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History
Higher level
Paper 3 – history of Asia and Oceania

6 May 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer any three questions.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section 1: Trade and exchange: The Silk Road in the medieval world (750–1500)

1. Compare and contrast the roles of Ibn Battuta and Marco Polo in connecting west and east.
2. Examine the ways in which the Silk Road led to political and cultural integration.

Section 2: Japan in the Age of the Samurai (1180–1333)

3. To what extent did the weakness of imperial power contribute to the struggle between samurai clans?
4. Evaluate the influence of Buddhism on samurai life in this period.

Section 3: Exploration, trade and interaction in East Asia and South-East Asia (1405–1700)

5. To what extent did Japan “looking out” have a significant impact on the Japanese economy and society?
6. Evaluate the reasons for China “turning in”.

Section 4: The rise and fall of the Mughal Empire (1526–1712)

7. Compare and contrast the rule of Akbar and Shah Jahan I in the Mughal Empire.
8. “External factors were more important than internal factors in the decline of the Mughal Empire.” Discuss.

Section 5: Colonialism and the development of nationalism in South-East Asia (c1750–1914)

9. Evaluate the reasons for the decline of the Dutch East India Company (VOC).
10. Compare and contrast the nature of Spanish and United States’ colonial rule in the Philippines.

Section 6: India, Afghanistan and Burma (1750–1919)

11. Evaluate the causes of the Great Revolt (Indian Mutiny) of 1857.
12. Examine the impact of the Indian National Congress (1885) and the All India Muslim League (1906) on British rule in India up to 1919.

Section 7: Challenges to traditional East Asian societies (1700–1868)

13. “The consequences of the Second Opium War were greater than those of the First.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
14. Evaluate the consequences of the Taiping Rebellion on Chinese society and imperial rule up to 1868.

Section 8: British colonialism and emerging national identities in Oceania (1788–1919)

15. To what extent did the Treaty of Waitangi (1840) resolve the tensions between indigenous society and settlers by 1919?
16. Evaluate the impact of immigration on Australia up to 1919.

Section 9: Early modernization and imperial decline in East Asia (1860–1912)

17. Evaluate the reasons for the failure of the Xinhai Revolution.
18. Examine the impact of Japanese military power on East Asia up to 1912.

Section 10: Nationalism and independence in India (1919–1964)

19. Examine the contribution of Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi to the rise of nationalism in India.
20. “The Second World War was the main reason for the weakening of British power in the South Asian subcontinent by 1947.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 11: Japan (1912–1990)

21. “Economic factors were the most important reason for the rise of militarism and extreme nationalism in Japan in the 1930s.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
22. “Political change was the most significant impact of the US occupation of Japan (1945–1952).” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 12: China and Korea (1910–1950)

23. “There were more successes than failures during the Nanjing decade.” Discuss with reference to the period 1927–1937.
24. Examine the political and social reasons for the rise of communism in China up to 1936.

Section 13: Impact of the Second World War on South-East Asia

25. Discuss the nature and impact of the Japanese occupation on South-East Asia.
26. “Sukarno only emerged as a leader because of the Second World War.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 14: The People’s Republic of China (1949–2005)

27. Discuss the role of the Gang of Four in the development of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution up to 1976.
28. “There were both significant economic and political developments in China under Deng Xiaoping.” Discuss.

Section 15: Cold War conflicts in Asia

29. Examine the political and economic impact of the Korean War (1950–1953) on the Korean peninsula.
30. Discuss the reasons for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

Section 16: Developments and challenges in South Asia after 1947

31. To what extent were Nehru's economic policies successful between 1947 and 1964?
32. Evaluate the political and social challenges facing Bangladesh since 1971.

Section 17: Developments in Oceania after the Second World War (1945–2005)

33. "The achievements of the Menzies government have been exaggerated." To what extent do you agree with this statement?
34. Discuss the reasons for, and results of, the emergence of independent Pacific Island states.

Section 18: Social, cultural and economic developments in Asia (excluding China, Japan and India) (1980–2005)

35. "The impact of globalization has been more positive than negative." Discuss in relation to **two** Asian countries up to 2005 (excluding China, Japan and India).
 36. Discuss the impact of religious conflict and tensions in **two** Asian countries up to 2005 (excluding China, Japan and India).
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