

Markscheme

November 2025

History

Higher level

**Paper 3 – history of Africa and
the Middle East**

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Apply the markbands that provide the “**best fit**” to the responses given and **award credit wherever it is possible to do so**. If an answer indicates that the demands of the question are understood and addressed but that **not all implications are considered (for example, compare or contrast; reasons or significance; methods or success)**, then examiners should not be afraid of using the full range of marks allowed for by the markscheme. Responses that offer good coverage of some of the criteria should be rewarded accordingly.

Marks	Level descriptor
13–15	• Responses are clearly focused, showing a high degree of awareness of the demands and implications of the question. Answers are well structured, balanced and effectively organized. • Knowledge is detailed, accurate and relevant. Events are placed in their historical context, and there is a clear understanding of historical concepts. • Examples used are appropriate and relevant and are used effectively to support the analysis/evaluation. • Arguments are clear and coherent. There is evaluation of different perspectives, and this evaluation is integrated effectively into the answer. • The answer contains well-developed critical analysis. All, or nearly all, of the main points are substantiated, and the response argues to a reasoned conclusion.
10–12	• The demands of the question are understood and addressed. Answers are generally well structured and organized, although there may be some repetition or lack of clarity in places. • Knowledge is accurate and relevant. Events are placed in their historical context, and there is a clear understanding of historical concepts. Examples used are appropriate and relevant and are used to support the analysis/evaluation. • Arguments are mainly clear and coherent. There is some awareness and evaluation of different perspectives. • The response contains critical analysis. Most of the main points are substantiated, and the response argues to a consistent conclusion.
7–9	• The response indicates an understanding of the demands of the question, but these demands are only partially addressed. There is an attempt to follow a structured approach. • Knowledge is mostly accurate and relevant. Events are generally placed in their historical context. Examples used are appropriate and relevant. • The response moves beyond description to include some analysis or critical commentary, but this is not sustained.
4–6	• The response indicates some understanding of the demands of the question. While there may be an attempt to follow a structured approach, the response lacks clarity and coherence. • Knowledge is demonstrated but lacks accuracy and relevance. There is a superficial understanding of historical context. The answer makes use of specific examples, although these may be vague or lack relevance. • There is some limited analysis, but the response is primarily narrative/descriptive in nature, rather than analytical.
1–3	• There is little understanding of the demands of the question. The response is poorly structured or, where there is a recognizable essay structure, there is minimal focus on the task. • Little knowledge is present. Where specific examples are referred to, they are factually incorrect, irrelevant or vague. • The response contains little or no critical analysis. It may consist mostly of generalizations and poorly substantiated assertions.
0	• Response does not reach a standard described by the descriptors above.

Section 1: The ‘Abbasid dynasty (750–1258)**1. Examine the consequences of the shift of power from Syria to Iraq.**

The question requires that candidates consider the consequences of the shift of power from Syria to Iraq. Consequences may extend beyond the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the ways in which the shift resulted in a strong symbolic boost to the ‘Abbasid Empire, as Iraq had been the centre of previous empires. The location of Baghdad on the Tigris/Euphrates established it as the key to trade and communications, which expanded the prosperity of the empire. The move to Iraq ended the Arab monopoly on power. Iranian and other non-Arab Muslims had more influence in the government. Sassanian/Persian models became the basis for court ceremony and bureaucracy, and the Persian military system of a standing army replaced the tribal levies of the Umayyads. The caliph became a traditional autocrat supported by an extensive bureaucracy and priesthood in the traditional Persian fashion, instead of a leader chosen by tribal chiefs. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

2. To what extent was Harun al-Rashid a successful ruler?

The question requires that candidates consider the merits or otherwise of the suggestion that Harun al-Rashid should be considered a successful ruler. Consequences may extend beyond the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to his expansion of military power through his successful campaigns against the Byzantines. He gave extensive support to scholarship and culture as shown in the foundation of the House of Wisdom. The economy of the empire expanded greatly as trade was extended with Europe, China and within the empire. The prestige and influence of the ‘Abbasid Empire expanded as he established diplomatic connections with the empire of Charlemagne and China. Other relevant factors may be addressed for example, the Empire was weakened by rebellions in Egypt and Syria which were the result of harsh taxation and other government policies. Religious and ethnic tensions also increased during his reign. He was unable to suppress them, and they increased under his successors. He failed to establish a clear line of succession and his death led to a civil war amongst his sons which damaged the power of the Empire. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 2: The Fatimids (909–1171)

3. Evaluate the importance of the weakness of the ‘Abbasid Empire as a cause of the rise of the Fatimids.

The question requires that candidates make an appraisal of the importance of ‘Abbasid weakness as a cause of the rise of the Fatimids, weighing up its strengths and weaknesses as a significant factor. Causes may predate the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the size of the Abbasid Empire which made firm control of the outer regions, such as North Africa where the Fatimids arose, difficult. Some Abbasid policies were unpopular and encouraged rebellions in various regions during the reign of Harun al-Rashid. These uprisings gave support to dissident groups like the Fatimids, who were seeking to leave the Empire and establish control of their regions. The increasing cultural and intellectual complexity of the Empire encouraged the rise and development of various sectarian movements such as the Fatimids. The Empire was further weakened by civil war after the death of Harun al-Rashid, which allowed dissident groups and local leaders to expand their power. Other factors may include the military power of the Fatimids, based on the Berber tribes, that allowed them to expand their territory in North Africa and capture Cairo. Their efficient network of missionaries allowed them to spread their religious message which challenged the Sunni orthodoxy of the Empire. Their wealth and commercial links allowed them a means to spread their message and gain more converts. Candidates’ opinions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

4. To what extent were external challenges responsible for the collapse of the Fatimids?

The question requires that candidates consider the merits or otherwise of the suggestion that the external opposition was responsible for the collapse of the Fatimids. Causes may predate the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to their loss of key territories in Sicily and Syria which weakened their power and prestige. Their defeat by the Crusaders in 1099 and the loss of Jerusalem reduced their power. The Sunni revival and the rise of powerful leaders such as Nur al-Din and Salah al-Din (Saladin) led to Fatimid defeat, and then to the collapse of the dynasty in 1171. Other factors may include the growing internal weakness which reduced their military strength as ethnic conflict broke out in the army. Economic weakness due to drought and trade loss reduced support for the regime. Religious dissension increased and many of their supporters joined breakaway sects. The political leadership was weakened by internal disputes, and the caliphs were replaced by military leaders who fought amongst themselves and weakened the state. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 3: The Crusades (1095–1291)

5. To what extent was religion the most important reason for the calling of the First Crusade?

The question requires that candidates consider the merits or otherwise of the suggestion that religion was the most important reason for the calling of the Crusades. Reasons may predate the time frame but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the desire to conquer Jerusalem and reopen the pilgrimage routes to the Holy Land and protect it from Islamic forces. The Crusade was designed to render aid to the Byzantine Empire, which was in danger of collapse. Political motives involved the papacy attempting to unify Christendom under its leadership, which would give the Roman church supreme power. The Papacy wished to reduce violence in medieval Europe and saw the Crusades as an outlet for the military power and aggression of the nobility. It might provide additional territory for landless nobles and thus reduce conflict over land in Europe. The Crusade would increase the power and prestige of the pope and give him an advantage over temporal rulers with whom he had been in conflict, as seen in the Investiture Crisis, and provide him with more funds through a crusading tax. Commercial motives were also present as the Italian city states supported the calling of the Crusade as a way for them to open trade routes to the Middle East. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

6. Evaluate the importance of Nur al-Din and Salah ad-Din (Saladin) to Muslim success in the Crusades.

The question requires that candidates make an appraisal of the importance or otherwise of Nur al-Din and Salah ad-Din (Saladin) to Muslim success in the Crusades. Candidates may refer to Nur al-Din's promotion of the concept of jihad which unified Muslims and led to the defeat of the second Crusade. He unified Syria and other Muslim regions by defeating the Fatimids and creating powerful armies to continue the anti-Crusader struggle. Salah ad-Din (Saladin) continued the policies of Nur al-Din in unifying and strengthening Muslim forces. His military ability led to the capture of Jerusalem and the elimination of many Crusader strongpoints. His defeat of the Third Crusade maintained Muslim unity and confidence in jihad. Other factors may include the divided leadership of the Europeans, the lack of support for crusading in Europe after 1099, and the diversion of crusading interest to campaigns in Spain and Eastern Europe. The failure of the Crusader states to expand their European populations as well as their internal strife were further factors, as was the failure to maintain the support of the Byzantines. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 4: The Ottomans (1281–1566)

7. Evaluate the importance of military power to the rise of the Ottomans.

The question requires that candidates make an appraisal weighing up the strengths and limitations of the importance of military power as a factor in the rise of the Ottomans. Candidates may refer to the military skill of their leader Osman who united various tribal groups composed of skilled warriors. Their success against the Byzantines increased their strength and attracted support. Ottoman armies were highly skilled and disciplined and equipped with the latest technology which gave them an advantage. Other factors may include the weakness of the Byzantine Empire which made success easier, the destruction of many states and tribes by Tamerlane which created a vacuum for the Ottomans (who were not as badly weakened by him) to occupy. The unpopularity and weakness of many Balkan rulers made Ottoman conquest easy, and the popularity of the Ottomans and their policies caused many to desert their rulers and join the Ottomans, which aided their ability to conquer. In addition, they received substantial financial and support from Genoa which wanted to acquire trade rights in the Balkans. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be clearly presented and supported by relevant content.

8. Compare and contrast the contributions of **two** of the following leaders to the development of the Ottoman Empire: Mehmet II (1451–1481), Selim I (1512–1520) or Suleiman the Magnificent (1520–1566).

The question requires that candidates give an account of the similarities and differences between the contributions of two of the following: Mehmet II (1451–1481), Selim I (1512–1520), and Suleiman the Magnificent (1520–1566), to the development of the Ottoman Empire. Candidates may refer to similarities such as their military leadership and accomplishments, in terms of acquisition of territory, victories or defeats. They may also compare achievements in their diplomatic careers, in terms of negotiating treaties with Europe and others, and expanding territory, trade and influence. They may also compare or contrast their status and achievements as leaders of Islam and expansion of Islamic territory, as well as their respective contributions to creating and reforming the structure and/or nature of government. Candidates may contrast the many social, cultural and intellectual achievements of Suleiman's reign, together with his support of a multi-cultural empire which used the talents of many faiths and cultures, with the more limited accomplishments of the other two rulers in these areas. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 5: Trade and the rise and decline of African states and empires (800–1600)

9. Evaluate the factors that led to the Islamization of East and West Africa.

Candidates will make an appraisal of the factors that led to the Islamization of East and West Africa, weighing up the importance or otherwise of each. Candidates may offer equal coverage of East and West Africa, or they may prioritize their evaluation of either. However, both regions will be a feature of the response. Candidates may refer to the ways in which Islam was brought to both regions by Muslim traders from the north, who often married local women and raised Muslim children. In the Ghana Empire, which was not officially Muslim, Berber traders preferred to do business with fellow Muslims and this encouraged many locals to convert. The kings of the Mali Empire converted to Islam, and its power and expansion accelerated Islamization across the region. In East Africa, maritime trade with the Arabian Peninsula meant that the Swahili city states were Muslim in character, and their trading activities spread Islam into the interior. Candidates may also consider the role of military conquest, with the Almoravid jihad hastening the break-up of the Ghana Empire and its eventual replacement by the Mali Empire, as well as more general factors such as the perceived attractions of a Muslim way of life. Both importance and limitations must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal focus on each.

10. “Political factors were more important than economic organization to the rise of the Kingdom of the Kongo.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Candidates will consider the merits or otherwise of the statement that political factors were more important than economic organization to the rise of the Kingdom of the Kongo. Candidates may refer to political factors such as the marriage alliance between the rulers of the Mpemba and Mbata kingdoms, which resulted in a dynasty which would rule the region for two centuries. Political centralization, with power concentrated in M’banza Kongo, the heavily populated capital at the heart of the kingdom, made the provinces easier to control. Strong rulers like Afonso I, who converted to Catholicism, also played a role, and successful diplomacy as well as trade with Portugal reduced the likelihood that that country would establish a permanent presence on the coast. For economic factors, the kingdom dominated an extensive network of regional trade in copperware, iron and cloth, while expansion of agriculture meant that the provinces could send sufficient supplies of food to the capital. The kingdom also played a role in the Atlantic slave trade, providing slaves to the huge market at Sao Tome. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence and sound argument.

Section 6: Pre-colonial African states (1800–1900)

11. Evaluate the impact of the rise of the Sokoto Caliphate on West Africa.

Candidates will make an appraisal of impact of the rise of the Sokoto Caliphate on West Africa, weighing up the importance or otherwise of its rise. Impact may extend beyond the timeframe, but it must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to political impact such as the defeat and loss of independence of the Hausa kingdoms, which were swept away by Usman dan Fodio's jihad. The rise of Fulani power resulted in the introduction of a decentralized system of government, with formerly independent states allowed to retain some autonomy in return for their acceptance of Usman's overlordship. Another impact was the spread of a more purified form of Islam across the region, as well as legal reforms in areas such as marriage law. West Africa saw significant urbanization as new fortified cities known as ribats were built on its frontiers. Economic changes included the introduction of a plantation-based economy, centred on cotton and indigo production, and the emergence of a textiles industry. Trade, including that in slaves, was extended across the region. Both importance and limitations of the Caliphate's rise must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal focus on each.

12. "The contribution of Menelik II to the unification and expansion of Ethiopia was greater than that of Tewodros II." Discuss.

Candidates will offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that the contribution of Menelik II to the unification and expansion of Ethiopia was greater than that of Tewodros II. Factors may extend beyond the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may offer equal coverage of Menelik and Tewodros, or they may prioritize their discussion of either. However, both rulers will be a feature of the response. Candidates may refer to Menelik's decisive military victory over the Italians at Adwa which confirmed the independence of a unified Ethiopia. They may note support offered to Menelik by other nobles at this battle. This contrasts with the circumstances of the defeat of Tewodros, who was abandoned by the other Rases, including Menelik, during the Napier expedition. After Adwa, Menelik won diplomatic recognition by other European powers and expanded Ethiopia to the south. While Tewodros was ultimately defeated, he was the first modern emperor to unify Ethiopia by bringing an end to the period of division known as the Zemene Mesafint, a legacy upon which his two successors – Yohannes and Menelik – could later build. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence.

Section 7: The slave trade in Africa and the Middle East (1500–1900)

13. Examine the social impact of the slave trade on Africa and the Middle East.

Candidates will consider the relationship between the slave trade and its social impact on Africa and the Middle East. Impact may extend beyond the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may offer equal coverage of Africa and the Middle East, or they may prioritize either. However, both aspects will be a feature of the response. A comparative approach may or may not be used. Candidates may refer to the enormous loss of population, with young and healthy people disproportionately affected. Another impact was long-standing animosity between different African societies, as slaving raids were typically carried out by African themselves, and this factor mitigated against the formation of larger socio-political units. Alternatively, other states such as the Oyo Empire and the Kingdom of Dahomey, flourished due to their involvement in the trade. Other impacts include loss in faith in rulers who failed to provide protection or partook in the enslavement of their own subjects, and changes in lifestyle due to the risks of enslavement. One major impact in the Middle East was the emergence of a more ethnically diverse society, albeit one with significant socio-economic inequality between the different groups. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

14. “The role played by individuals in the decline of the slave trade was more significant in West Africa than in East Africa.” Discuss.

Candidates will offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that the role played by individuals in the decline of the slave trade was more significant in West Africa than East Africa. Candidates may offer equal coverage of West Africa and East Africa, or they may prioritize their discussion of either. However, both aspects will be a feature of the response. Candidates may refer to the role of individuals in the abolitionist movement, including Thomas Clarkson, William Wilberforce, who led humanitarian opposition to the Atlantic trade, both within and beyond the British parliament, as well as that of former slaves such as Olaudah Equiano. Their efforts contributed to legislation which outlawed the slave trade and then slavery itself. For East Africa, missionaries such as David Livingston campaigned against slavery and called for colonial expansion as a means of ending it. The British consul, John Kirk, was instrumental in forcing Sultan Barghash of Zanzibar to close the main East African market in 1873. While other relevant factors may be referred to, such as the declining importance of sugar to the British economy and the introduction of machinery which reduced the demand for labour on the plantations of the Caribbean, and declining power of the Ottoman Empire, the bulk of the response will remain on the issue raised in the question. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence.

Section 8: European imperialism and the partition of Africa (1850–1900)

15. Evaluate the significance of traders to the growth of European activity in Africa.

Candidates will make an appraisal of the significance of traders to the growth of European activity in Africa, weighing up their importance or otherwise. Evaluation of their role may predate the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the rise of legitimate commerce in the nineteenth century, which offered opportunities for European traders to establish operations in Africa. Manufactured goods were exchanged for commodities such as palm oil as activity grew along the West African littoral. Over time, traders were responsible for a sort of “creeping imperialism” as they extended their activity along the coast, sometimes establishing trading stations in the interior to cut out the African “middleman”. Disputes with African traders could lead European firms to appeal to their government to intervene, and traders would sometimes call for protectorates to exclude European rivals from their markets. Candidates may refer to limitations of traders, such the fact that their role was less significant in other parts of the continent than in West Africa, or that the colonial government was not always receptive to their appeals. Both importance and limitations must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal focus on each. While other, relevant, factors may be referred to, such as decline of the Ottoman Empire or the role of missionaries and explorers, the bulk of the response will remain on the issue raised in the question.

16. “Strategic factors were of little importance in the partition of Africa.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Candidates will consider the merits or otherwise of the statement that strategic factors were of little importance in the partition of Africa. Factors may predate the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the importance of strategic factors, with European powers, and Britain in particular, seeking to protect sea routes to the east. Anglo-French rivalry sharpened due to British intervention in Egypt, an action which resulted from concerns over the stability of the Egyptian government and its ability to secure the Suez Canal. Candidates may refer to the wider impact of events in Egypt, including the breakdown of the Anglo-French “gentleman’s agreement” in West Africa, and Anglo-German rivalry in East Africa, which resulted from British worries that Germany might seize the headwaters of the Nile. Britain’s attempts to federate South Africa were also motivated by strategic concerns over the alternative sea route to India via the Cape. However, candidates may argue that Britain’s actions in South Africa were caused by its wish to control the supply of minerals such as diamonds and gold, or that the economic factors more generally were the most important considerations in driving the partition. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence and sound argument.

Section 9: Response to European imperialism (1870-1920)

17. Evaluate the factors that influenced some African states to collaborate with colonial powers.

Candidates will make an appraisal of the factors that influenced some African states to collaborate with colonial powers, weighing up the importance or otherwise of each. Factors identified may predate the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the pragmatism shown by some African rulers, who calculated that the cost of a partial loss of independence was far less than the disastrous consequences of resistance due to the overwhelming military superiority of colonial powers. In some cases, African leaders were able to collaborate because the colonial power was willing to do so, either to avoid costly conflict or to secure an ally in a bid to dominate the wider region. Candidates may note that some leaders, such as Moshoeshe or Khama III, collaborated to gain protection against a more dangerous rival. Some African leaders realized that collaboration could lead to their group securing a privileged position in the new colonial order with access to government jobs, and even allowing them to exercise sub-imperialism over rival groups. Some rulers such as Khama and Apolo Kagwa were baptized Christians, possibly resulting in some affinity with the colonizer. Both importance and limitations of factors must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal focus on each. While other, relevant, factors may be referred to, such as those that influenced states to resist, the bulk of the response will remain on the issue raised in the question.

18. “Military inferiority was the main reason for the failure of Asante resistance against the British.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Candidates will consider the merits or otherwise of the statement that military inferiority was the main reason for the failure of Asante resistance against the British. Factors identified may predate the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the success of Wolseley’s expedition of 1873–74, which resulted in the burning of the Asante capital, Kumasi, and the signing of the Treaty of Fomena, which forced the Asante to give up its claims to the coastal region. Wolseley’s armies faced fierce Asante resistance but prevailed due to its use of Martini-Henry rifles and Gatling guns, and to the engineering expertise which allowed it to reach Kumasi in the first place. Another British expedition in 1896 used its military superiority to overwhelm the Asante and force it to accept British protection, and any Asante resistance came to an end in 1901 with defeat in the War of the Golden Stool. Candidates may consider the role of other factors such as Asante political miscalculation, with their attack on Elmina and the taking of European hostages provoking the Wolseley expedition, or the loose political structure of the Asante state, with some of its northern provinces rising in revolt after 1874. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence and sound argument.

Section 10: Africa under colonialism (1890–1980)

- 19.** Evaluate the role of Ian Smith in developments in Southern Rhodesia and the Central African Federation up to 1965.

Candidates will make an appraisal of the role of Ian Smith in developments in Southern Rhodesia and the Central African Federation, weighing up his importance or otherwise. Candidates may refer to Smith's early career when he played a minor role in campaigning for the creation of the CAF, which he viewed as a means of perpetuating white minority rule in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland as well as in Southern Rhodesia. They may note that he opposed a new constitution in 1961 because it did not guarantee independence for Southern Rhodesia in the event of the breakup of the CAF. After turning against the CAF due to British attempts to promote majority rule in the other two territories, Smith was appointed Deputy Prime Minister following the victory of his Rhodesian Front in the whites-only election of 1962. Candidates may note Smith's key role in the Victoria Falls Conference in 1963, which led to the dissolution of the CAF and independence under majority rule for Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, but which left the status of Southern Rhodesia undetermined. After Smith took over as Prime Minister in 1964, and fruitless negotiations with British prime minister Harold Wilson, he issued the landmark Unilateral Declaration of Independence in 1965. Both importance and limitations of his role must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal focus on each. While other, relevant, factors may be referred to, including the roles of Banda, Nkomo, Kaunda and Welensky, the bulk of the response will remain on the issue raised in the question.

- 20.** Compare and contrast economic developments in Angola and Mozambique under Portuguese rule up to 1975.

Candidates will give an account of the similarities and differences between economic developments in Angola and Mozambique during Portuguese rule, referring to both throughout. Candidates may refer to similarities such as the overall economic neglect of both colonies, where there was minimal investment in the education or welfare of Africans. This led to widespread poverty and contributed eventually to the outbreak of liberation war. In each colony, forced labour, or corvée, was used as an instrument of economic policy. They may also note that liberation war retarded development in both colonies, even if development of the oil industry led to some improvement in general living standards in Angola after the 1950s, unlike in Mozambique. Other differences may be noted, such as the practice of leasing land to chartered companies in Mozambique, but not Angola, in the early colonial period. These concession companies were responsible for administration of their territories, and any investment was for their own benefit rather than the development of the colony, leading to the severe impoverishment of Mozambique. In Angola, by contrast, there was some infrastructural development, such as the construction of the Benguela railway. The Estado Novo tried to promote the development of a settler economy in both colonies after the Second World War, but this was notably more successful in Angola. Both similarities and differences must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal number of each.

Section 11: 20th-century nationalist and independence movements in Africa

21. Discuss the reasons why Namibia did not achieve independence until 1990.

Candidates will offer a considered and balanced review of the reasons why Namibia did not achieve its independence until 1990. Candidates may refer to Namibia's status under international law as a factor in its late achievement of independence. After the First World War, German Southwest Africa was made a mandate territory to be governed by South Africa on behalf of the League of Nations. While this agreement required the mandatory power to prepare the country for independence, it was in effect governed as a "fifth province" of South Africa. Namibia's status was not transferred to UN Trusteeship after the Second World War, and this freed South Africa from the obligation of preparing it for majority rule, as apartheid laws were introduced to supplement the segregationist legislation already in place. Candidates may note the large settler presence which contributed to Pretoria's resistance to repeated calls from the international community to cancel the mandate and grant independence. The impact of SWAPO, Namibia's liberation army, was limited due to the military might of South Africa, and it was only following the defeat of South African at Cuito Cuanevale in Angola that Namibian independence was considered. A round of negotiations – mediated by the US, which lost its appetite for supporting South Africa as the Cold War came to an end – led to the transfer of power to the UN, and eventually full independence in 1990. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence.

22. "The actions of political parties were the most important factor in the achievement of Senegalese independence." Discuss.

Candidates will offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that the actions of political parties were the most important factor in the achievement of Senegalese independence. Candidates may refer to the leading role played by the Senegalese Democratic Bloc (BDS), later the Senegalese Progressive Union. The BDS broke from the African branch of the French Socialist Party in 1948 and was led by the charismatic Leopold Senghor. Establishing itself as a dominant political force in rural areas outside of the Four Communes, the BDS was able to present itself as the main party of Senegalese nationalism, routing its rivals in parliamentary elections in 1956. It organized protests against colonial rule and took part in negotiations with the French government in the lead-up to independence. Crucially, it supported the French constitution of 1958, which dissolved French West Africa in favour of a new French Community and was viewed by de Gaulle as relatively moderate. Candidates may consider other factors in the achievement of independence, including the willingness of the French to enact legislative measure such as the Loi Cadre of 1956 which granted limited self-government to Senegal, and developments in Guinea, which voted against membership of the French Community and was therefore responsible for the creation of separate independent states in West Africa. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence.

Section 12: The Ottoman Empire (c1800–1923)

- 23.** “Ottoman weakness was the most important cause of the crises in the Balkans after the Crimean War (1856).” Discuss.

The question requires that candidates offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that Ottoman weakness was the most important cause of the crises in the Balkans after the Crimean War. Causes may predate the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to Ottoman failure to revise and reform the government and legal system, which antagonized Balkan peoples who felt unfairly treated and led to calls for independence and uprisings. Ottoman military and financial weakness meant that they were unable to suppress uprisings or prevent intervention by foreign powers. In addition, the image created in Europe of the Ottomans as the “sick man of Europe” reinforced the idea of weakness and led to further agitation for liberation by subject peoples. Candidates may refer to factors other than Ottoman weakness, such as foreign support for independence movements in the Balkans, notably by Russia, which led to war in 1877 and a loss of nearly all Balkan territory. They may also refer to the strength of the spirit of nationalism after 1815, and the example of revolt provided by Greece in the 1820s which supported demands for independence. After the Crimean War, the Treaty of Paris gave the European powers greater rights to interfere in the Empire, often in support of subject peoples. While other, relevant, factors may be referred to, the bulk of the response will remain on the issue raised in the question. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

- 24.** Evaluate the reasons for Ottoman entry into the First World War.

The question requires that candidates make an appraisal of the reasons for the Ottoman entry into the First World War, weighing up their importance or otherwise. The reasons may predate the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to ongoing fear of Russian ambitions with regard to Ottoman territory, and the fear that the 1914 crisis would provide an excuse for Russian expansion. This caused the Ottomans to look for security, which was offered by Germany, on the condition that it entered the war on the side of the Central Powers. German popularity with the Ottoman leadership and their contributions to army reform, railway building, and the public support of the Kaiser contributed to this alliance. Ottoman military confidence had increased, and they were ready to enter the war against their traditional enemy, Russia. The British confiscation of two Ottoman dreadnoughts caused much anti-British feeling, as did the failure of the Entente Powers to give a guarantee of territorial integrity to the Ottomans. The arrival of German warships to help control the Black Sea increased Ottoman confidence and support for Germany and encouraged their entry into the war on the German side. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be clearly presented and supported by relevant content.

Section 13: War and change in the Middle East and North Africa 1914–1945

25. Examine the reasons for, and consequences of, the Sykes–Picot Agreement.

Candidates will consider the interrelationship between the reasons for, and the consequences of, the Sykes–Picot agreement. The causes and consequences may extend beyond the time frame but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the creation of the agreement by France, Britain and Russia as a plan for the division of the Ottoman Empire should they be victorious in the First World War. The signatories hoped to satisfy their strategic and economic goals. The agreement was also to prevent friction amongst the powers that might have undermined their alliance and dedication to the defeat of Germany. The publication of the terms by the Bolsheviks in 1917, led to friction between Britain and France and the Arabs, who believed that they would achieve their independence after the First World War. The mistrust created by the revelation of the agreement became a basis for post-war conflicts in the region. The agreement was the basis for the mandate system created after the war, by which the French and British added five new states to their empires despite the ideals of self-determination promoted at Versailles. The creation of these states led to armed rebellion in Iraq and Syria which was suppressed by Britain and France. The resentment at the agreement and the military interventions led to continuous unrest and long-term resentment of Western influence.

26. “Economic modernization was more successful than political modernization between 1914 and 1945.” Discuss with reference to **one** of the following: Iran, Saudi Arabia or a North African state.

The question requires that candidates offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that economic modernization was more successful than political modernization between 1914 and 1945 in **one** of the following: Iran, Saudi Arabia, or a North African state. Results may extend beyond the time frame but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to aspects of political modernization such government reform, or changes to the constitutions or systems of government, and the role of leaders in promoting these changes. They may also consider the degree to which nationalist agendas were promoted through the pursuit of an independent foreign policy, through reducing the presence of or control by foreign powers. They may consider economic modernization by examining ways in which the resources of the state were effectively exploited. Raw materials such as oil or minerals were used as bases for attraction of investment, and trade agreements were reached to encourage development. Interest in new technology was also a spur to economic development, as was investment in infrastructure. The social and religious structure of the country may also be considered, in the sense that this influenced the degree to which it supported or did not support political or economic change. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 14: Africa, international organizations and the international community (20th century)

27. To what extent did the Organization of African Unity (OAU) succeed in achieving its objectives?

Candidates will consider the merits or otherwise of the suggestion that the OAU succeeded in meeting its objectives. Candidates may refer to the OAU's objective of bringing an end to colonialism in Africa and to the apartheid system in South Africa. While these goals were achieved, the contribution of the OAU to their attainment is questionable. Another objective was to foster closer regional co-operation among members. Candidates may point to some success in West Africa through ECOWAS, but more limited achievement in the case of SADC and the EAC. A more fundamental goal was closer political integration. Success was more elusive in this area, with differing positions of member states on the issue of Pan-Africanism hampering any progress. The OAU was also unsuccessful in its efforts to prevent conflict, whether civil war, such as the conflicts in Nigeria or Somalia, or war between its members, such as the Ethiopia-Eritrea War. The policy of non-intervention stood in the way of success in this area. The OAU saw more success in its efforts to promote conflict resolution, for example in organizing and implementing the Arusha Accords, and in mitigating effects of conflict such as refugee crises. Candidates may conclude that the replacement of the OAU with the African Union points to a wider failure to achieve its objectives. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the suggestion, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence and sound argument.

28. "The Cold War resulted in an increase in political instability in African countries." Discuss with reference to **two African countries.**

Candidates will offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that the Cold War resulted in an increase in political instability in African countries, with reference to two countries. Impact may extend beyond the timeframe, but it must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may offer equal coverage of the two countries chosen, or they may prioritize their discussion of either. However, both countries will be a feature of the response. A comparative approach may or may not be used. Candidates may refer to the military aid provided by Cold War superpowers, which encouraged governments to quell internal opposition (which may have increased or decreased stability) or to attack rival states. The US and the Soviet Union typically used allies for proxy wars and had no real interest in their long-term development or political stability. Superpowers tended to support rebel groups operating in countries whose governments were allied to their rival, further undermining stability. The US sometimes supported colonial powers because nationalist groups were typically leftist, and this delayed independence and contributed to liberation war. Its support for South Africa proved to be a major source of instability in the region, with the apartheid state sponsoring rebel groups in Angola and Mozambique. Candidates may point out that some countries received economic assistance in return for their support, and that this promoted stability. Candidates may agree, partly agree or disagree with the statement, but their opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by appropriate evidence.

Section 15: Developments in South Africa 1880–1994

29. Examine the nature and impact of the policies of Smuts and Hertzog.

Candidates will consider the interrelationship between the nature and impact of the policies of Smuts and Hertzog. Candidates may refer to policies which led to residential segregation of the races and the economic marginalization of Africans. The Natives Land Act of 1913 stated that Blacks could not own land outside of the designated Native Reserves, which were isolated rural areas of economically marginal land. The 1923 Urban Areas Act served a similar purpose, by restricting the access of Africans to the cities. Pass laws were introduced as the townships expanded, further contributing to the exclusion and immiseration of the majority Black population. Laws such as the Mines and Works Act of 1911 and the Colour Bar Act of 1926 led to employment discrimination and a “civilized labour” policy, by which skilled jobs were reserved for Whites. Policy designed to perpetuate the political exclusion of Blacks was enshrined in the Union Act of 1910, and this, along with other forms of discrimination, led to the emergence of African opposition in the form of groups such as the ANC and the ICU. Policy was repressive and aimed at quelling protest, with the result that African opposition was mostly limited until the ANC was radicalized as a mass movement following the Second World War. Candidates may discuss foreign policy, which aimed at limiting global criticism through diplomacy and Smuts’s role as a leading figure in the League of Nations.

30. Evaluate the contribution of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) to the end of the apartheid system.

Candidates will make an appraisal of the role of CODESA in the end of the apartheid system, weighing up its importance or otherwise. Candidates may refer to the significance of CODESA’s creation in 1991: it was a multi-party body charged with the key task of negotiating an end to apartheid by drafting a new democratic constitution. In successfully discharging this responsibility, CODESA survived multiple crises which threatened to derail negotiations, including the ANC’s temporary decision to return to mass action following the Boipatong massacre, and its allegations of a clandestine “Third Force”, with links to the ,which targeted the ANC and its supporters. CODESA continued to meet despite disagreements between the ANC and the government concerning guarantees for minority groups and the question of whether the constitution should be multi-racial or non-racial. Other challenges included the opposition of white supremacists and Bantustan leaders, the withdrawal of Chief Buthelezi’s Inkatha Freedom Party from CODESA, and the assassination of Chris Hani, all of which threatened to plunge the country into chaos as negotiations reached a climax. An interim constitution was agreed in November 1993 leading to the country’s first non-racial elections in April 1994. Limitations may include the argument that of more significance was the role played by Mandela and de Klerk outside of CODESA in stressing moderation and reconciliation, as well as the impact of the whites-only referendum of 1992. Both importance and limitations of CODESA’s contribution must be clearly indicated but there does not need to be an equal focus on each.

Section 16: Social and cultural developments in Africa in the 19th and 20th centuries

31. To what extent did colonialism inhibit the spread of Islam in Africa in the 19th and 20th centuries?

The question requires that candidates make an appraisal of the impact of colonialism on the spread of Islam. Candidates may refer to the expansion of colonial powers replaced local governments and rulers (some of whom were Muslims) with European ones which supported the work of Christian missionaries and Christian values with laws, money and military power. The wealth of the Christian churches brought many converts who were attracted, in part perhaps, by opportunities for education, financial support or political influence. Islamic states in sub-Saharan Africa were not powerful enough to challenge colonial expansion thus Islamic influence was limited or eliminated. Other factors may include the growth of anti-colonial or anti-Western sentiment to colonization, which may have viewed Islam as a vehicle for opposing Western domination. The resistance of the Mandinka Empire or the Mahdi in Sudan are examples. The more tolerant nature of Islam toward local customs and culture attracted individuals who resented cultural changes forced upon societies by the Western powers. The Islamic presence in North Africa was not weakened by colonialism and continued to spread Islam into neighbouring regions and support existing Islamic communities.

32. Examine the impact of technological developments on society and culture in **two** states.

The question requires that candidates consider the interrelationship between social and cultural values and the impact of technological developments in two African countries. Candidates may refer to the impact of industrial and transportation changes which may shift populations from rural to urban locations and create new social structures. Technological developments may prompt changes in education with the abandonment of more traditional subjects and the introduction of new skills relevant to a fast-changing world. New ideas in religion, politics, and culture, which come from new technologies such as the internet, may have the effect of challenging traditional beliefs and social structures. Improved transportation may reduce isolation and lead to greater interaction between isolated groups while helping spread new ideas. Traditional family structures and values may break down with new employment opportunities, greater mobility, and individual independence and wealth. While technology may bring dramatic social change, this may cause it to be rejected by some groups, resulting in a return to more traditional values or belief systems. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 17: Post-war developments in the Middle East (1945–2000)

33. Examine the reasons for the rise **and decline of Pan-Arabism by 1967.**

Candidates will consider the interrelationship between the reasons for the rise and decline of Pan-Arabism by 1967. Reasons may predate the timeframe, but they must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may offer equal coverage of the rise and decline of Pan-Arabism, or they may prioritize their examination of either factor. However, both aspects will be a feature of the response. Candidates may refer to the emergence of Nasser as a key proponent of Pan-Arabism following the Free Officers' coup in Egypt in 1952. Support for Nasserism, with its ideological appeal of anti-colonialism, socialism, secularism and strident opposition to Israel, spread across the region following Nasser's success in nationalizing the Suez Canal and his subsequent political victory in the Suez Crisis. The creation of the United Arab Republic, a political merger between Egypt and Syria in 1958, seemed to indicate that the dream of Arab unity could become a reality. Candidates may refer to the short-lived nature of the UAR, which broke up after just three years, as a major factor in the decline of pan-Arabism. The failures of many of Nasser's reforms in Egypt, together with defeat in the 1967 Arab-Israeli War and Nasser's subsequent resignation, confirmed the decline of pan-Arabism in the Middle East. While other, relevant, interrelationships may be considered, the bulk of the response will remain on that/those raised in the question.

34. "The Iran–Iraq War was a disaster for Iran." Discuss.

The question requires that candidates offer a considered and balanced review of the statement that the Iran–Iraq War was a disaster for Iran. Results may extend beyond the timeframe but must be clearly linked to the issue raised in the question. Candidates may refer to the massive economic cost of the war, which resulted in dramatic increases in inflation and unemployment and a sharp fall in living standards. Extensive casualties resulted from use of the human wave tactics employed by the Iranian military. There was also extensive material damage to Iranian cities from Iraqi bombing raids, and internal riots which broke out in protest over the conduct of the war. These threatened to undermine the stability of the state. Iran failed to achieve its aim of overthrowing the Iraqi state and instead incurred the enmity of other Sunni states, which opposed the expansion of its power. This was a major defeat for Iran, as its influence was diminished in the Muslim world. However, candidates may disagree with the statement by arguing that Iran was successful in defending itself, and that it suffered no territorial losses. The Iranian revolutionary government was strengthened as internal opponents were suppressed, and wartime propaganda supported the government's position and leadership. Candidates' opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

Section 18: Post-independence politics in Africa to 2005

35. “The need for effective government was the main reason for the establishment of a single-party state.” Discuss with reference to **two** African countries.

The question requires that candidates offer a considered and balance review of the statement that the need for effective government was the main reason for the establishment of a single-party state.” Responses must refer to **two** African states. Candidates may refer to a range of different purposes for which effective government was seen as necessary: to end existing internal violence or conflict; to bring about effective economic and financial reforms; to improve living standards; and to improve international relations so as to avoid external interference and negotiate treaties which attract investment and support for infrastructure and other forms of economic activity. Other factors leading to single-party states may include the personal charisma of an individual leader, or the popularity of a new ideology which supports the concept of a single-party state. The collapse of a multi-party system or misgovernment by a multi-party system may lead to demands for a new style of government. Foreign interference or invasion, or the threat of invasion, may also lead to the establishment of a single-party state. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.

36. Evaluate the importance of investment for economic growth and development in **two** African countries.

The question requires that candidates make an appraisal of the importance of investment for economic growth and development in **two** African countries. Candidates may refer to the role of investment in creating businesses and developing natural resources which can provide wealth to the country and individuals. Infrastructure investment improves economic growth as it provides the transportation, education, healthcare and communications necessary for a strong economy. Investment reflects optimism in the population and external groups about the future of the country. This may encourage increased economic activity, including trade with other countries, and broader investment to support growth. Other important factors may include a lack of social discord or conflict which prevents destruction of economic resources and encourages ambitious individuals and groups. Stable, honest governments with a sound legal system, encourages business and attracts outside support. Candidates may stress the importance of effective leadership, which encourages growth and develops relationships with other countries to develop trade and the exchange of knowledge and information. Candidates’ opinions or conclusions will be presented clearly and supported by relevant content.
