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南 华 中 学

NAN HUA HIGH SCHOOL

FIRST PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2016

Subject : Combined Humanities/History Elective
Paper : 2204/03
Level : Secondary 4 Express
Date : 28 June 2016 Tuesday
Duration : 1 hour 40 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your index number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A: You must answer **all parts** of Question 1

Section B: You must answer **one** question.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

The total mark for this paper is 50.

This paper consists of 6 printed pages.

Page 1 of 6

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you were told to use. In answering the questions you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

What is the message of the cartoon? Explain your answer using details of the cartoon and your own knowledge. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

How useful is this source as evidence of Khrushchev's reasons for placing the missiles in Cuba? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Sources C and D.

Explain why the views of these sources differ regarding the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis. [6]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

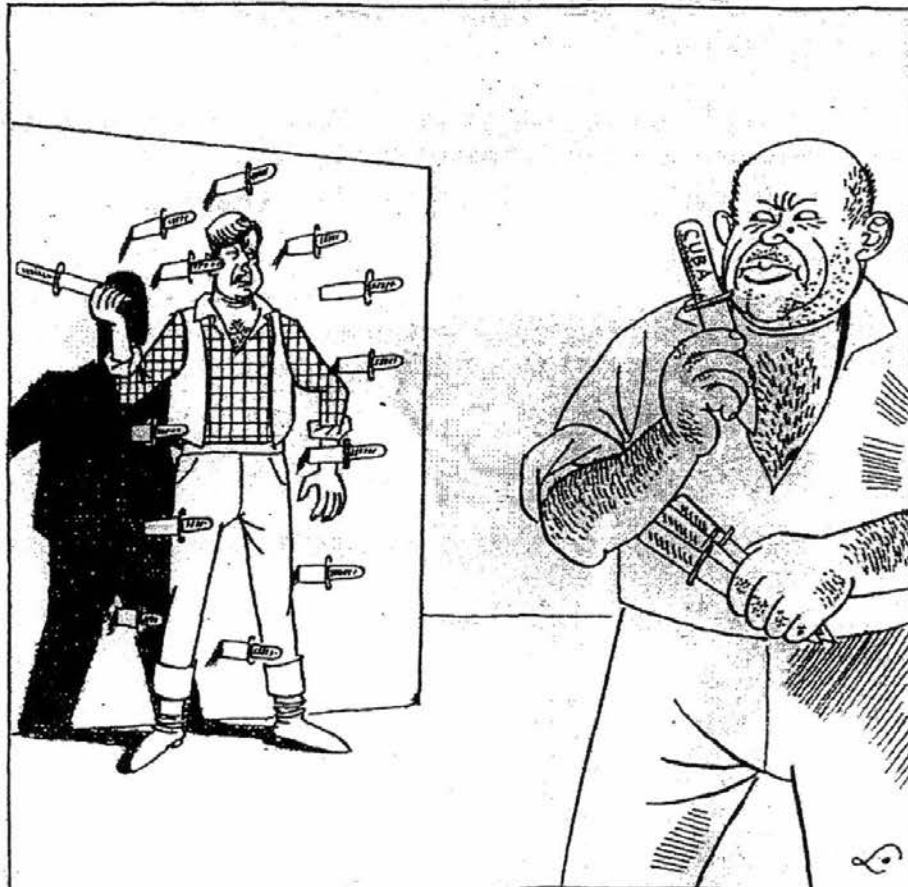
Are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [6]

e) Study **all** the sources.

'Khrushchev made a mistake by placing the nuclear missiles in Cuba.'
How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to support your answer. [8]

Should Khrushchev have placed nuclear missiles in Cuba?

Source A: A German cartoon published in October 1962. Kennedy is on the left and Khrushchev is on the right. The original German caption reads 'Ok, that's enough!'



„Jetzt ist's aber genug!“

Source B: A view by Sergei Khrushchev, son of Nikita Khrushchev, about why his father decided to place nuclear missiles in Cuba.

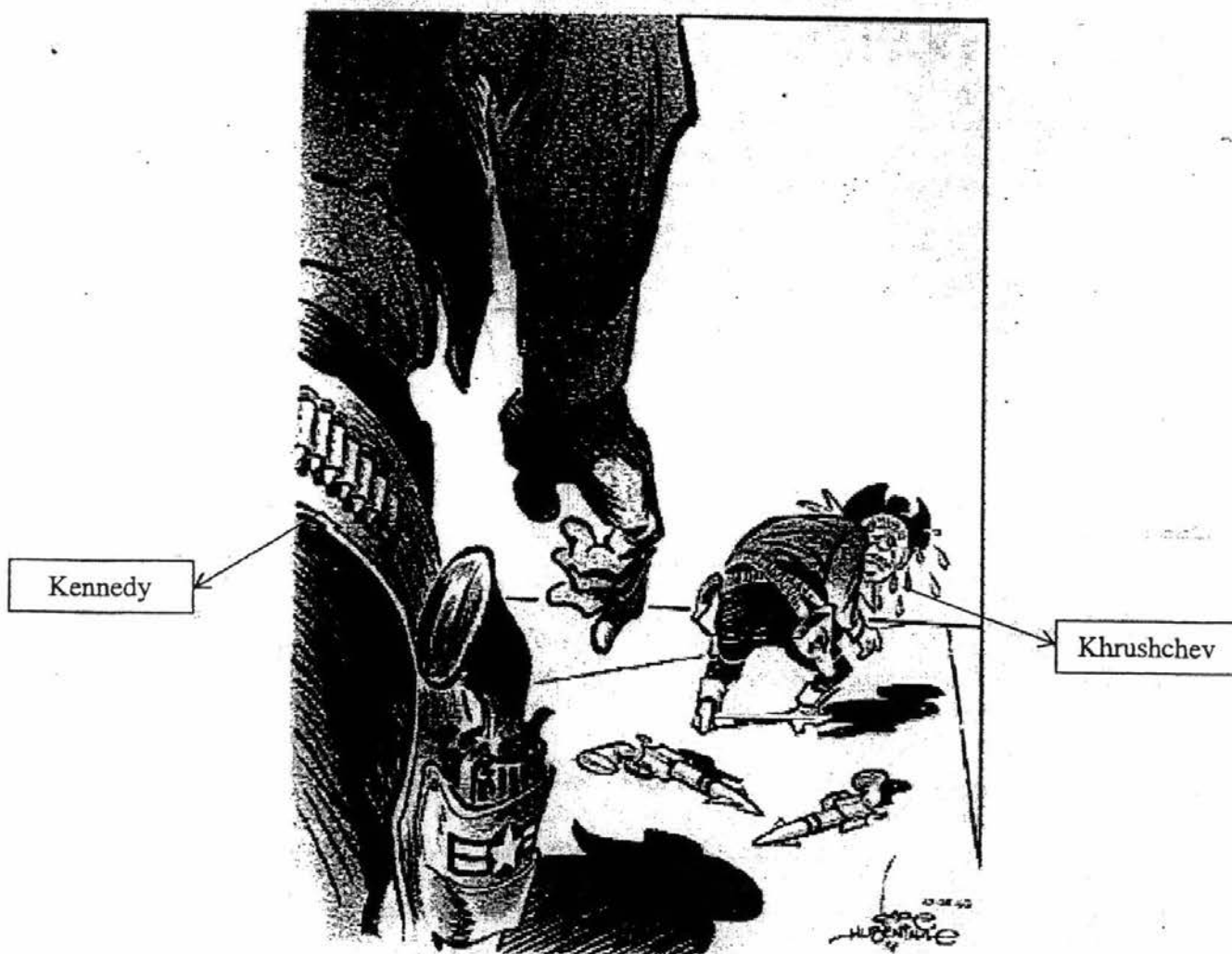
The reality is that after the Bay of Pigs, Fidel Castro announced he officially joined the Soviet bloc. Through that [declaration] the obligation of the Soviets was to defend all their clients, all their allies because otherwise they would lose face ... and your allies would not trust you. Cuba, after 1961, became for the Soviet Union the same as West Berlin to the United States – a small useless piece of land deep inside hostile territory. But if you don't defend it, you will not be treated as a superpower. The United States was ready to use nuclear weapons to defend Berlin. The Soviet Union sent missiles to Cuba ... as a powerful signal to the United States: Don't invade Cuba.

Source C: *An extract from Khrushchev's memoirs written in 1971.*

In 1961, we increased our military aid to Cuba. We were sure the Americans would never agree to the existence of Castro's Cuba. They feared, and we hoped, that a Socialist Cuba might become a magnet that could attract other Latin American countries to socialism. (We had to find an effective deterrent to American interference in the Caribbean. The Caribbean crisis was a triumph of Soviet foreign policy and a personal triumph in my own career.) Today Cuba exists as an independent socialist country right in front of America. We behaved with dignity and forced the United States to demobilise and to recognise Cuba.

Source D: *An American cartoon on the Cuban Missile Crisis. It was published on 29 October 1962 in the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner.*

BACKDOWN AT CASTRO GULCH *



*Gulch = a deep V-shaped valley where gunfights were commonly staged in Western cowboy movies

Source E: *A letter from Fidel Castro to Khrushchev on 26 October 1962.*

You can rest assured that we will firmly and resolutely resist attack. The morale of the Cuban people is extremely high and the aggressor will be confronted heroically. You have been and continue to be a tireless defender of peace and I realise how bitter these hours must be, when the outcome of your superhuman efforts is so seriously threatened. However, up to the last moment we will maintain the hope that peace will be safeguarded and we are willing to contribute to this as much as we can. Once more I convey to you the infinite gratitude and recognition of our people to the Soviet people who have been so generous and fraternal with us, as well as our profound gratitude and admiration for you, and wish you success in the huge task and serious responsibilities ahead of you.

Source F: *An extract from a conversation between Fidel Castro and Anastas Mikoyan, the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, on 2 November 1962.*

Psychologically our people were not prepared for that (removal of Soviet missiles). A feeling of deep disappointment, bitterness and pain has appeared, as if we were deprived of not only missiles, but of the very symbol of solidarity. Reports of missiles launchers being dismantled and returned to the USSR seemed to our people to be an insolent lie. You know, the Cuban people were not aware that the missiles still belonged to the Soviet side. The Cuban people did not conceive of the legal status of these weapons. They had become accustomed to the fact that the USSR gave us weapons and that they became our property.

Acknowledgements:

Source A: [http://www.cvce.eu/en/obj/cartoon by lang on the cuban crisis 1962-en-f1bfbeca-8aa7-4d5d-a9b4360926f3a0f2.html](http://www.cvce.eu/en/obj/cartoon_by_lang_on_the_cuban_crisis_1962-en-f1bfbeca-8aa7-4d5d-a9b4360926f3a0f2.html)

Source B: <https://news.usni.org/2012/10/24/soviet-perspective-cuban-missile-crisis-nikita-khrushchevs-son>

Source C: Ben Walsh; GCSE Modern World History; London: Hodder & Stoughton; 2001.

Source D: http://www.bobstaake.com/karlhubenthal_importance.html

Source E: http://nsaarchive.gwu.edu/nsa/cuba_mis_cri/621026%20Castro%20Letter%20to%20Khrushchev.pdf

Source F: Ben Walsh; GCSE Modern World History; London: Hodder & Stoughton; 2001.

Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

Answer **one** question.

- 2 This question is about the impact of WW1 in Europe.**
- (a) Explain why membership problems weakened the League of Nations.
[8]
 - (b) 'The Allies got what they wanted from Germany through the Treaty of Versailles.' How far do you agree with this statement?
Explain your answer.
[12]
- 3 This question is about the Cold War.**
- (a) Explain why the Berlin Blockade worsened the Cold War.
[8]
 - (b) 'Communism in the Soviet Union failed because of Gorbachev's policies.' How far do you agree with this statement?
Explain your answer.
[12]

End of Paper

SUGGESTED ANSWER SCHEME

1 (a) Study Source A.

What is the message of the cartoon? Explain your answer using details of the cartoon and your own knowledge.

[5]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Content only	1
L2	Identifies sub-messages • Makes valid comments interpreting the cartoon but misses the main message of the source. • Award the higher mark for more fully developed answers. e.g. Khrushchev was the culprit of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Khrushchev started the crisis and should be blamed. The cartoon shows Khrushchev throwing daggers at Kennedy and the daggers represent the Cuban missiles. Furthermore Khrushchev was drawn to look despicable and menacing.	2-3
L3	Identifies main message of the cartoon Award the higher mark for more fully developed answers, including any valid reference made to contextual knowledge. e.g. The message is that America could not tolerate Soviet missiles in Cuba and was going to retaliate against them. The cartoon shows Khrushchev attacking Kennedy with daggers and Kennedy holding a dagger in his hands, getting ready to throw it back to Khrushchev and saying 'Ok, that's enough!'. This scene depicts how Khrushchev had antagonised USA represented by Kennedy through the placing of nuclear missiles in Cuba and USA retaliating against the missiles by fighting back with an equally harsh manner. I know from contextual knowledge that when USA discovered the missiles, there were several options that were weighed including an invasion of Cuba and an air strike to destroy the missile bases. Eventually, America struck back at the missiles by imposing a naval blockade on Cuba.	4-5

(b) Study Source B.

How useful is this source as evidence of Khrushchev's reasons for placing the missiles in Cuba? Explain your answer.

[5]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Yes/No: identifies content only or answers based on provenance	1
L2	Yes: supported with valid inference from source Award 3 m for supported inferences. e.g. Source B is useful about Khrushchev's reasons for placing the missiles in Cuba as it shows that Khrushchev had no choice but to do so to defend a fellow communist ally, Cuba, from possible American invasion. The source says "... the obligation of the Soviets was to defend all their clients, all their allies because otherwise they would lose face ... and your allies would not trust you." and "The Soviet Union sent missiles to Cuba ... as a powerful signal to the United States: Don't invade Cuba."	2-3
L3	Yes and No: supported with valid inference from source and makes up for source limitations with contextual knowledge Award 3 m for being able to cross-refer to further evaluate utility of Source B but remains one-sided in answer i.e. only useful or not useful. e.g. Yes (L2) + However, the source is not entirely useful as it is only able to show me one reason. I know that there were other reasons which Khrushchev had for placing the missiles in Cuba. For instance he wanted to use the missiles as a bargaining chip with USA to further Soviet interests in West Berlin and also to force USA to remove the Turkey Jupiter missiles which were threatening to Soviet Union. <i>Beside the possible cross-reference above, students can also cross-refer to Source C to contradict Source B in that Khrushchev placed the missiles in Cuba for other personal reasons which was not seen in Source B. ("... we (USSR) hoped that a Socialist Cuba might become a magnet that could attract other Latin American countries to socialism.")</i>	3-4
L4	L3 + No: explained by an evaluation of B's reliability through analysis of author's purpose Award 4 m if candidates only question author's purpose (without L3). e.g. L3 + Furthermore, the source is not entirely useful as the author may be biased cannot be trusted. The source was by Khrushchev's son and his account seemed to place his father in a	4-5

	positive light by claiming that his father did not seem to have a choice but to place the missiles in Cuba for Cuba's sake. He could be trying to absolve his father from blame for starting the Cuban Missile Crisis which almost brought the world to the brink of a nuclear war. He could have purposely omitted the other personal reasons which his father had and only focused on reasons which seemed to be for the common good of the communist bloc.	
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(c) Study Sources C and D.

Explain why the views of these sources differ regarding the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis. [6]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Lifts from source OR no clear attempt at answering the question OR difference in provenance only	1
L2	Differences based on content, supported. Award 2m for difference identified and 3m for 1 well-explained and supported difference. e.g. Both sources are different in depicting the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis. <u>Source C</u> shows that Khrushchev had played a positive role in the crisis and had emerged victorious. Source C says "The Caribbean crisis was a triumph of Soviet foreign policy and a personal triumph in my (Khrushchev's) own career." However, <u>Source D</u> shows that Khrushchev had given in to USA in the crisis and emerged as the loser. The cartoon shows Khrushchev as a retreating figure, slouching, sweating profusely and looking downcast. He seemed to have lost in the gun battle with the looming superior figure representing USA. Hence he had to retreat in disgrace. Furthermore, the cartoon title reads 'Backdown at Castro Gulch' which seems to insinuate that Khrushchev had backed down first in the crisis.	2-3
L3	Explains difference using context (different time period) Award the higher mark within the level for more fully developed answers. e.g. The 2 sources differ in their views of the outcome of the crisis as they were produced at different time periods. <u>Source C</u> was created by Khrushchev in 1971, around nine years after the end of the crisis and he was able to use the fact that Cuba continues to "exist as an independent socialist country right in front of America" to back his claim that he had played a significant role in the crisis. However, <u>Source D</u> was drawn and published on 29 October 1962, one day after Khrushchev had made public (through Radio	3-4

	Moscow) the Soviet acceptance of Kennedy's written response to his letter of 26 October. By doing so, Khrushchev seemed to have backed down and given in to USA to end the crisis. Hence the cartoonist depicted Khrushchev in this negative manner as the situation at that time seemed to portray Khrushchev in such a way as well.	
L4	Explains difference using contextual knowledge and provenance to explain intended outcome Award the higher mark within the level for more fully developed answers. e.g. The sources differ in their views of the outcome of the crisis as they were created by different people with different motives. <u>Source C</u> was written by Khrushchev himself in 1971 to justify how his role in the crisis had helped to achieve victory for communism and Cuba. Khrushchev had often been criticised for giving in to USA to end the crisis by accepting Kennedy's deal and he could have written this in his memoirs to convince the international public that his role was victorious so as to shift the blame away from him. He was also forced to resign in 1964 due to the way he handled the crisis. However, <u>Source D</u> was created by an American and also published in an American newspaper immediately after the end of the crisis. The cartoon was pro-American and depicted Khrushchev in a negative light and gloats over his retreat in the face of American power. It could have been published to convince the American public that their government was victorious in the crisis so that any public criticism of how the government handled the crisis would be deflected.	5-6

(d) Study Sources E and F.

Are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer.

[6]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Yes/No: Identifies content in Source F which is/is not surprising without explanation	1
L2	Yes – because of the contrast between E and F e.g. Yes I am surprised because the 2 sources depict the relations between Cuba and USSR differently. Source E shows that Castro still admired and respected Khrushchev for helping to defend Cuba. However Source F shows that Castro was angered by Khrushchev's betrayal through the removal of the missiles. OR No – because E supports F e.g. I am not surprised by Source F because it is supported by Source E. Source F shows that Castro was upset with Khrushchev for agreeing to remove the missiles under pressure from USA. Cuba's negative feelings are not surprising to me as Source E shows that Cuba had taken the support and help Soviet Union had offered her with much gratitude. Hence Cuba would definitely feel betrayed by Soviet Union when she decided to withdraw her aid and missiles, leaving her vulnerable to US aggression.	2
L3	Yes OR No, explained by cross-reference to contextual knowledge or other sources - Award the higher mark in the level for more developed answers. - As L2 but explains that Source F shows negative Soviet-Cuban relations e.g. <u>Yes I am surprised that Source F shows negative Soviet-Cuban relations. I know from contextual knowledge that Cuba had always been on friendly terms with USSR and the 2 leaders even developed a personal friendship.</u> This was so as USSR had rendered support to Cuba on several occasions when USA had threatened her with economic and political dominance. USSR had redeemed Cuba by offering to buy over her surplus sugar so as to minimise Cuba's reliance on the Cuban Sugar Quota set by America. OR	3-4

	e.g. <u>No I am not surprised that Source F shows negative Soviet-Cuban relations as Castro was obviously upset with Khrushchev for agreeing to remove the missiles under pressure from USA.</u> He could have felt that Khrushchev had betrayed their alliance by giving in. <u>Source D also depicts Khrushchev in a similar light.</u> D shows Khrushchev as a retreating figure, slouching, sweating profusely and looking downcast. He seemed to have lost in the gun battle with the looming superior figure representing USA. Hence he had to retreat in disgrace. Furthermore, the cartoon title reads 'Backdown at Castro Gulch' which seems to insinuate that Khrushchev had backed down first in the crisis.	
L4	No – evaluates Source F using detailed and specific contextual knowledge about the immediate impact of the removal of missiles on Soviet-Cuban relations Award the higher mark in the level for more developed answers. e.g. Source F depicts Cuban-Soviet relations to have deteriorated due to the removal of the missiles by Soviet Union. It is not surprising as it was an extract from a conversation between Castro and Anastas Mikoyan on 2 November 1962. The conversation was held a few days after Khrushchev announced on Radio Moscow of the removal of the missiles and the deal he struck with America. It is not surprising that Castro would react so strongly against the removal of the missiles as he perceived the removal as an act of betrayal by Khrushchev and he definitely felt abandoned by Soviet Union at a time when the American threat was still looming. Furthermore, Khrushchev did not consult him on the removal and he only learnt of it through Khrushchev's radio announcement. Mikoyan was sent to persuade Castro to cooperate in the inspection of the Soviet missiles that were to be removed and during the conversation, Castro was so furious that he even threatened to reveal to the UN that Cuba still possessed tactical nuclear missiles.	5-6

- (e) Study all the sources.

'Khrushchev made a mistake by placing the nuclear missiles in Cuba.'
How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to support your answer. [8]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Writes about the hypothesis, no valid source reference	1
L2	Yes OR No, supported by valid source use Award 2 marks for one Yes OR No, supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source, up to a maximum of 4 marks. e.g. <u>YES</u> Source A supports the statement Khrushchev made a mistake by placing the nuclear missiles in Cuba as it illustrates the possible retaliation from USA after the discovery of the missiles. The cartoon shows Khrushchev attacking Kennedy with daggers and Kennedy holding a dagger in his hands, getting ready to throw it back to Khrushchev and saying 'Ok, that's enough!'. This scene depicts how Khrushchev had antagonised USA represented by Kennedy through the placing of nuclear missiles in Cuba and USA retaliating against the missiles by fighting back with an equally harsh manner. This could possibly lead to a nuclear war between the 2 countries if Kennedy had opted for aggressive responses such as an invasion of Cuba or an air strike to destroy the missile bases in Cuba. This would have placed the world at the brink of a nuclear war. Hence Khrushchev had made a mistake as he had antagonised USA and put the world at risk. Source D supports the statement as it shows that Khrushchev eventually had to give in to USA to end the crisis. Hence he should not have placed the missiles in Cuba in the first place. The cartoon shows Khrushchev as a retreating figure, slouching, sweating profusely and looking downcast. He seemed to have lost in the gun battle with the looming superior figure representing USA. Hence he had to retreat in disgrace. Furthermore, the cartoon title reads 'Backdown at Castro Gulch' which seems to insinuate that Khrushchev had backed down first in the crisis. Source F supports the statement as it shows that when Khrushchev finally decided to remove the missiles as a way to end the confrontation with America, Castro was angered and this created a rift between the two previously close allies. Hence Khrushchev should not even have placed the missiles in	2-4

	Cuba in the first place. Castro, in his conversation with Anastas Mikoyan, blamed Soviet Union for lying to the Cubans as "they (Cubans) had become accustomed to the fact that the USSR gave (them) weapons (nuclear missiles placed by Khrushchev) and that they became (their) property." He also expressed "deep disappointment, bitterness and pain..." through Khrushchev's betrayal. OR e.g. <u>NO</u> Source B does not support the statement as it shows that Khrushchev did not have a choice but to place the missiles in Cuba so as to defend Cuba, a communist ally, from a possible invasion from USA. The source says "... the obligation of the Soviets was to defend all their clients, all their allies because otherwise they would lose face ... and your allies would not trust you." and "The Soviet Union sent missiles to Cuba ... as a powerful signal to the United States: Don't invade Cuba." Source C does not support the statement as it shows that Khrushchev's decision to place the missiles in Cuba had led to victories for Soviet Union and Cuba. He said "We behaved with dignity and forced the United States to demobilise and to recognise Cuba." From this, Khrushchev seemed to be claiming victory over the Cuban Missile Crisis. Source E does not support the statement as it shows that by placing the missiles in Cuba, USSR's relations with Cuba had improved even further. Castro, in his letter to Khrushchev, applauded and praised him for his courage and help in defending Cuba from America. He described Khrushchev as a "tireless defender of peace" and "superhuman efforts".	
L3	Yes AND No, supported by valid source use <i>Award 5 marks for one Yes AND one No, supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source, up to a maximum of 7 marks.</i>	5-7
L4	L3 but also addresses "how far" through the use of contextual knowledge to question a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc.	8

Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

2 This question is about the impact of WW1 in Europe.

- (a) Explain why membership problems weakened the League of Nations.
[8]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Describes the League of Nations	1-2
L2	Identifies or describes factors. Award 3 marks for identification without description. Award 4 marks for detailed description. e.g. Firstly, USA's non-membership in the League of Nations made it lack the necessary economic and military backup of the USA to enforce its will. e.g. Secondly, by disallowing certain countries from joining the League made it lose credibility as a neutral peacekeeping organisation.	3-4
L3	Explains factors Award 4-5 marks for one explained factor and 6-8 marks for two explained factors. e.g. Firstly, USA's non-membership in the League of Nations made it lack the necessary economic and military backup of the USA to enforce its will. The USA, despite being the world's largest national economy at the time and having her status as a military power confirmed in WWI did not join the League. This was because USA was pursuing a non-interventionist policy and preferred to engage in foreign affairs on their own terms at their own pace rather than commit themselves to the League. Without the support and backing of USA, the League weakened considerably as it would seem to possess enough power to condemn aggressor countries such as Italy who would simply ignore the League's condemnations, left the League and continued to aggressively invade Abyssinia in 1937. e.g. Secondly, by disallowing certain countries from joining the League made it lose credibility as a neutral peacekeeping organisation. Certain countries were disallowed from joining as they were seen as threats. Germany was not allowed to join until 1926 for its role in causing WWI. The Soviet Union was also disallowed from joining until 1934 due to its communist ideology, large size and population. With the exclusion of powerful and strong countries from the League, its ability to enforce	4-8

	sanctions effectively was greatly undermined. In addition, its credibility and authority as a neutral and fair organisation would also be questioned as it was seen as being too closely associated with the victorious nations from WWI. Of the 40-odd nations that joined the League, 31 had taken part in the war on the side of the Allies.	
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- (b) 'The Allies got what they wanted from Germany through the Treaty of Versailles.' How far do you agree with this statement?
Explain your answer. [12]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Describes the Treaty of Versailles or the Allies' aims	1-2
L2	Explains Yes OR No Award 3 marks for an explanation and further marks for additional reasons or supporting details for reasons, up to a maximum of 6 marks. I agree that the Allies got what they wanted from Germany through the Treaty of Versailles. This was especially so for France who had suffered tremendously from the war and wanted to make Germany pay for its losses by re-claiming Alsace-Lorraine which was lost to Germany in 1871 and to make Germany pay heavy reparations and accept total blame for the war. In short, France wanted to seek revenge against Germany for her war losses. From the final terms of the Treaty, it was apparent that France had most of her above aims met as the Treaty was particularly harsh on Germany. Under the War Guilt Clause, she had to accept complete blame for causing WWI. France regained Alsace-Lorraine and the profits from the Saar coal region and Germany had to also pay compensations of 6,600 million pounds. Besides France, other Allies like Italy and Japan were also able to get what they hoped from Germany in the form of territorial gains. Britain wanted the German navy to be weakened as its own position of naval superiority was previously threatened by German naval armaments. The Treaty reduced the German navy to just 15,000 men and it was not allowed to have submarines. OR E.g. However, not all the Allies were satisfied with the Treaty's terms. In particular, Britain's prime minister Lloyd George was personally opposed treating Germany too harshly as he feared an unfair peace would lead to another war. He also wanted Germany to be able to recover economically from war to prevent the rise of communism. However, the final terms proved to be against his personal wishes as they were very harsh on Germany such as the tight financial, military and territorial restrictions which crippled Germany's economy.	3-6
L3	Explains Yes AND No Award 7 marks for an explanation of Yes and an explanation of No and further additional reasons or supporting detail for reasons, to a maximum of 10 marks.	7-10

L4	L3 + reached a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of "how far". e.g. L3 + In conclusion, I agree that the Allies got what they wanted from Germany through the Treaty of Versailles. The treaty was negotiated at the Paris Peace Conference where the victorious powers met to discuss and decide the price Germany had to pay for the war. Furthermore, Germany was not even invited to the conference. Hence it was clear that the terms of the Treaty were set out to punish Germany and make her pay for causing WWI. Most of the victorious nations had suffered from the war and faced public pressure back home to seek revenge on Germany. Through the harsh treaty, they would get what they wanted from Germany. The few who were hesitant about the impact of the harsh terms were unable to voice their concerns as they were personal feelings which would have been lost amidst the general atmosphere of hatred and resentment against Germany at that point in time.	11-12
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3 This question is about the end of Cold War.

(a) Explain why the Berlin Blockade worsened the Cold War. [8]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Describes the Berlin Blockade	1-2
L2	Identifies or describes factors. Award 3 marks for identification without description. Award 4 marks for detailed description. e.g. The Berlin Blockade worsened the Cold War as it highlighted Stalin's aggression which made the Western powers determined to contain him and the influence of the Soviet Union. e.g. The Berlin Blockade also worsened the Cold War as it boosted the power and credibility of the Western powers and made Stalin and the Soviet Union even more determined to protect its sphere of influence in East Germany.	3-4
L3	Explains factors Award 4-5 marks for one explained factor and 6-8 marks for two explained factors. e.g. The Berlin Blockade worsened the Cold War as it highlighted Stalin's aggression which made the Western powers determined to contain him and the influence of the Soviet Union. As Stalin wanted to prevent economic recovery in Germany, he imposed a blockade on movement into West Berlin by cutting off all land and water pathways as well as communications between the Western zones in Germany and West Berlin. Food supplies and electricity to West Berlin were also cut off. He aimed to starve the Germans in West Berlin into submission and force the Western powers to abandon their plans of unifying their three occupation zones into an eventual West German state, in accordance with his wish to keep Germany divided and weak. Stalin's aggression through the Berlin Blockade worsened the Cold War as it made the Western powers even more suspicious of his intentions in Germany and this worsened superpower relations, thus intensifying the Cold War. e.g. The Berlin Blockade also worsened the Cold War as its failure boosted the power and credibility of the Western powers and made Stalin and the Soviet Union even more determined to protect its sphere of influence in East Germany. To overcome the Berlin Blockade, the Western powers flew supplies into West Berlin for the next 11 months, with one plane reaching West Berlin every 30 seconds at the height of the airlift. Soviets did not shoot the planes	4-8

of the Western powers down, for fear of being seen as engaging in an act of war. Realising the blockade had failed, Stalin entered into negotiations with the Western powers and re-opened the land and water routes into West Berlin. When the Airlift officially ended on 30 September 1949, more than 2.3 million tonnes of supplies had been flown into West Berlin. The failure of his blockade and the success of the airlift humiliated Stalin and made him even more determined to extend Soviet control in Germany which would continue to undermine superpower relations. The situation also shows that the two sides had conflicting visions over the future of Germany and this would not mend relations but emphasised their differences.	
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- (b) 'Communism in the Soviet Union failed because of Gorbachev's policies.' How far do you agree with this statement?
Explain your answer. [12]

Level	Descriptor & Suggested Answer	Marks
L1	Describes the failure of communism in the Soviet Union or Gorbachev's policies	1-2
L2	Explains Yes OR No Award 3 marks for an explanation and further marks for additional reasons or supporting details for reasons, up to a maximum of 6 marks. E.g. I agree that communism in the Soviet Union failed because of Gorbachev's policies. When Gorbachev came to power in 1985, Soviet Union faced many problems such as the inefficiencies of the command economy and the crippling cost of maintaining military competition with the USA. Gorbachev believed that the only way to save Soviet Union was to introduce reforms such as Glasnost and Perestroika. However, these reforms would eventually lead to the failure of communism in the Soviet Union which also physically disintegrated. Under Glasnost, Gorbachev sought to give his supporters permission to speak out in favour of reform and to provide the space and opportunities to convince the Soviet people that reforms were necessary. He began by launching a series of public debates, relaxed the censorship of books, journals and newspapers. New discussions on and reconstructions of Soviet history were also permitted. However, these relaxations revealed problems which existed since Stalin's reign and made the Soviet citizens feel that their governments had lied to them and deprived them of what the rest of the world had access to. They lost confidence in the communist rule and vision and increasingly desired independence. This was especially so as they had been increasingly exposed to anti-communist ideas in the form of radio broadcasts from Western radio stations. Hence Glasnost had unintentionally created a platform where criticism of communist rule in the Soviet Union could not be controlled and this inevitably would lead to the failure of communism in the Soviet Union. OR E.g. However, failure of communism in the Soviet Union could not be entirely blamed on Gorbachev's policies. Communism in the Soviet Union would have failed even if Gorbachev had not ascended to power as there were already inherent problems with the communist system such as the inefficiencies of its	3-6

	command system. For example, the overemphasis on quantitative indicators along with lack of innovation and creativity led to poor quality of Soviet goods. Another problem was the lack of checks and balances on the government which encouraged officials to falsify statistics to meet quotas, as well as engage in corrupt practices such as bribery. Fewer resources were also devoted to providing consumer goods due to the emphasis on industrialisation and production of military goods since the introduction of Stalin's 5-Year Plans. With these inherent flaws, Soviet citizens' needs were hardly met as they faced deprivation and a poor quality of life which was in stark contrast to the abundance of the Western European countries. Hence they grew increasingly resistant to and disillusioned with the communist vision and rule which could not provide them with a basic comfortable way of life.	
L3	Explains Yes AND No <i>Award 7 marks for an explanation of Yes and an explanation of No and further additional reasons or supporting detail for reasons, to a maximum of 10 marks.</i>	7-10
L4	L3 + reached a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of "how far". e.g. L3 + In conclusion, I agree that communism in the Soviet Union failed because of Gorbachev's policies. Although the inherent flaws of a communist economic system failed to improve lives for the Soviet people, Gorbachev's reforms hastened the failure of communism. His policies under Glasnost opened up a new world and possibilities to the Soviet people who began yearning for a change to their way of life. Without Glasnost, the Soviet people might not have been fully aware of how their lives could be turned around by giving up on the communist system. They might have still continued supporting the communist ideology which had already existed for about 70 years.	11-12

