RADLEY COLLEGE
Entrance Scholarships

HUMANITIES

March 2006

Time allowed: 90 minutes

Answer both sections.
Spend about 45 minutes on each section.

Write your answers to the History and the Geography sections on separate sheets of paper.

SECTION A - HISTORY

The Cuban Missile Crisis 1962

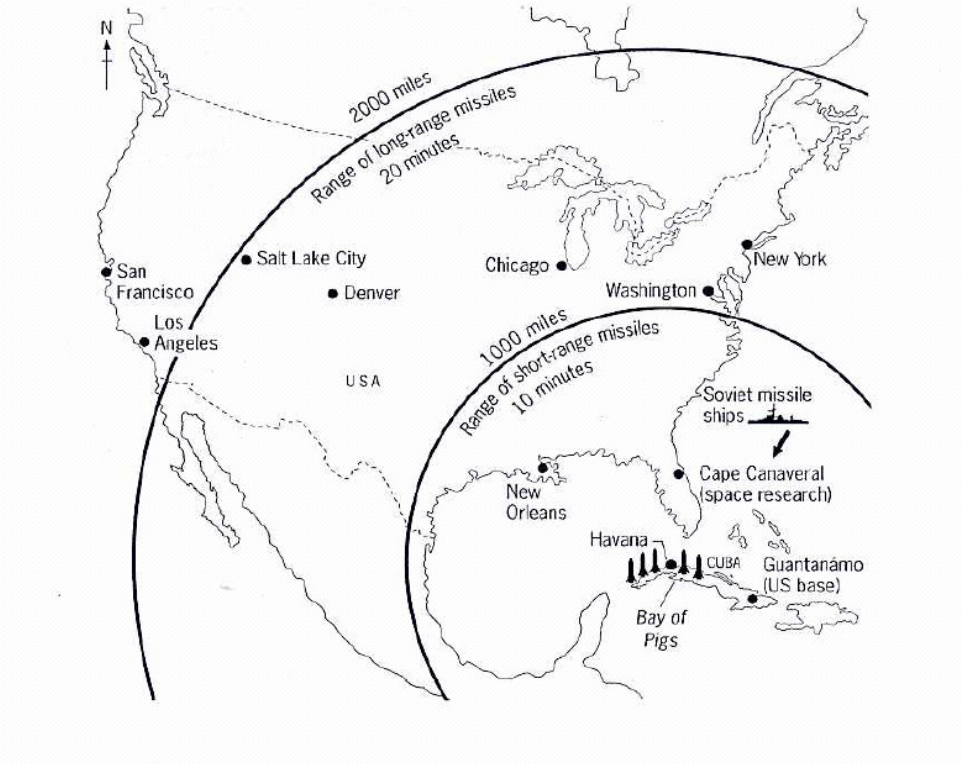
A *From 'The USA: A Divided Union?' by Neil De Marco*

In 1959 a guerrilla force led by Fidel Castro took power in Cuba. Castro wanted to free Cuba from American economic influence, so he confiscated over a million acres of land from American companies. Castro also confiscated American oil and sugar companies operating in Cuba and brought them under Cuban ownership. The American President, Eisenhower, boycotted Cuban sugar imports; his successor, President Kennedy, even tried to instal an anti-Castro regime in Cuba with the (failed) Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961. Castro welcomed Russian support against what he felt was American aggression.

B *From Encyclopaedia Britannica*

Having promised in May 1960 to defend Cuba with Russian arms, the Russian leader Nikita Khrushchev assumed that the United States would take no steps to prevent the installation of Russian medium- and intermediate-range ballistic missiles in Cuba. Such missiles could hit much of the eastern United States within a few minutes if launched from Cuba. The United States learned in July 1962 that the USSR (Russia) had begun missile shipments to Cuba. By August 29 new military constructions and the presence of Russian technicians had been reported by American U-2 spy planes flying over the island, and on October 14 the presence of a ballistic missile on a launching site was reported.

C *A map of Cuba and the United States, showing the strategic range of the Russian missiles based in Cuba, 1962*



D *From 'KGB: the Inside Story' by C. Andrew and O Gordievsky*

At the end of the Cold War, as at the beginning, the chief target of Soviet foreign operations remained the 'Main Adversary' (the United States). In the early 1960s the Russians succeeded for the first time in establishing a major operational base in Latin America, in the United States' backyard. Its opportunity came with Fidel Castro's overthrow of the American-backed Batista dictatorship in Cuba in January 1959.

Questions:

1. Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about the relationship between the USA and Cuba after Castro's take-over of power in 1959? **(4)**

2. Study Sources B and C.

How useful are these sources about why the Americans feared the installation of Russian missiles on Cuba?

Give reasons for your answer. **(6)**

3. Use all the Sources and your own knowledge.

"The Cuban Missile Crisis was caused by reckless behaviour by the Russians".

How far do you agree with this point of view? **(15)**

(25 marks)

SECTION B - GEOGRAPHY

Answer any THREE sections. All carry equal marks. Credit will be given for detailed examples.

Section 1

i. Why do some natural disasters cause more deaths than others?
ii. Outline the global distribution of natural disasters in recent years. Have there been any significant changes in the pattern over time?

Section 2

i. How do rivers affect man's activities?
ii. The Tees-Exe line is often considered to mark the difference between highland and lowland Britain. With reference to specific examples explain how different landscapes have been developed on each side of the line.

Section 3

i. Explain why some scientists believe that, in contrast to the widely accepted view that global warming will bring Mediterranean-style climate to Britain, significantly colder winters will result.
ii. With the aid of a diagram explain what is meant by the term Rain Shadow.

Section 4

i. Explain why the provision of services such as shops and doctors' surgeries is declining in many rural areas even though the population in such areas is rising.
ii. Describe the problems faced by many inner city areas in More Economically Developed Countries. Outline some possible solutions.

Section 5

i. Why is it so difficult to make a profit from hill farming in upland areas of Britain such as Mid Wales, the Pennines or the Scottish Highlands?
ii. How have the main sources of power used in Britain changed over the last fifty years? How do you expect them to change in the next fifty?

Section 6

i. Is the development of tourist attractions always beneficial?
ii. Outline the benefits and disadvantages of large multi-function dam projects such as the Three Gorges Scheme in China.

(25 marks)