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|  | **Entrance Examination****March 2022** |
| **HISTORY – EUROPE AND AMERICA**Time allowed: 1.5 hours (90 minutes)**Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B.**  |

**SECTION A**

1. In what ways can historical writings of the twenty-first century incorporate voices of under-represented groups from the past?
2. To what extent is the work of historians informed by their own personal views and attitudes?
3. What problems are caused by the division of the past into defined periods (i.e. periodisation)?
4. Are all primary sources biased?
5. How has the increased digitisation of historical archives and resources affected the study of history?
6. Should historians make use of their imagination when engaging in research?

**SECTION B**

Early and Medieval Period

1. Can the First Crusade be considered a complete success?
2. Were the motivations of crusaders predominantly religious or economic?
3. ‘Vesalius’s work on anatomy revolutionised premodern medicine’. How far do you agree with this statement?
4. Was war or disease the greater cause of change in medieval Europe? You may confine your answer to a single country.
5. In what ways did the relationship between population and resources change in medieval Europe, 1200 and 1500? You may confine your answer to a single country.
6. ‘Travel and mobility were essential for the functioning of medieval society.’ Discuss
7. What was the role of the Church within medieval society?
8. Why is ‘medieval’ sometimes used as a pejorative, and is this justified?

Early Modern Period

1. Why and how did Renaissance ideas spread throughout Europe?
2. How did Martin Luther's ideas manage to achieve such widespread influence?
3. Were voyages of discovery simply another display of rivalry between European rulers?
4. How did Calvin's Reformation differ from that of Martin Luther’s?
5. Was the Catholic Reformation anything more than a reaction to the emerging challenge from reforming ideas?
6. Why did the Thirty Years’ War last so long?

Modern Period

1. ‘From the beginning of 1789, the push for economic and fiscal reform in France became a push for political reform.’ Explain the meaning of this statement, referring to key ideas and events of 1789.
2. Why did the Compromise of 1850 fail to alleviate tensions between free and slave states?
3. How and why did the Emancipation Proclamation alter the course of the American Civil War?
4. ‘The slave went free; stood a brief moment in the sun; then moved back again toward slavery.’ To what extent to you agree with W.E.B. Du Bois’ assessment of the Reconstruction Era between 1865-1877?
5. Discuss the events that led to German unification in 1871.
6. What were the successes and failures of the 1905 Russian Revolution?
7. What were the most important factors behind the outbreak of war in 1914?
8. Discuss why the overthrow of the Tsar in March 1917 was followed by a second revolution in November 1917.
9. To what extent did the United States pursue an isolationist foreign policy in the 1920s and 1930s?
10. To what extent was terror the main reason for Stalin’s consolidation of power in the Soviet Union in 1930s?
11. What role did economic problems play in political instability during the Weimar Republic 1919-1933?
12. To what extent was Roosevelt responsible for the end of the Great Depression in the 1930s?
13. What legal strategies did the NAACP use in the 1930s and 1940s to destabilize Jim Crow before Brown V. Board of Education (1954)?
14. To what extent was Japan’s withdrawal from the League of Nations in 1933 indicative of its changing relationship with the European imperial powers during the interwar period?
15. Was Hitler a ‘weak dictator’?
16. Why were many black civil rights protesters unhappy with the leadership of Martin Luther King Jr. and his approach to the black freedom struggle between 1960 and 1968?
17. Why was the Berlin Wall built in 1961?
18. Discuss the reasons for US failure in the Vietnam War.
19. How important was Mikhail Gorbachev’s policies in ending the Cold War?