

HISTORY I

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions, including
AT LEAST ONE from Section A

Section A

1. **EITHER:** How has the concept of 'modernity' distorted understanding of the period prior to 1700? **OR:** How useful is the concept of 'modernity' in understanding the world after 1700?
2. What is an 'archive'?
3. Are mountain ranges **AND/OR** deserts primarily transit zones or barriers to connectivity?
4. How important are material objects to the Abrahamic religions?
5. How culturally specific is the concept of 'sainthood'?
6. Is resentment a useful subject for historical investigation?
7. How would you write a history of corruption?
8. How seriously should historians take sport?
9. Does rapid economic change always result in social dislocation?
10. Why have some societies exploited new technologies better than others?
11. How useful are stereotypes in historical analysis?
12. Can diplomatic history ever be written 'from below'?
13. What is the connection between monetary systems and public finance in world economic history?
14. To what extent can the history of commodities enhance historical understanding? Illustrate with **ONE OR MORE** examples of your choice.
15. 'Is demography destiny?' Discuss.
16. Is 'global history' a purely western idea?
17. Can architecture express a 'national spirit'?

Section B

18. Is the Greek-Barbarian polarity in classical antiquity only a narrowly fifth-century BC Athenian construct?
19. How should we understand the concept of federalism in the Greek world?
20. Why did Roman emperors legislate?
21. To what extent and in what ways did the spread of Christianity affect women's lives in the Roman world?
22. How significant was slavery between 500 BCE and 90 AD?
23. Is it useful to characterise Stoicism as an 'ideology' in the Roman Empire?
24. What have been the most significant advances in the study of Roman Britain during the past decade?
25. Do we read too much Augustine?
26. Why did martyrdom remain such a potent ideology throughout late antiquity?
27. Was Justinian a tyrant?
28. Compare the appeal of Manichaeism in **AT LEAST TWO** of the following polities: Sasanian Persia; the later Roman Empire; Tang China.
29. 'Rome will exist as long as the Colosseum does; when the Colosseum falls, so will Rome; when Rome falls, so will the world' (BEDE). Discuss.
30. How did the uses of wealth change between c. 300 and c. 600?
31. How useful is 'ethnicity' as a framework for analysing **EITHER** early medieval politics **OR** early medieval society?
32. What, if anything, did 'Arab' identity consist of prior to Islam?
33. How important is the view from the peripheries in the Middle Ages?
34. Why was Ottonian governance so different from Carolingian?
35. Were all early-medieval societies 'honour' societies?
36. When did Byzantium stop being an 'ancient economy'?
37. Was there a 'third gender' in the Middle Ages?
38. Was heresy intrinsic to medieval Christianity?

39. Why has figural representation been so widespread in Islamic art?
40. 'Church' or 'state': which is the more problematic concept for historians of the Middle Ages?
41. How efficient were medieval governments?
42. To what extent did religious doctrine affect economic practice in the medieval Muslim world?
43. Joan of Arc: heretic and saint?
44. Assess the place of the occult sciences in medieval European and Islamic intellectual culture.
45. Were composite monarchies empires in disguise?
46. Has the forced conversion of Hindus under Mughal rule been exaggerated?
47. '[The Ottoman Empire] was a European empire that remains an integral part of European culture and history' (MARC BAER). Discuss.
48. How important was disease to the Spanish conquest of America?
49. Was there such a thing as 'Renaissance Monarchy'?
50. How religious was the 'Scientific Revolution'?
51. Was the Peasants' War motivated by material concerns?
52. How responsible was the papacy for the successes of the Counter-Reformation?
53. What did Europe's 'Wars of Religion' owe to religion?
54. Did the early-modern period see the creation of a Eurasian economy?
55. Explain the importance of sacred kingship within early-modern Islamic imperial ideologies.
56. Why did Sweden's 'Age of Empire' prove to be so ephemeral?
57. Why was individual ownership of paintings so very widespread in the seventeenth-century Dutch Republic?
58. How central were royal courts to *ancien régime* monarchy?
59. Compare the foreign policies pursued by France's Louis XIV and Prussia's Frederick the Great.
60. In what ways were communities and governments able to control epidemics in early modern Europe?

61. Was there a 'European Civil War' between 1618 and 1648?
62. Compare and contrast the Jewish and Islamic 'Enlightenments'.
63. Did Jacobitism ever present a serious challenge to the Hanoverian regime?
64. Compare and contrast the social and political effectiveness of two Atlantic Revolutions.
65. Why did the Industrial Revolution occur second in Belgium?
66. Examine the importance of aristocratic patronage of music from c. 1700-1850.
67. Should the Indian Mutiny be regarded as India's First War of Independence?
68. Was Prussia the only power that could unify Germany?
69. Why were indigenous peoples often exterminated in the nineteenth century? You may confine your answer to **ONE** society.
70. Why did Marian apparitions become such an important part of nineteenth- and twentieth-century Catholic devotionalism?
71. What was the relationship between finance capital and imperial expansion in the nineteenth century?
72. How much did the 'Back-to-Africa' movement owe to European and American ideas of nationalism?
73. What were the impediments to Chinese economic development in the nineteenth **OR** twentieth century?
74. Did Wilsonian ideas of national 'self-determination' foster ethnic tension and violence?
75. To what extent was the gold standard responsible for the Great Depression?
76. To what extent did the New Deal usher in a 'welfare state' in the United States?
77. Why did Christian democracy dominate western European polities after World War Two?
78. Was primary education or military service more important in creating 'national community'?
79. How effective were policies of Sovietization in Eastern Europe between 1947 and 1970? Discuss in relation to **AT LEAST TWO** societies.
80. How important was anti-Westernism in understanding **ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING**: 1) Pan-Asianism; 2) Pan-Islamism; 3) Pan-Africanism?
81. Did the Cold War end?
82. Which aspects of Marxist theory were most appealing to non-western revolutionaries?

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83. Is it correct to call Nasserism 'Arab socialism'?
84. 'We will look back on the latter half of the twentieth century as a time of change as profound for the Muslim world as the Protestant Reformation was for Christendom' (DAVID EICKELMAN). Discuss.
85. Why have visions of 'American exceptionalism' proved so enduring?
86. Is the twenty-first century an 'age of individualism'?
87. What was 'Catholic modernity' in the twentieth century in **ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING**: Spain; Portugal; Ireland?
88. When did neo-liberalism begin?

HISTORY II

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

1. Can we speak of a sacral economy in Archaic – Hellenistic Greece?
2. How may we trace enslaved people in the material record?
3. Which was more significant, Punic or Greek settlement in the western Mediterranean?
4. ‘What race is so remote, so barbarous, Caesar, that no spectator from it is in your city?’ (MARTIAL, *De spectaculis* 3.1-2). Was there room for diversity in Roman society?
5. What did it mean to be ‘Roman’ after AD 212?
6. Did social mobility exist in the later Roman empire?
7. What made for successful political structures in the Steppe?
8. ‘There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female, for ye are all one in Christ Jesus’ (PAUL OF TARSUS). How true is this of Roman Christianity?
9. Why were texts translated in late antiquity?
10. Can the study of Roman ports give us a representative picture of Roman trade?
11. Was there a ‘domestic sphere’ in late Antiquity?
12. Why was there not more hostility to ascetics in late antiquity?
13. How has the study of ancient **AND/OR** medieval climate change affected historians’ understanding of economic change?
14. Is any part of the ‘Pirenne thesis’ worth rescuing?
15. Is it anachronistic to talk of ‘economic rationality’ in the Middle Ages?
16. Can we write a life of Muhammad?
17. How important was the written word to the laity in the Middle Ages?
18. Can the rural workforce of the early Middle Ages be described as ‘peasants without history’?
19. Does Gregory of Tours distort historians’ understanding of sixth-century Gaul?
20. How coherent were early-medieval beliefs about the relationship of body and soul?
21. Was technological regression a hallmark of the early Middle Ages?

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22. Why was so little history written in Latin in Anglo-Saxon England?
23. Why did Arabic not become the predominant language of Iran?
24. What did early medieval ideas of 'ethnicity' owe to Biblical exegesis?
25. What held the 'first English empire' together?
26. Why were so few Latin saints venerated in the Byzantine world?
27. Is the notion of 'Arab-Jewish symbiosis' (S.D. GOITEIN) a helpful framework for thinking about interfaith relations in the medieval Middle East?
28. Characterise the literary after-life of **ONE** of the following: Alexander; Arthur; Charlemagne.
29. Was there a 'transformation of the year 1000' in the Islamic West?
30. Can the 'Global Middle Ages' successfully encompass the pre-colonial Americas?
31. Have late medieval historians been over-reliant on the insights of K. B. MacFarlane?
32. How 'multicultural' were medieval cities?
33. Was the Ottoman Empire's territorial expansion a response to internal pressures?
34. What did the authority of the Holy Roman Empire owe to ritual?
35. Did women have a Renaissance?
36. Was the Reformation in **EITHER** England **OR** Sweden any more than an 'act of state'?
37. How would you explain the power of the nobility in Poland-Lithuania?
38. Was European economic superiority caused by the European Marriage Pattern?
39. Were early modern developments in cartography any more than a response to the demands of warfare?
40. How much can inter-religious polemics in **EITHER** medieval **OR** early modern Spain tell us about the social history of religion?
41. How convincing do you find the notion of a seventeenth-century 'Global Crisis'?
42. How absolute were 'absolute' monarchs? You must discuss in relation to **AT LEAST TWO** rulers.
43. Account for the fall of China's Ming dynasty in 1644.
44. Did Peter the Great's reforms in Russia do any more than extend the work of his predecessors?

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45. How much did the 'financial revolution' in eighteenth-century England owe to the seventeenth-century Dutch Republic?
46. Did childhood exist in early-modern Europe?
47. 'The Holy Roman Empire was in no way holy, nor Roman, nor an empire' (VOLTAIRE). Discuss.
48. Did the *ancien régime* in Europe ever end?
49. Why did slavery end in Britain and its Empire in the first half of the nineteenth century but not in the United States?
50. Why was religious observance generally stronger among women than men in the nineteenth century? (You may confine your answer to **ONE** religion or denomination).
51. Were nineteenth-century nation-states or empires more tolerant of minority groups? You should confine your answer to **TWO** societies.
52. How, and in what ways, did theories of race change from the eighteenth century till the end of the nineteenth century?
53. How important was new print media to the development of artistic modernism?
54. Evaluate the impact of famine in India during the British Raj.
55. Is religious identification an essential feature of nationalism?
56. Was evolutionary thought or liberalism more important to European political theory in the nineteenth century?
57. How intertwined were scientific and occult ideas in the nineteenth century?
58. To what extent were political and economic changes in Late Qing and Republican China a response to the West?
59. 'Britain has the earth, and Germany wants it.' How correct was Woodrow Wilson's analysis of the First World War?
60. Why did America refuse to anchor a new vision of collective security after World War One?
61. Were distinctions of class more important in Britain than elsewhere in western Europe in the twentieth century?
62. Was Japan fascist in the 1930s?
63. What was the legacy of French colonialism in South-east Asia?
64. Did rising consumerism liberate women?
65. To what extent was the European Union a reaction to de-colonisation?

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66. What were the sources of political legitimacy from the Revolution to Tiananmen Square in communist China?
67. Why did some countries fight more than others to keep their empires? Answer using **TWO** of the following: Russia, France, the Netherlands, Britain, Spain, Belgium.
68. What was the relationship between ethnicity and nationalism after de-colonisation in Africa? Analyse in relation to **ONE** or **MORE** examples.
69. Have the economic benefits of the 'communication revolution' been exaggerated?
70. Why were South American countries so prone to military coups?

HISTORY I

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

Their attention is drawn to the more thematic questions at the end of the paper (questions 99–104), which are to be answered with reference to periods after 300 CE. (Answering any of these questions is not a requirement, and confers no advantage.)

1. Can we learn anything useful about enslaved people from ancient painted pots?
2. What can archaeology tell us about the ancients' experiences of their bodies that textual evidence cannot?
3. Were the Ionians ever Persian?
4. Was democracy a step backwards for women in Attika?
5. Did the Greeks believe they had a moral obligation to care for the vulnerable?
6. Were dogs kept by ancient households ever 'pets'?
7. How far did different cult titles of the gods map onto different roles?
8. How would our understanding of Ptolemaic Egypt be different without papyrological evidence?
9. How should we conceive of urban planning in the Greek world?
10. Did Platonism have a politics in antiquity?
11. What were the consequences of the shift from roll to codex in late antiquity?
12. How were the Guptas able to rule so much of the Indian subcontinent?
13. Account for the failure of the Great Persecution (303–313).
14. Why did so much early-medieval wealth end up in graves?
15. Why did the Hunnic Empire prove so ephemeral?
16. Did the end of the Roman Empire in the West have an environmental impact?
17. Why did Justinian build so much?
18. Did the *Histories* of Gregory of Tours have a unifying agenda?
19. When did the Britons become the Welsh?
20. Why were late-antique debates about the nature of Christ so intractable?
21. What contributions might archaeogenetics make to the study of the early Middle Ages?

22. Why were the Tang emperors so keen to control the Tarim Basin?
23. Explain the extraordinary growth of Latin literary culture in Ireland in the early Middle Ages.
24. Was the rise of the Rus' merely a consequence of the slave trade?
25. What impact did Zoroastrianism have on medieval Islamic belief?
26. Was the Middle Byzantine Empire 'Romanland'?
27. Did papal excommunication **AND/OR** interdict work against medieval monarchs?
28. Account for the success of Turkic soldiers in medieval Islamic politics (c. 1000–1200).
29. Why did Edward the Confessor loom so large in the medieval English memory?
30. Why is Latin literature of the tenth and eleventh centuries so different in style from that of the ninth?
31. What explains the success of Persian culture outside Persia in the Middle Ages?
32. What were the intellectual consequences of the Norman Conquest of England?
33. Explain the growth of Valois power (c. 1150–1250).
34. In which field did medieval European translations of Arabic texts have the greatest impact?
35. Were Gothic cathedrals 'sermons in stone'?
36. What did medieval rulers want from the universities that they founded?
37. Should we make aesthetic judgements about medieval art?
38. What can we learn from the cults of female saints in the Middle Ages?
39. Did any pre-modern author understand the 'face of battle'?
40. Was the Albigensian Crusade anything more than an extended looting expedition?
41. What were the economic consequences of the guild system in medieval Europe?
42. What, if anything, was the impact of medieval Latin culture on Byzantium?
43. What separated mendicant from heretic in the thirteenth century?
44. Did Edward I intend to create an English empire in the British Isles?
45. Were the Italian banks of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries a destabilising force in international relations?

46. Why do heroes so often cry in medieval epics?
47. Did any political theorist of the Middle Ages believe that a republic was the only legitimate form of government?
48. Was anti-Semitism in the medieval Islamic world an elite phenomenon?
49. Was Italy more than a geographical expression in the later Middle Ages?
50. Explain the popularity of King Arthur in medieval literature.
51. Why did the idea of Crusading so long outlive successful Crusades?
52. What was the Holy Roman Emperor for in the later Middle Ages?
53. What were the long-term consequences of the Tumu incident (1449)?
54. How and why did Indonesia become a largely Muslim country?
55. ‘The rule of obedience, that is betwixt the magistrate and the subject, holdeth betwixt the husband and wife, the father and his child, the master and the servant’ (ARCHBISHOP WHITGIFT). Discuss.
56. Assess the impact of Suleiman I on **EITHER** the legal system **OR** the arts.
57. How widespread was unbelief before the Reformation?
58. Was London made in the sixteenth century?
59. ‘Impetuous and erratic—perhaps; addicted to painkillers—probably; controlled by his “handlers”—almost certainly; but hardly, in the traditional sense of the English word, terrible’ (E.L. KEENAN). Is this a fair assessment of Ivan IV?
60. Was the Polish ‘Golden Liberty’ a progressive political system?
61. Assess the influence of Dante between his death and 1800.
62. How subversive was early modern theatre? You may confine your answer to **ANY ONE** country if you wish.
63. Was Stuart rule of ‘the three kingdoms’ always doomed to fail?
64. What role did social mobility play in the Scientific Revolution?
65. Account for the instability of the Kingdom of Kongo in the mid-seventeenth century.
66. Who dissented in Restoration England and why?
67. How significant was private enterprise in the formation of the British Empire?
68. ‘The Arab-Islamic world lacked the concept of “homosexuality” in the period 1500–1800.’ Discuss.

69. How rigid was social class in Tokugawa Japan?
70. Is it useful to speak of 'Puritans' in Britain or its American colonies?
71. To what extent is the 'military-fiscal state' still a useful category of analysis for eighteenth-century history? Answer with reference to at least **TWO** states.
72. Has the French Revolution as a subject of historical research 'reached the point of diminishing returns'?
73. What does art tell us about the formation of racial categories during European colonialism?
74. Why were there so many eminent female philosophers and scientists in Europe between 1650 and 1800?
75. Defend the royal favourite.
76. To what extent was nineteenth-century Middle Eastern history shaped by Russia's colonial ambitions?
77. 'There's that fellow in the House of Commons, one can't go on without him; but he is so vacillating and crotchety that there's no getting on with him' (WELLINGTON). Why was Peel so irreplaceable?
78. Evaluate the impact of the Second Great Awakening (c. 1790–1840).
79. Who resisted the establishment of police forces and why? You may answer with reference to **ANY ONE** country.
80. Assess the political influence of intellectuals in the nineteenth century. You may confine your answer to **ANY ONE** country, if you wish.
81. Why was the Industrial Revolution so regionally varied in Britain?
82. Assess the impact of bourgeois taste on nineteenth-century art.
83. Has the significance of 1898 been overemphasized in Spanish history?
84. Was the economic crisis of 1846–47 the first global crisis of capitalism?
85. Did British India have a distinctive culture?
86. Why was Iran the first Islamic country to undergo a constitutional revolution (1905–1911)?
87. Did the League of Nations achieve anything?
88. Why was there such sympathy for Nazism in South America?

89. Was cinema a disruptive technology?
90. Why did Christian democracy find so little expression in post-war Britain?
91. Was the 'Yoshida Doctrine' responsible for the Japanese economic miracle?
92. Account for the rise of Brutalist Architecture in the mid-twentieth century.
93. Why didn't the London and Zurich Agreements resolve the Cyprus dispute?
94. '[I]t was not in the middle of the 1940s but in the middle of the 1970s that human rights came to define people's hopes for the future' (S. MOYN). Why?
95. Were the European post-war youth really 'The children of Marx and Coca-Cola'?
96. '[T]he Conservative Party has been pursuing the European vision almost as long as we have existed as a Party' (MARGARET THATCHER, 1975). Discuss.
97. Account for the decline of the United States Congress since the 1960s
98. 'We wanted flying cars, instead we got 140 characters' (PETER THIEL). Why has the twenty-first century produced so few true innovations?

The following questions may be answered with reference to any period or periods after 300 CE.

99. How do we write the history of popular music before modernity?
100. Do elections weaken rulership?
101. Are masculinity and femininity always defined in opposition to each other?
102. Make a case for the historical importance of an object, hitherto underrated.
103. Is the history of education always a history of social class?
104. 'Historians routinely over-estimate the political importance of cultural activity.' Discuss.

HISTORY II

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

Their attention is drawn to the more thematic questions at the end of the paper (questions 101–105), which are to be answered with reference to periods after 300 CE.

(Answering any of these questions is not a requirement, and confers no advantage.)

1. Why was the first Punic war so savage?
2. ‘The real discontinuity in Republican history occurred with Fabius Cunctator and not with the Gracchi.’ Discuss.
3. If we didn’t have anything he wrote, would we think Cicero was important?
4. Why did Domitian hold Secular Games in 88?
5. Why do we have so much archaeological and so little literary evidence for Antinoos?
6. Why were the Greeks and Romans so much better at geometry than arithmetic?
7. In what sense, if any, was the Gallic Empire Gallic?
8. What’s wrong with child emperors?
9. Why do so many manuscript traditions have medieval archetypes?
10. What are the limitations on what we can learn from the geographic distribution of amphora types?
11. How has nautical archaeology advanced our knowledge of the Roman world?
12. Did later Roman generals make for good emperors?
13. ‘The disappearance of comfort’ (BRYAN WARD PERKINS). Is this a fair summary of the economic effects of the end of Roman power?
14. Why does the quality of ruler portraits on late-antique coins diminish so drastically after the fourth century?
15. Why was late antiquity a golden age of grammatical writing?
16. Why were so many Merovingian monarchs polygamous?
17. Explain Gildas.
18. Account for the collapse of the Sasanian Empire (c. 620–640).
19. Why was Buddhism so successful in early-medieval China?
20. To what extent was pre-Muslim India ‘a culture fully conscious of its own antiquity’ (A.L. BASHAM)? You may answer with reference to any period or place.

21. How did the kingdom of Alba come to dominate Scotland?
22. Which states of the early Middle Ages are archaeologically visible?
23. Did Islam have a theology of victory in the Middle Ages?
24. What difference does it make that Charlemagne thought he was saving the Saxons' souls?
25. 'The study of early-medieval ethnic identity tells us more about the history of twentieth-century Austria than the early Middle Ages.' Discuss.
26. Why was Mecca never the political centre of medieval Islam?
27. Why were the early Ottonians so spectacularly successful?
28. 'The Bible was the most important historical text of the Middle Ages.' Discuss.
29. Was the Norman conquest of Sicily mere opportunism?
30. What exactly did 'God will' about the first Crusade?
31. Why did Bolesław III divide Poland in his will and what were the consequences of that decision?
32. Explain the importance of the epigram in Byzantine culture.
33. What exactly was reborn in the twelfth-century renaissance?
34. What kept the Angevin realms together before c. 1200?
35. What explains the growth of papal jurisdiction in the period after 1215?
36. Was Song China really on the verge of an industrial revolution?
37. What explains the persistence of English as the language of the British domains of the Anglo-Norman kings?
38. Did the *pax Mongolica* rest on anything other than brute force?
39. What were the consequences of the Great Famine (1315–1317)?
40. Why were the cities of the medieval Islamic world so much larger than those of medieval Europe?
41. Did more elaborate bureaucracy lead to better government in the Middle Ages?
42. Why did Latin cease to be a vernacular language in medieval Europe?
43. Did writers of history in the Middle Ages have a concept of anachronism?
44. What, if anything, do charters tell us that other medieval sources do not?

45. Why illuminate manuscripts?
46. Was it obvious that Aragon's destiny lay in Spain rather than the Mediterranean?
47. Which technological innovation was most significant for medieval economic growth?
48. Defend an underrated medieval monarch. Be creative.
49. Does anything but historiography link the civic governments of medieval Flanders and Italy?
50. Why did the Ottomans take so long to finish off the Byzantine Empire?
51. Did chivalry make any difference to medieval warfare?
52. How widespread was scepticism of the cult of saints in the Middle Ages?
53. Why were honorific statues so rare in the Middle Ages?
54. Account for the virulence of anti-Semitism in later medieval Spain.
55. Why did Muscovy come to dominate Russia?
56. Was Malthus wrong about the pre-modern world?
57. What, if anything, did Henry VIII's policy of 'surrender and regrant' achieve?
58. How revolutionary was the Dutch Revolt?
59. Were there 'intellectual' roots to the Protestant Reformation?
60. 'Mary [Queen of Scots] was the unluckiest ruler in British history' (J. GUY). Discuss.
61. Was witchcraft a crime 'created by measures taken for its suppression'?
62. Is 'Gunpowder Empires' an appropriate label for the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Empires? You may answer, if you wish, with reference to **ANY ONE** empire.
63. How were sixteenth-century wars financed? Answer with reference to **AT LEAST TWO** countries.
64. 'An era was over and a new Europe was being born' (T. JUDT). How did the Thirty Years War shape politics post-1648?
65. Did the loss of America weaken the British Empire?
66. What was the most significant development in urban planning between 1400 and 1800?
67. 'For all the attention historians have paid to the circulation of letters, printed books remained the most important mode of disseminating information in the early modern world.' Discuss.

68. How did Portuguese imperialism in the Americas differ from its Spanish counterpart?
69. Why was eighteenth-century court dress so newsworthy?
70. Did astrology really decline between 1600 and 1800? Answer with reference to societies beyond Britain.
71. Assess the political significance of the crowd in eighteenth-century England.
72. ‘When the sun stands at midday, it begins to set; when the moon is full it begins to wane.’ Does this aptly describe the reign of the Qianlong Emperor?
73. ‘The concept of “Enlightenment” fatally conflates social and intellectual change.’ Discuss.
74. Why was Joseph II’s foreign policy so unsuccessful (1765–1790)?
75. Assess the significance of the Irish Rebellion of 1798.
76. What drove nineteenth-century population growth?
77. To what extent was radicalism in Victorian Britain shaped by local identity?
78. Why did the modern research university emerge in Germany?
79. How did work shape masculinities in the nineteenth century? You may answer with reference to **ANY ONE** country, if you wish.
80. Why were there so many Italian nationalist ideologies before 1848?
81. ‘For every Southern boy fourteen years old, not once but whenever he wants it, there is the instant when it’s still not yet two o’clock on that July afternoon in 1863’ (W.C. FAULKNER). Account for the surprising durability of the idea of the Confederacy.
82. Why was Victorian architecture so nostalgic?
83. What was the lasting significance of the Paris Commune?
84. How did indigenous peoples respond to European colonisation during the ‘Scramble for Africa’?
85. ‘We invented the majority of the world’s great sports... Nineteenth-century Britain was the cradle of a leisure revolution every bit as significant as the agricultural and industrial revolutions we launched in the century before’ (JOHN MAJOR, 1995). Discuss.
86. What did women’s movements achieve before 1900?
87. To what extent did the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries see the ‘discovery of personal whiteness among the world’s peoples’ (W.E.B. DU BOIS)?
88. ‘[W]hat must strike any twenty-first-century reader who follows the course of the summer crisis of 1914 is its raw modernity’ (C. CLARK). Discuss.

89. Was the Great Depression an inflection point in Argentinian history?
90. Assess the relationship between Arab nationalism and Islam pre-1967.
91. Why was Freemasonry an object of such anxiety in Francoist Spain?
92. To what extent was World War II a 'people's war' in South Asia?
93. Account for the economic decline of Liverpool following World War II.
94. 'The Atlee government's most consequential act in geopolitics was selling jet-engine technology to the USSR.' Discuss.
95. Why did Stalinism prove so attractive for many Western intellectuals?
96. Which did more to liberate women: the contraceptive pill or the washing machine?
97. Account for the rebirth of the Scottish independence movement in the 1960s.
98. Why did Australasia so enthusiastically embrace neoliberalism?
99. What, if any, have been the political consequences of post-modernism?
100. 'Although separated by a century and a half, [the European revolutions of 1848] and the "Arab Spring" of our time are strikingly similar, if we consider that both were democratic phenomena, gave rise to immense hopes, and would fail in the end' (G. KEPEL). Discuss.

The following questions may be answered with reference to any period or periods after 300 CE.

101. 'Calendars are always political.' Discuss.
102. Assess the impact of translation on the formation of **ANY ONE** national literature.
103. 'The opposite of luxury is not poverty' (COCO CHANEL). What then has luxury been?
104. Defend bureaucracy.
105. 'Distance was always the most formidable enemy of empires.' Discuss.

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1. Have the Homeric poems helped or hindered our understanding of the archaeology of the period 1200–700 BCE?
2. How far does the evidence for paint on statues and reliefs change our response to Greek sculpture?
3. Does the distribution of Greek painted vases suggest that Athenian potters and painters knew or cared about specific overseas markets?
4. What can Greek temples tell us about both regionalism and pan-Hellenism?
5. Does the study of fifth-century BCE history concentrate excessively on democracy?
6. Can we trace any changes in Mediterranean connectivity between 550 and 350 BCE?
7. What did Constantine expect of the Christian Church?
8. Was seventh-century Visigothic Spain the most integrated state of its time in Europe?
9. Why was there so much nativist resistance in early Islamic Iran?
10. Why did the Merovingians last longer than any other dynasty in early medieval Europe (before c. 800)?
11. What were the main qualities desirable in **EITHER** an early medieval pope **OR** an early medieval bishop?
12. How far is it possible to reconstruct lay piety in the early Middle Ages?
13. Was Charles Martel anything more than a successful warlord?
14. Where and why was there a feudal revolution?
15. Compare Norman conquests in England and **EITHER** Ireland **OR** Italy.
16. Is it important to define the term ‘crusade’?
17. Why did Tang China not become a ‘Buddhadom’ comparable to medieval European Christendom?
18. Is it convincing to define Japan in the Kamakura period (1185–1333) as a ‘feudal’ society?

19. How well does the career of Peter Abelard sum up the twelfth-century renaissance?
20. Is there a clear chronology in the treatment of Jews across later medieval Europe?
21. Why was the Atlantic explored in the Middle Ages?
22. Did chivalry curb or foment violence?
23. Compare the fortunes of representative assemblies in any two medieval European countries.
24. What can be learned from records of medieval miracles?
25. At what point did Constantinople become a city state?
26. Why did rulers found universities?
27. How important was pastoralism in any one area of medieval Europe?
28. What was new about fourteenth-century demonology?
29. Did Mongol rule have more impact in Rus' or in the Middle East?
30. Did the conciliar movement transform or restore the medieval papacy?
31. Assess the impact of Islamic culture on medieval Jewish thought.
32. Did Holy Roman Emperors in the later Middle Ages have only soft power?
33. Has the extent of women's learning been underestimated? Answer with reference to any period within the Middle Ages.
34. Why were popular revolts more numerous in the later Middle Ages than they had been in preceding centuries?
35. Was later medieval Scotland the last 'early medieval' kingdom?
36. Did the Black Death in any sense usher in modernity?
37. How well-educated did one have to be to practise medicine in the period c. 1300–1700 in **EITHER** the Islamic world **OR** Europe?
38. Was Luther's theology a stumbling block to union with other Protestant groups?
39. Did France fail to exploit its natural economic advantages in the seventeenth century?
40. To what extent was the Great Inflation of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries responsible for political and social upheaval?
41. Is it possible to write a 'global' history of the Scientific Revolution?
42. Why were there so many good Arabists in Europe in the decades around 1700?

43. 'Poland-Lithuania was more important than Britain for the development of constitutional government in early modern Europe.' Discuss.
44. How did England escape a return to Civil War in the years after the Restoration in 1660?
45. Was the Seven Years' War the first world war?
46. The Age of Taste or the Age of Luxury: which better describes the eighteenth-century?
47. How useful is the notion of a bourgeois 'public sphere' in explaining the new forms of political debate in the eighteenth century?
48. 'Russian history for the past half-millennium can be understood most easily as a process of adaptation to perceived threats in Russia's international relations' (RICHARD HELLIE). Discuss.
49. Were large cities necessarily industrial cities in nineteenth-century Europe?
50. Why did Catholic devotion become more 'sentimental' in the nineteenth century?
51. Why were skilled, rather than unskilled, workers generally more active in radical movements in the nineteenth century?
52. Why was spiritualism perceived to be both a science and a religion?
53. **EITHER a)** Why did twentieth-century Chinese Nationalists call the nineteenth century the 'Century of Humiliations'?
OR b) 'China's decline in the nineteenth century was far more a consequence of internal than of external factors.' Discuss.
54. Was the taste for *japonisme* in Western Europe and America nothing more than an aspect of Orientalism?
55. To what extent was the Japanese victory over Russia in 1905 the crucial factor in creating Pan-Asianism?
56. Why were there so few republican regimes in the nineteenth century?
57. Was the taste for 'primitivism' in art better characterized as an aspect of imperialism or of globalization?
58. Why was the failure of Ottomanism important to the development of Turkish nationalism?
59. Why was there no Bolshevik-style revolution in Germany in 1918–23?
60. Why did eugenics gain support among social reformers on both the Left and Right in the interwar years?
61. 'Weakness and anxiety were the hallmarks of British rule in India.' Discuss.

62. Is it fair to say that Partition of the subcontinent into India and Pakistan broke with 800 years of Islamic history in India?
63. Why did 'Islamic States' emerge after 1979?
64. How effective were international political and financial institutions in reducing the possibility of war? Answer with reference to **EITHER** the League of Nations **OR** the United Nations **OR** the World Bank.
65. To what extent was the struggle for Civil Rights a global movement?
66. What were the similarities and differences between Nehru's 'democratic socialism' and Mao's Great Leap Forward?
67. Why was French de-colonization in West Africa so much less contentious than in Algeria?
68. Was Western Europe exceptional in eschewing religious revival after the 1970s?
69. 'The goal of socialism is communism.' Did Lenin's assessment prove correct in the twentieth century?
70. 'Two bald men arguing over a comb' (BORGES). Did the Falklands/Malvinas conflict have any importance in the context of the Cold War?
71. Why did unification produce such a strong German state, and such a weak Italian one?

The following questions may be answered with reference to any period or periods after 300 CE.

72. Why did the expansion of Europe involve killing so many people?
73. Can an assassination demonstrably change the course of history?
74. To what extent did slave societies rest on law?
75. 'The past is more like the future than water is like water' (IBN KHALDUN). Discuss with reference to Ibn Khaldun's interpretation of Islamic history.
76. Does trust have a history?
77. How valuable for historical analysis are notions of cultural hybridity **AND/OR** religious syncretism?
78. Have diasporic populations affected the politics of their homelands? You may confine your answer to **ONE** country.

HISTORY II

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

Their attention is drawn to the more thematic questions at the end of the paper (questions 77–82), which are to be answered with reference to periods after 300 CE. (Answering any of these questions is not a requirement, and confers no advantage.)

1. Does it matter how many cities there were in the Roman world?
2. Did Roman technology show any appreciable advance over Hellenistic technology?
3. What harm has the lack of images in the original *CIL* project done to the study of Latin epigraphy?
4. Does the study of past climate change provide useful explanations for historical events in antiquity, or is it merely a reflection of present concerns?
5. What would an account of the Punic Wars from a Carthaginian viewpoint look like?
6. Does Social Network Analysis really have anything to offer the Roman historian?
7. Rehabilitate ‘Romanization’.
8. Did the fall of Carthage seal the fate of the Western Roman Empire?
9. Was Patrician Ireland a late antique society?
10. ‘Roman state ideology and tyranny triumphed ... over Arab tribal law and Islam’ (W. MADELUNG). Discuss with reference to the succession to Muhammad.
11. Why is it important to study early medieval grave goods?
12. Can the history of seventh-century England be written without following Bede?
13. Was there an age of *wics*?
14. Did the Carolingians have a moral project?
15. Why did the transition from the Tang to the Song dynasties see a narrow group of clans replaced by a class of civil servants?
16. Why were there holy fools in Byzantium but not in Western Europe?
17. Why did the Fatimids succeed where other Shi‘i movements had failed?
18. Why were so many leper hospitals founded in the twelfth century?
19. Why did medieval kings raise men ‘from the dust’?
20. Did **EITHER** Angevin **OR** Capetian kingship have any peculiar features?

21. Did the western policy of Manuel Komnenos have any chance of lasting success?
22. Were medieval castles ever merely for show?
23. Which side was changed more by the Hundred Years War?
24. In what ways, if any, can medieval vernacular romances be treated as historical documents?
25. Why was Latin Europe so taken with Saladin?
26. How well does 'the convenience principle' illuminate the history of religious minorities in medieval Spain?
27. How much of medieval Chinese history can be explained in environmental terms?
28. Waldensianism or Waldensianisms?
29. Explain the development of Muscovy in the fifteenth century.
30. In what ways did historical writing change in the medieval century, or two centuries, of your choice?
31. Could there have been a de facto break with Rome in the England of Henry V?
32. Why was the facade of communalism so well preserved in fifteenth-century Florence?
33. Can **ANY ONE** medieval thinker or writer be profitably described as Mediterranean?
34. Why was 'perpendicular' Gothic attractive to its patrons?
35. Explain the Islamization of Southeast Asia.
36. Why was there a Hussite but not a comparable Lollard rebellion?
37. What was meant by 'the public good' in the later Middle Ages?
38. Were the Ottomans *ghazis*?
39. Account for the 'second serfdom' in early modern Eastern Europe.
40. Was the 'Divine Right of Kings' ever more than an aspiration? Answer with reference to **ANY TWO** countries.
41. Examine the significance of cartography for changing geographical ideas in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.
42. Why were so many natural philosophers in early modern Europe interested in alchemy?
43. How important was the Bible to early modern European conceptions of political order?

44. Was there a 'Jewish Enlightenment'?
45. To what extent was Catherine the Great 'enlightened'?
46. How important were national borders in the period between the Treaty of Westphalia and the French Revolution?
47. Why did the Atlantic World experience an 'Age of Revolutions'? You may answer with reference to **ANY TWO** countries.
48. To what extent was Russian serfdom comparable to North American chattel slavery?
49. Why did Simón Bolívar's dream of Gran Columbia ultimately falter?
50. How important was Christianity to notions of American exceptionalism?
51. Why did the idea of the *Gesamtkunstwerk* become so influential in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries?
52. How important were the discoveries of scientific medicine to the decline of epidemic disease in nineteenth-century Europe?
53. How successful were European anti-imperialists in pressing their case?
54. Were landowning and military elites in Germany and Japan responsible for growing authoritarianism before World War I?
55. Why did nineteenth-century feminism remain a minority movement in Europe and North America? (You may answer with reference to **ANY TWO** countries)?
56. Why did archaeology or folklore become so important to national ideologies? You may confine your answer to **ANY ONE** country.
57. What was the nature and extent of Pan-Islamism before World War I?
58. Why did the Austro-Hungarian Empire survive until the autumn of 1918 despite linguistic and ethnic division?
59. Why did intellectuals attain a more prominent role in France than in any other country?
60. Did the impetus for changing gender roles in the interwar period come from young people?
61. Why did Spain not participate as a combatant nation in either World War?
62. To what extent was cinema a disruptive force when first introduced?
63. 'The significance of the Comintern was more symbolic than real.' Discuss.
64. How useful is the comparison between the social policies of FDR's New Deal America and Hitler's Nazi Germany?

65. Did the failure of American policy in Vietnam cause a permanent shift in the structure of international relations?
66. Does the notion of a 'revolution contained' correctly characterize Chinese economic policy under Deng Xiaoping?
67. How liberating was the women's liberation movement of the 1970s and 1980s?
68. Why did ideological conflicts become forms of ethnic cleansing in Africa in the 1960s and 1970s?
69. What were the social and political effects of de-colonisation in the metropole? Answer with reference to **ANY TWO** powers.
70. To what extent was Ireland different from Britain's other colonial possessions?
71. Were Gandhi's views on women anything but reactionary?
72. 'Maoism was just a variant of Stalinism.' Discuss.
73. Why has the question of Palestine proven so difficult to answer?
74. Why did the southern European dictatorships of Spain, Portugal and Greece all collapse in 1974/5?
75. How did Argentina defy all predictions that it would become one of the great twentieth-century powers?
76. Did the fall of the Soviet Union weaken Western hegemony?

The following questions may be answered with reference to any period or periods after 300 CE.

77. Was Christendom ever a meaningful concept?
78. 'Not much is left of the once-dominant depiction of imperial China as inward-looking and isolated.' How far is this view the result of historiographical fashion?
79. 'Connoisseurship is of no importance for art historians.' Discuss.
80. Assess the validity and usefulness of Marshall Hodgson's category 'the Islamicate' for the study of Islamic history.
81. Does the notion of a 'demographic dividend' have explanatory power?
82. 'Handmaiden of the state.' Is this a fair description of state churches?