Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 23 May 2024 – Morning

A Level History A

Y314/01 The Challenge of German Nationalism 1789–1919

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

You must have:
- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer the question in Section A and **any two** questions in Section B.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets **[ ]**.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE
- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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SECTION A

Read the **two** passages and answer Question 1.

1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages.

Explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the impact of economic growth under Wilhelm II.

[30]

Passage A

The German economy expanded widely and rapidly during the Wilhelmine period with far-reaching effects. On the one hand, German workers were likely to be better off than ever before. Their jobs were secure and the material benefits of the new industries reached them, if not immediately, in the form of consumer goods. On the other hand, working conditions were often unpleasant and more and more Germans found themselves crowding into the industrial centres, many of which were concentrated in a single small area. Significantly, the world's first slum clearance programme was undertaken in Hamburg in 1893, while at the same time many German cities were having a range of amenities installed.

The new conditions stimulated the development of working-class movements. Workers could see both the wealth that they had created for others and the prospect of more material possessions for themselves, each of which encouraged them to demand higher pay. At the same time, their working hours and conditions led them to demand improvements from their employers. Yet the one organ through which they might hope to orchestrate any opposition – the SPD* in the Reichstag – was apparently stifled by the franchise system and the constitutional weakness of the Reichstag. In such conditions, the development of extra-parliamentary forms of protest, and revolutionary ideas, might have been expected.

* SDP – Social Democratic Party

R. Wolfson, Years of Change, published in 1978.

Passage B

© Katja Hoyer, Blood and Iron: The Rise and Fall of the German Empire 1871-1918, pages 135-8, The History Press, 2021. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

[redacted]

SECTION B

Answer any **two** questions.

2* ‘Mass nationalism was never strong in Germany in the period from 1789 to 1919.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

3* How important was warfare in uniting Germany in the period from 1789 to 1919? **[25]**

4* ‘Religious differences were the most important factor limiting the Unification of Germany in the period from 1789 to 1919.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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