focus of the specific question.
- **(b)** The candidate identified a valid reason for importance, but this was not supported by contextual knowledge or explained to reach Level 3.

Common mistakes and guidance for candidates

- When attempting a conclusion, it is important to take an evaluative rather than a summative approach. Candidates' responses should consider the relative importance of the factors being considered.

(c)

- When dates are provided in the question, it is important that candidates take note of these. Some candidates wrote about events outside of these parameters and therefore could not be credited above Level 1. Careful attention should be made to ensure responses remain within the confines of the question.
- When asked to consider the success or failure of the League, it was important for candidates not to just describe the events, but also to explain why the result could be considered a success or failure.

Question 11

Example Candidate Response – high

Examiner comments

a Stresemann worked to rebuild and improve the German economy following hyperinflation, introducing a new currency, the Rentenmark, to help reduce hyperinflation. He also received 1 and 800 million mark American loan through the Dawes Plan in 1924 to help build German infrastructure and pay of reparations. He also helped renegotiated reparations costs with the Allies. In 1929 he formed the Dawes Plan which reduced reparations from 15,600 million to £2,000 million. 2 3

b The Communist uprising, uprisings in 1919 failed due to a number of factors. Firstly, Ebert had formed an effective vigilante of ex-soldiers and anti-communists called the Freikorps, which actively defeated and 4 killed Communist rebels to undermine attempted revolutions. For example, Ebert employed the Freikorps against Spartacist rebels in 1919 and during Communist commotion in the Ruhr. This was therefore what influenced the failure of Communist uprisings which were frequently met with Freikorps violence which inhibited their attempted revolutions. 5 Secondly, the uprisings were unsuccessful as many Germans supported the FR were afraid of Communism, sharing 6 Ebert's concern and thus supporting the Freikorps' violence against them as well. Many business owners in Germany feared Communists taking state control and enforcing more trade unions or strikes, limiting business. Therefore Ebert's action against Communist uprising received the necessary support to maintain them whereas Communists being feared, obtained little aid in their rebellions, 7 making their uprisings highly unsuccessful.

1 The candidate identifies a way that Stresemann helped the economy, and the impact of the new currency.

2 The candidate identifies the Dawes Plan and links to a development in the economy.

3 The Young Plan is relevant, but the candidate has already achieved maximum marks.

Mark for (a) = 4 out of 4

4 The candidate identifies a reason for the Communists' failure. Level 2, 2 marks.

5 The candidate explains the impact of the Freikorps and links to specific uprisings so the response moves to Level 3, 4 marks.

6 The candidate identifies the fear of communism as a second reason for failure.

7 The candidate explains the impact of the fear of communism and this is linked to the failure of the uprisings. This second explanation moves the response into Level 4, 6 marks.

Mark for (b) = 6 out of 6

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

c I ^{disagree} agree with the statement that Weimar's cultural achievements were more important than those in foreign policy to a great extent. While cultural achievements increased free expression, they faced much scorn by traditionalists, while foreign policy achievements helped Germany ^{just in terms of} secure and stabilize borders and reduce reparations, which were major German ~~facts~~ facts. **8**

Firstly, an instance of significant foreign policy achievements was ~~the~~ Germany joining the League of Nations in **9** 1926. This was fundamental as it demonstrated Germany was gaining acceptance with larger powers, and furthermore, by joining the League Stresemann was able to renegotiate reparations payments with the Allies, establishing the Dawson-Young Plan which reduced German reparations from \$6,600 billion to \$1,000 ~~th~~. This was thus an immense foreign policy achievement as it demonstrated German collaboration with the Allies and would immensely aid Germany economically, given it had in the past struggled immensely to pay off reparations. Thus, this made foreign policy significant to an immense degree. **10**

Secondly, by joining the League of Nations, Germany was also able to stabilize borders and ~~later remove~~ foreign presence in the Rhineland, made progress in terms of borders and territory. Under the Locarno ~~for~~ While in the League, Germany's borders with France and Belgium were established through the Locarno treaties. This was important as it granted Germany stability in terms of its borders and protected the German territory ~~for~~ ^{and borders} from disorder. Additionally, ~~with~~ territorial achievements included the withdrawal of French and British forces from the Rhineland, a former German territory, thus reducing foreign influence in the Rhine and opening **11**

8 The candidate identifies ways in which Germany's foreign policy was successful to reach Level 2.

9 The candidate identifies another foreign policy success – entry into the League of Nations.

10 The candidate explains the importance of Germany's entry into the League of Nations and supports this with good contextual knowledge, so the response moves to the bottom of Level 3.

11 The candidate explains the success of Locarno and the response moves up to Level 3, 5 marks.

Example Candidate Response – high, continued

Examiner comments

c the potential opportunity for German control of the Rhineland in the future, given other troops had exited. Therefore, advancements in ~~the~~ border security and removing foreign control from the Rhineland additionally depict how foreign policy was pivotal to Germany. Finally, despite foreign policy achievements being significant to a large degree, cultural achievements were also important. Germany experienced a "cultural revival," with a Golden Age in ~~the~~ cinema and art, as well as new architecture such as the Bauhaus design. Achievements in culture were important in that they depicted the ending of censorship of art or music in Germany, with art forms even criticizing politics, which would not have been possible formerly. Therefore, cultural achievements were partly important in symbolizing the rebirth and novelty of German culture.

12

12 In this final paragraph, the candidate provides balance by explaining the cultural successes of Weimar Germany. The response is awarded Level 4, 8 marks for two explanations on one side, and one explanation on the other.

Mark for (c) = 8 out of 10

**Total mark awarded =
18 out of 20**

How the candidate could improve their answer

(c) The candidate could have attempted an evaluative conclusion which, if valid, would have allowed the response to be awarded Level 5.

Example Candidate Response – middle

Examiner comments

a
1 Stressman implemented many reforms. He called off 'passive resistance' in the Ruhr, he replaced the German Rentenmark with the Mark and printed less of it, to ~~reduce~~ end hyperinflation. He ~~also~~ signed the "Dawes Plan", which gave Germany 800 million dollars to rebuild its industry and the "Young Plan" which reduced the amount of reparations Germany had to pay.

b
2 The Communist uprising of 1919 failed for many reasons. Firstly, a majority of Germans did not like communists. People believed them to be violent revolutionaries funded by the USSR. As a result, even politicians as left leaning as Ebert ~~were~~ opposed the uprising and tried to repress it. Because of this the uprising could have never taken power for long.

Not only that, but Ebert ~~also~~ made an agreement with the Freikorps, a ~~secret~~ ~~secret~~ ~~group~~ ~~that~~ right wing vigilante group that was ~~terribly~~ opposed to communism. Ebert agreed to their demands in exchange for the Freikorps to put down the rebellion, which they did successfully. It was because of their involvement that the Weimar government prevailed. 3

c
The Weimar's cultural achievements and ^{diplomatic} ~~economic~~ achievements were both very significant. Whether ~~the~~ Republic's cultural achievements were more important is up to interpretation.

4 On one hand, the Weimar Republic's cultural ~~and~~ achievements were very significant. The impact that ~~was~~ many German works of art made at that time had ~~was~~ is undeniable. Many of them, such as the film "Metropolis" are still seen today as a resounding success for the country's cultural significance. Furthermore, the Weimar Republic liberalized during the Golden Years, and many gay and lesbian bars ^{emerged} as a result, allowing people to live more freely and happily. 5
Though ~~at the Republic's~~ some of the Republic's achievements were overturned, the cultural achievements of the country in developing

1 The candidate answers very succinctly, and by this point in their response, has achieved maximum marks. The remaining points are valid.

Mark for (a) = 4 out of 4

2 The candidate identifies and then explains how the fear of communism led to the Communist uprisings failing. By the end of this paragraph, the candidate has been awarded Level 3, 4 marks.

3 The candidate identifies and then explains the role of the Freikorps. The response is awarded Level 4, 6 marks for two explanations.

Mark for (b) = 6 out of 6

4 The candidate identifies the success of Germany's film industry, and provides an example, but its success is stated rather than explained so the response is credited at Level 2, 2 marks.

5 The candidate identifies a second example of cultural success. The impact is not explained and the response moves to the top of Level 2.

Example Candidate Response – middle, continued

Examiner comments

It is incredibly influential artwork and liberalization of society cannot be understated.

On the other hand, the Weimar Republic's achievements were also very significant. Firstly, the signing of the Dawes Plan allowed Germany to make a swift recovery of its industries. ~~The~~ The Republic was also able to join the League of Nations eventually, a major success. ~~Germany~~

6 The Weimar Republic ~~was~~ also signed the Young Plan, which greatly ~~was~~ reduced the amount of reparations to be paid. This development ensured that the Great Depression didn't fully bankrupt the country through reparations.

In conclusion, ~~while I would argue that the Weimar Republic's~~ ~~foreign policy achievements~~

However, Germany still was greatly affected by the Depression so much so that the Nazis were able to win the elections, and joining the League did not prove very useful in the end, so their impacts were limited. 7

In conclusion while both ~~economic~~ foreign policy achievements and cultural ones were significant, I would argue that the Weimar Republic's cultural achievements were more ~~more~~ significant than foreign policy achievements. 8

6 The candidate attempts to provide balance through a consideration of foreign policy achievements, but these are identified rather than explained. The impact of events, such as joining the League of Nations is not shown, and the response remains at Level 2.

7 In this paragraph, the candidate identifies some negative aspects of the foreign policy, but this is not the focus of the question, which is about success, and therefore this cannot be credited.

8 This final paragraph is a summary of points that have previously been made.

Mark for (c) = 3 out of 10

Total mark awarded = 13 out of 20

How the candidate could improve their answer

(c) The candidate correctly identified successful aspects of both the culture and foreign policy of the Weimar Republic but has not explained why they could be considered successful.

Example Candidate Response – low

Examiner comments

- (a) Describe Stresemann's economic policies.
- Stresemann sought help from the US in order to pay reparations with help of the Dawes plan. 1 2
 - Stresemann changed the Mark to the Rentenmark which helped the country to control hyperinflation. 3
 - Stresemann also accepted loans, known as the young Plan to reduce the amount from 6.6 billion pounds to 2.2 billion.
- (b) Why did the communist uprisings of 1919 fail?
- The communist uprising of 1919, was the Spartacist rising, this started because ex-soldiers were being demobilised due to the Treaty of Versailles, so ~~the~~ 100,000 workers ~~were~~ went on strike as an attempt to overthrow the
- (b) Weimar Republic, however this ~~threw~~ communist fail as the Freikorps was created. Now the ex-soldiers had a plan to go, this problem was resolved. 4
- However there also was the Kapp Putsch which was led by Wolfgang Kapp. This uprising started because the Weimar ~~was~~ Constitution and Ebert wanted to disband some areas of the Freikorps, ~~there~~ to which they had an extreme negative reaction and protested by going to the Berlin Capitol. Due to this workers ~~then~~ went on strike causing a imbalance in the community forcing the group to end the uprising. 5
- (c) Weimar's cultural achievements were more important than its achievements in foreign policy. How far do you agree?
- Weimar's cultural achievements included the expansion and freedom of the arts and music, making more cinema and allowing the people to discover other artistic rev. 6
- However the foreign policy stated in the Weimar constitution ~~was~~ was close to near, due to the ~~League~~ League of Nations Germany was excluded from foreign policy and external to ~~foreign~~ politics around the world as 7
- at the time 1920 they were unable to join. Germany also struggle to trade as its economy was heavily damaged by the Treaty of Versailles. ~~which~~ This meant 8
- that Germany was close to having almost no foreign policies.

1 The candidate identifies the Dawes Plan, along with its impact.

2 The candidate identifies a specific change made by Stresemann.

3 The candidate states the impact of the Rentenmark.

Mark for (a) = 4 out of 4

4 The first paragraph achieves Level 2 since it identifies that the Freikorps was created and that 'this problem was resolved'.

5 The second paragraph cannot be credited because it provides an explanation of why the Kapp Putsch failed, which is not the focus of the question which asks about communist uprisings.

Mark for (b) = 2 out of 6

6 The first sentence is credited at Level 2 as a description of the cultural changes that occurred in Weimar Germany. The candidate recognises achievements in music and film, but their importance is not considered for Level 3.

7 This section recognises that Germany was unable to join the League of Nations until 1926, but the answer should be focussed on achievements rather than failures.

8 The candidate makes reference to the economic problems facing the Weimar Republic, but these are not relevant as the question asks only for a comparison of cultural and foreign policy achievements.

Mark for (c) = 2 out of 10

Total mark awarded = 8 out of 20

How the candidate could improve their answer

- **(b)** The candidate's response did not address the question focus. The candidate wrote about the Freikorps rather than the communist uprisings.
- **(c)** The candidate did not address the question focus. If the candidate had concentrated on the question requirement of achievements rather than addressing failures the response could have been credited at a higher level.

Common mistakes and guidance for candidates

- Candidates were often able to write generally about the changes to Weimar culture but were less able to provide specific examples to support their argument.
- Candidates should ensure that their answer is concentrated on the question focus. For example, **(c)** was about success, so arguments considering failure could not be credited.

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