Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

| Candidate surname | Other names |
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Centre Number | Candidate Number

# Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

## Monday 20 January 2025

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI04/1B**

# History

**International Advanced**

**PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations**

**Option 1B: The World in Crisis, 1879–1945**

**You must have:**
Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need.*

## Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
  – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

## Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

*Turn over* ▶

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## SECTION A

**Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.**

**Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.**

**1** How far do you agree with the view that the outbreak of general war between the Great Powers in 1914 was mainly as the result of the speeding up of the arms race across Europe in the years 1911–14?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

**(25)**

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**(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)**

**TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS**

## SECTION B

**Answer ONE question in Section B.**

**You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.**

**EITHER**

**2** To what extent did British and French foreign policy in relation to Germany change in the years 1919–39?

**(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)**

**OR**

**3** How far do you agree that the final collapse of Germany in the years 1944–45 was mainly due to the impact of the Allied bombing offensive (1942–45)?

**(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)**

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**Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.**

Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☐ **Question 3** ☐

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS**
**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS**

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# History

**International Advanced**

**PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations**

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**Extracts Booklet**

**Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.**

*Turn over* ▶

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**Extracts for use with Section A.**

**Extract 1:** From N Stone, *World War One: A Short History*, published 2008.

The arms race began speeding up across Europe from 1911: a 'super-Dreadnought' battleship was in the planning, more soldiers were being conscripted, more strategic railways being built. There was a great expansion in trade, and governments had money to spend. A small increase in German army spending (to train more men) in 1911 provoked a French response (again, more men in a peacetime army) in 1912. This, in turn, provoked another German (and Austrian) increase. In 1913–14, came a decisive move from Russia: 'a great programme' that was intended to turn Russia into a 'super-power'. It was designed to give Russia more guns than Germany by 1917 and, at last, allow the Russian army to feed, clothe and transport all its conscripted men.

In Germany, there was panic amongst the government and the military generals. The planned increase in the Russian army's size and power was bad enough but what caused real panic was the intended growth of Russia's railways. Germany knew that Austria-Hungary, its only real ally, would soon disintegrate. The German army had been saying for some time that it could win a European war then and there. This would not be manageable if Russia's military programme was successful. In 1914, Berlin was waiting for an opportunity – an 'inevitable accident' – and this came with the assassination of the Archduke in Sarajevo.

**Extract 2:** From P Bell, *Origins of War*, published in 1992.

When looking for the reasons for why war broke out in Europe in July–August 1914, then the apparently powerful explanation that European arms races were responsible seems much less convincing under close examination. It is true that the German and French armies were built up in competition with one another and so were the German and British naval fleets. However, the war of 1914 did not emerge directly out of Franco-German conflict, and Anglo-German conflict came very late in the crisis of 1914. The actual conflict was between Austria-Hungary and Russia, neither of which had been engaged in an arms race with one another.

It was not the general issue of arms races that contributed directly to the course of events in July and August, but it was the detailed strategic planning for the use of those armaments, especially on land. The role of the Schlieffen Plan in the event of Germany going to war with Russia was crucial. As soon as the state of an 'imminent danger of war' was declared in Germany, then the plans for mobilisation moved with a momentum which could not be stopped. The German mobilisation was also a plan for starting a war. The two were inseparable, mobilisation became war.

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**Acknowledgements:**

**Extract 1:** *World War One: A Short History* by Norman Stone © Penguin, 2008

**Extract 2:** *Origins of War in Themes in Modern European History 1890-1945* by Philip Bell edited by Paul Hayes © Routledge, 1992