

ANDERSON SECONDARY SCHOOL
Preliminary Examination 2026
Secondary Four Express
& Secondary Five Normal Academic



CANDIDATE NAME:

CLASS:

INDEX NUMBER:

Humanities

2261/02

Paper 2 History

26 August 2026

The Making of the 20th Century Modern World, 1910s – 1991

1 hour 50 minutes

0800-0950h

Additional Materials: Writing paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number 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/tape.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

Write your answers on the writing paper provided.
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.

For examiner's use only:

Section A	/ 30m
Section B	/ 20m
Total	/ 50 marks

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

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

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are 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.

)

Why was this cartoon published at this time? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

)

How useful is this source as evidence about the formation of NATO? Explain your answer. [6]

(c) Study Sources C and D.

)

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer. [5]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

)

Having read Source F, how surprised are you by Source E? Explain your answer. [6]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

)

“The formation of NATO increased Cold War tensions in Europe.” How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

Did the formation of NATO increase Cold War tensions in Europe?

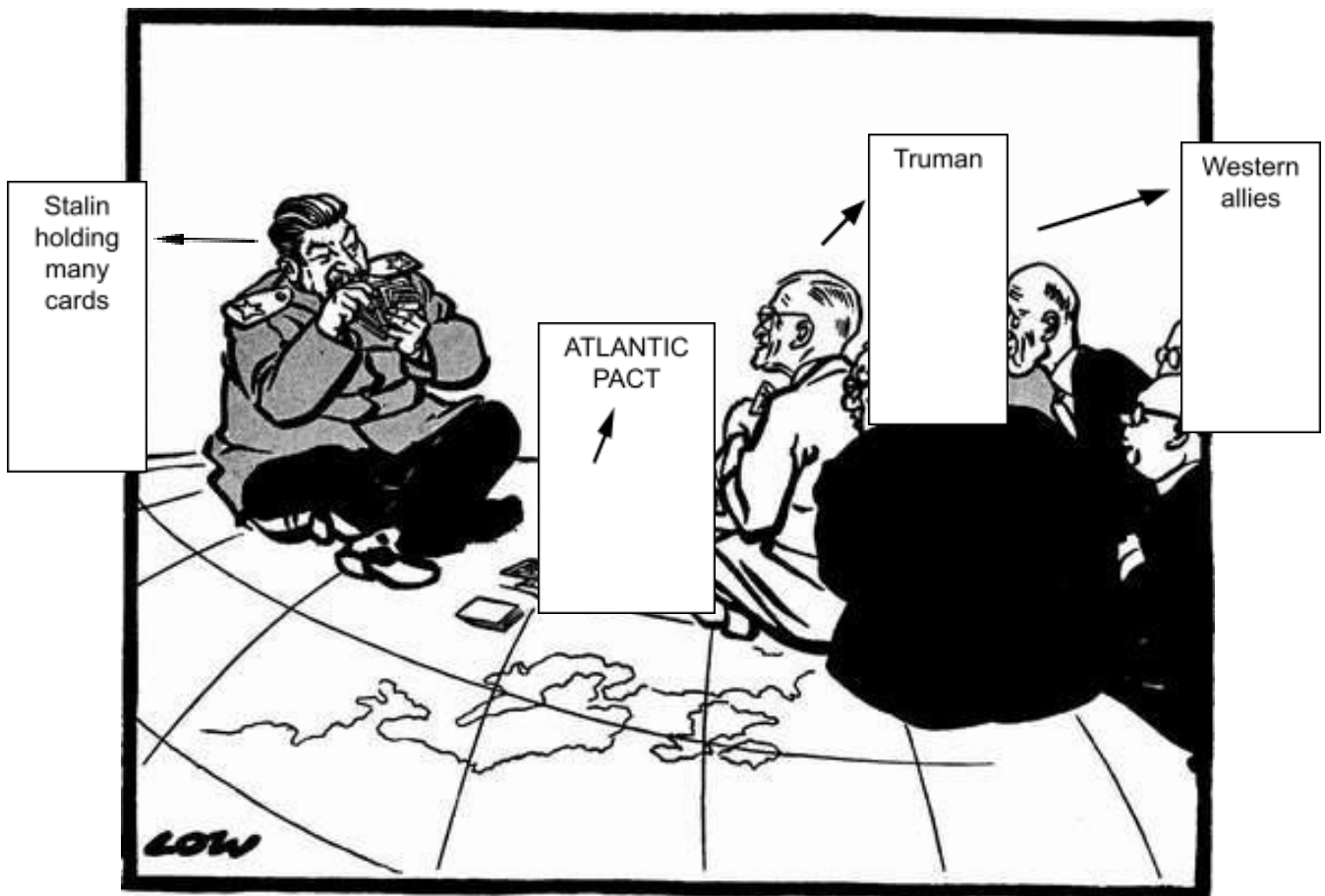
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of the questions.

After the Second World War, relations between the USA and the Soviet Union became increasingly strained. While both countries had worked together during the war, they disagreed over how Europe should be rebuilt and secured afterwards. The USA wanted to promote democracy and economic recovery, while the USSR sought to establish friendly communist governments in Eastern Europe to protect its security. As tensions grew, the USA and its allies formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) in 1949. The Soviet Union viewed NATO as a threat and responded by strengthening its control over Eastern Europe and forming the Warsaw Pact in 1955. As both sides became more suspicious of each other's intentions, Europe became increasingly divided into rival blocs.

Did the formation of NATO increase Cold War tensions in Europe?

Source A: *A British cartoon published in a newspaper on 6 April 1949.*



Source B: *An extract from US President Harry Truman's address at the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty on 4 April 1949.*

The nations represented here are determined to safeguard the freedom and security of their peoples. The North Atlantic Treaty is not directed against any nation. It is directed solely against aggression. We have learned from the experience of two world wars that peace cannot be preserved if free nations stand alone. By joining together in a common effort for collective security, the members of this treaty seek to prevent future conflict and promote stability in Europe. The treaty does not threaten any country. Rather, it provides assurance that any attempt to use force against a member state will be met by the united resolve of all.

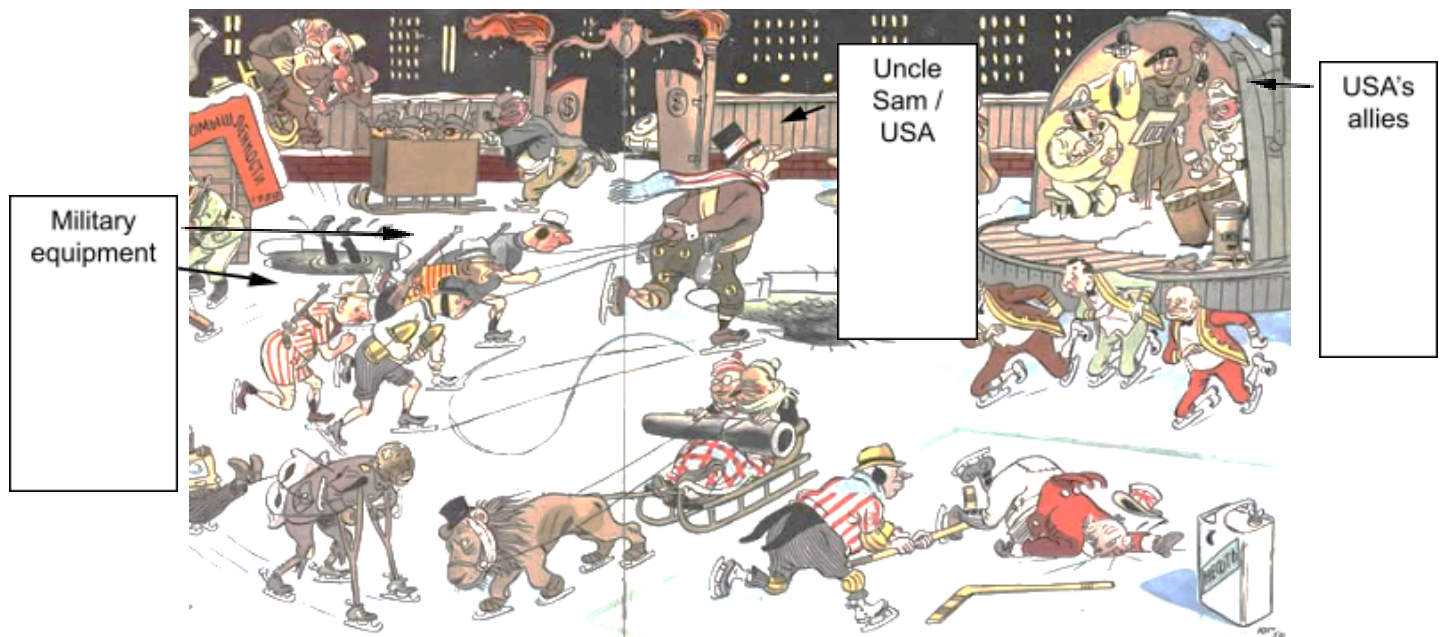
Source C: *Adapted from a speech by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Vyshinsky to the United Nations General Assembly on September 1949.*

The North Atlantic Pact is not an instrument of peace but a military alliance directed against the Soviet Union and the democratic states of Eastern Europe. Under the pretext of collective security, the United States is creating a bloc that divides Europe into opposing camps. Such actions increase international tension and undermine the possibility of peaceful cooperation among nations. Instead of strengthening the United Nations, this military grouping encourages suspicion and confrontation. The peoples of Europe have suffered enough from war. They do not need new military alliances that risk creating fresh conflicts and deepen the division of the continent.

Source D: *An extract from the North Atlantic Treaty signed by twelve countries in Washington D.C., 4 April 1949.*

The Parties to this Treaty reaffirm their faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and their desire to live in peace with all peoples and governments. They are determined to safeguard the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples, founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law. They seek to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area and are resolved to unite their efforts for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security. An armed attack against one member shall be considered an attack against them all.

Source E: *A Soviet propaganda cartoon published in 1950. It depicts the USA and its Western allies skating on an ice rink representing Europe.*



Source F: *An extract from the Warsaw Pact Treaty signed in Warsaw, Poland, 14 May 1955.*

The contracting parties, desiring to ensure the security of the peace-loving states of Europe, have agreed to establish a system of collective defence. The recent inclusion of West Germany in NATO and the remilitarisation of Germany have increased the danger of another war in Europe. In these circumstances, the socialist states must take the necessary measures to guarantee their security and preserve peace. The treaty is defensive in nature and is intended to strengthen cooperation among member states in the event of armed aggression. The participating governments declare that their objective is not conflict but the protection of peace, security and the sovereignty of their peoples.

Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

- 2 'Economic policies had the greatest impact on the lives of Germans under Nazi rule.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]
- 3 'The most important reason why the Allies won World War Two was the role of the Soviet Union.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]
- 4 'The outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by the actions of North and South Korea.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]

- The End -

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Question 1	Source A	https://www.altacarta.com/research/caricatures/DavidLow.html
	Source B	https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/library/world/global/040149nato-soviet-text.html
	Source C	https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/726666/files/A_PV-226-EN.pdf
	Source D	https://www.nato.int/en/about-us/official-texts-and-resources/official-texts/1949/04/04/the-north-atlantic-treaty
	Source E	'On NATO's Skating Rink', Soviet Propaganda, 1950
	Source F	https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/warsaw.asp

Suggested Answer / Marking Scheme

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

(a Study Source A.)

Why was this cartoon created at this time? Explain your answer.
[5]

	Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
	L1	Identifies sub-message or invalid purpose <i>e.g. Source A shows Stalin as a threat.</i>	1
	L2	Specific context of 1939 or use of contextual knowledge <i>e.g. Source A was created after the formation of NATO in 1949. At this time, tensions between the USA and USSR were increasing after events such as the Berlin Blockade and Soviet control of Eastern Europe.</i>	2
	L3	Identifies the main message <i>e.g. Source A was created to show that Stalin and the Soviet Union posed a threat to Western Europe. The cartoon shows Stalin holding many playing cards while Western leaders gather around the "Atlantic Pact" (NATO), watching his next move. This suggests that the West viewed Stalin as unpredictable and believed Soviet actions threatened peace and security in Europe.</i>	3
	L4	Reason based on purpose with contextual knowledge and outcome <i>Award 4m for purpose, 5m for purpose with context</i> <i>e.g. Source A was created to persuade the British public that NATO was necessary because of the threat posed by the Soviet Union and to gain support for Western cooperation against Stalin. The cartoon shows Stalin dominating the scene while the Western leaders gather around the "Atlantic Pact", suggesting that Soviet actions were forcing Western countries to work together. This implies that NATO was a defensive response to Soviet aggression. (4m) By cross-referencing to contextual knowledge, the Soviet Union had established communist governments</i>	4 - 5

		<i>across Eastern Europe after World War II and had imposed the Berlin Blockade in 1948. These actions increased fears of Soviet expansion and led Western countries to form NATO in 1949. Therefore, the cartoon was created to convince the British public that Soviet actions threatened European security and to support the necessity of NATO so as to protect Western Europe. (5m)</i>	
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(b) Study Source B.

How useful is this source as evidence about the formation of NATO? Explain your answer.

[6]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Undeveloped provenance <i>e.g. Source B is useful because it was delivered by US President Harry Truman when NATO was formed.</i>	1
L2	Useful/Not useful for what it tells about the formation of NATO Award 2m for one aspect [useful OR not useful] and 3m for both aspects [i.e. useful AND not useful] <i>e.g. Source B is useful because it explains why NATO was formed. Source B states that the treaty was created to "safeguard the freedom and security" of its members and was "directed solely against aggression". This suggests that NATO was formed to provide collective defence and protect Western countries from possible threats.</i> OR <i>e.g. Source B is not useful because it does not fully explain the formation of NATO. While Source B states that NATO was formed to preserve peace and security, as seen in "safeguard the freedom and security", it does not mention Soviet actions such as the Berlin Blockade or the establishment of communist governments in Eastern Europe which contributed to NATO's formation. Therefore, it gives only a partial explanation.</i>	2 - 3
L3	Answers which argue that the source is not useful based on assertions about Truman's purpose <i>e.g. Source B is not useful because it is unreliable. Truman had a reason to present NATO positively. As the US President speaking at the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty, his purpose was to persuade Americans and Western Europeans to support the new alliance.</i>	4

	<i>Therefore, he describes NATO as being "directed solely against aggression" and claims that it "does not threaten any country". This means he is unlikely to mention why the Soviet Union regarded NATO as a threat. Therefore, the source gives only one side of why NATO was formed and is thus unreliable and therefore not useful.</i>	
L4	Answers which attempt to evaluate what is said by cross-reference to other sources or contextual knowledge <i>Answers that address just reliability and not utility should be given L2:3marks)</i> <i>e.g. Source B is useful as evidence about the formation of NATO as it is reliable. Source B states that NATO was formed to preserve peace and provide "collective defence". This is supported by contextual knowledge that many Western countries feared Soviet expansion after the establishment of communist governments in Eastern Europe and the Berlin Blockade of 1948-49. These events convinced Western countries that they needed a collective security arrangement. This supports Source B's statement about the rationale of why NATO was formed. Therefore, Source B is reliable and thus useful in explaining why NATO was formed from the Western perspective.</i> OR <i>e.g. Source B is useful because it is reliable. Source B states that NATO was created to preserve peace and provide "collective defence". Similarly, Source D states that member states were "resolved to unite their efforts for collective defence and for the preservation of peace and security". Both sources present NATO as a defensive alliance formed to protect its member states rather than threaten other countries. As Source D, the North Atlantic Treaty itself, corroborates/is consistent with/aligns with Truman's explanation, it supports Source B's account of why NATO was formed. Therefore, Source B is reliable and thus useful as evidence about the formation of NATO from the Western perspective.</i>	5
L5	Answers which evaluate the source as in L4 but argue the source is useful by evaluating Truman's purpose in context. <i>e.g. Although Source B presents only the Western justification for NATO, it is still useful as evidence about its formation because Truman's purpose reveals how the USA wanted NATO to be understood. As President of the United States speaking at the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty, Truman wanted to persuade Americans and Western Europeans to support the alliance. This explains why he emphasises that NATO was "directed solely against aggression" and "does not threaten any country", while omitting Soviet fears that NATO was an anti-Soviet military alliance. By cross-referencing to contextual knowledge, the Soviet Union later condemned NATO as a hostile military bloc and used this to justify forming the Warsaw Pact in 1955. Therefore, although Source B provides only the Western perspective, it remains useful because it reveals how the USA publicly justified NATO's formation and sought to gain support for it.</i>	6

(c) Study Sources C and D.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer.

[5]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Compares provenance/topic <i>e.g. Sources B and C are similar because they are about NATO.</i> OR <i>e.g. Sources B and C are different because Source C is a speech by a Soviet politician while Source D is an extract from the North Atlantic Treaty.</i>	1
L2	Similarities or differences of content <i>Award 3m for support from source content</i> <i>e.g. Sources C and D are similar in that both show that military alliances played an important role in Europe after World War II. Source C states that NATO would divide Europe into "hostile camps", while Source D states that NATO would unite countries through "collective defence". Thus, both sources suggest that NATO would have a major impact on Europe.</i> OR <i>e.g. Sources C and D are different in their views of NATO. Source C states that NATO is "not an instrument of peace" and is directed against the Soviet Union. However, Source D states that NATO seeks to "live in peace" and preserve "peace and security". Thus, Source C portrays NATO as a threat while Source D portrays it as a defensive alliance.</i>	2 - 3
L3	Similarities and differences of content, i.e. both aspects of L2.	4
L4	Similarity/Difference of viewpoint/opinion about the events <i>The similarity/Difference of opinion/viewpoint must be illustrated using the content of the sources. If not, then L2 only.</i> <i>e.g. Sources C and D are different in their viewpoints about NATO because they were produced by opposing sides during the Cold War. Source C, a speech by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Vyshinsky to the United Nations in 1949, portrays NATO negatively, stating that it is "not an instrument of peace" and would divide Europe into "hostile camps". This reflects the Soviet view that NATO threatened its security and increased Cold War tensions. In contrast, Source D, the North Atlantic Treaty signed by the twelve founding member states, presents NATO positively, stating that it aimed to preserve "peace and security"</i>	5

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
	<i>through "collective defence". As an official treaty, its purpose was to set out and justify the alliance's principles to its member states and the international community. Thus, Source C views NATO as an aggressive alliance that threatened peace, whereas Source D views NATO as a defensive alliance that protected peace and security.</i> OR <i>e.g. Sources C and D are similar in their viewpoint that Europe needed a military alliance to maintain peace and security after World War Two because both sources were produced by governments seeking to justify the military alliances they represented. Source C was delivered by the Soviet Foreign Minister to defend the Soviet position and criticise NATO, thus stating that the Warsaw Pact was formed because NATO "is not an instrument of peace" and would divide Europe into "hostile camps", implying that peace could only be maintained by responding to NATO. Similarly, Source D was the founding treaty of NATO, setting out and justifying its aims to member states and the international community, stating that NATO sought to preserve "peace and security" through "collective defence". Therefore, although they disagreed over which alliance would preserve peace, both sources shared the viewpoint that a military alliance was necessary to maintain peace and security in Europe.</i>	

(d) Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source F, how surprised are you by Source E? Explain your answer.
[6]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Answers which do not consider the concept of surprise <i>e.g. Source E is a Soviet propaganda cartoon, so I do not believe it.</i>	1
L2	Surprise/lack of surprise without explanation <i>e.g. Having read Source F, I am not surprised by Source E because both sources present the West negatively.</i> OR <i>e.g. Having read Source F, I am surprised by Source E because the two sources are different.</i>	2

L3	Valid comparison, addressing surprise / lack of surprise <i>Not Surprised, because Sources E and F are similar, so E is not surprising (or) surprising, because Sources E and F are different, so E is surprising.</i> <i>e.g. Having read Source F, Source E does not surprise me. Source F states that the Warsaw Pact was formed to “guarantee their security and preserve peace” because of perceived threats from the West. Similarly, Source E presents the USA and its allies as behaving recklessly and endangering peace, as seen in the Uncle Sam figure dragging military equipment while people fall over on the ice rink. Both sources suggest that Western military actions created danger and insecurity in Europe. Therefore, having read Source F, Source E does not surprise me.</i> OR <i>e.g. Having read Source F, Source E surprises me. Source F describes the Warsaw Pact as a defensive alliance whose aim was "not conflict but the protection of peace". However, Source E criticises the USA and its allies more strongly. It shows Uncle Sam dragging military equipment while people fall over on an ice rink representing Europe which is already fragile post-World War Two, as symbolised by the hole, suggesting that the West was irresponsibly putting Europe in danger again. While both sources are critical of the West, Source E expresses this criticism more strongly. Therefore, Source E is surprising because it presents the West in a more negative way than Source F.</i>	3
L4	Surprise / Lack of surprise based on cross-reference to other sources or contextual knowledge <i>Award higher mark for more detailed responses</i> <i>e.g. Having read Source F, Source E does not surprise me. Source F states that the Warsaw Pact was formed to “guarantee their security and preserve peace” because of the threat posed by NATO. Similarly, Source E portrays the USA and its allies as pursuing militarisation that endangered peace, shown by Uncle Sam dragging military equipment while people fall over on the ice rink. By cross-referencing to contextual knowledge, the Soviet Union criticised NATO after its formation in 1949 and argued that Western rearmament threatened peace. (p.64) Therefore, Source E reflects views commonly promoted by the Soviet Union, which was also seen in Source F. Thus, Source E does not surprise me.</i> <i>e.g. Having read Source F, Source E does not surprise me. Source F states that the Warsaw Pact was formed to “guarantee their security and preserve peace” because the “recent inclusion of West Germany in NATO” had increased the danger of war in Europe. Similarly, Source E portrays the USA and its allies as threatening peace, shown by Uncle Sam dragging military equipment while skating and people falling over on the ice rink. This is supported by Source C, which states that NATO “is not an instrument of peace” and “encourages suspicion and confrontation”. Both Sources C and F present the Soviet view that</i>	4 - 5

	<i>Western military alliances endangered peace in Europe, which aligns with/is consistent with the message in Source E. Therefore, having read Source F, Source E does not surprise me.</i>	
L5	L4+ Surprised / Not surprised, based on evaluation of E to its purpose and context <i>e.g. Having read Source F, Source E does not surprise me. Source F claims that the Warsaw Pact was formed to "guarantee their security and preserve peace" and that its objective was "not conflict but the protection of peace", thus suggesting that it was the threat of the West that had prompted the formation of the Warsaw Pact. Similarly, Source E portrays the West as threatening peace, shown by the Uncle Sam figure dragging military equipment while people fall over on the ice rink. This is not surprising because Source E is a Soviet propaganda cartoon published in 1950, when the Soviet Union was seeking to convince its people and other communist states that NATO posed a threat to European peace. Its purpose was therefore to portray the USA and its allies negatively and justify Soviet opposition to NATO. By cross-referencing to contextual knowledge, the Soviet Union portrayed NATO as a threat in order to justify its own policies in Eastern Europe. Therefore, it is expected that Source E exaggerates the dangers posed by the West while downplaying Soviet actions. Thus, Source E reflects the same critical perspective of the West as Source F and therefore does not surprise me.</i>	6

(e) Study **all** the sources.

"The formation of NATO increased Cold War tensions in Europe." How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer.

[8]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Writes about the hypothesis, no valid source use. <i>e.g. NATO increased Cold War tensions because the USA and USSR became enemies after World War II.</i>	1
L2	Yes OR No, supported by valid source use. <i>Award 2m for one Y or N supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 4m.</i> Yes (Sources A, C, E) <i>e.g. Source A supports the assertion. The cartoon shows Stalin and Western leaders sitting across one another with the cards labelled "Atlantic Pact" in between them. This suggests that the formation of NATO increased rivalry between the Soviet Union and the West, contributing to Cold War tensions.</i>	2 - 4

	<i>e.g. Source C supports the assertion. Source C states that NATO is "not an instrument of peace" and that it "divides Europe into opposing camps". This suggests that NATO increased tensions by creating rival blocs in Europe.</i> <i>e.g.</i> <i>Source E supports the assertion. The cartoon shows figures dressed as Uncle Sam causing disorder on the ice rink and dragging military equipment. There are also figures falling down on the rink. This portrays the USA and its allies as creating instability and conflict, suggesting that NATO increased tensions.</i> <i>e.g.</i> <i>Source F supports the assertion. Source F states that the "recent inclusion of West Germany in NATO and the remilitarisation of Germany have increased the danger of another war in Europe". This suggests that the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies saw NATO's expansion as a threat to their security. As a result, they responded by forming the Warsaw Pact and creating their own system of collective defence. Therefore, NATO increased Cold War tensions by deepening the military division between the Western and Eastern blocs in Europe.</i> <i>No (Sources B, D)</i> <i>e.g. Source B does not support the assertion. Source B states that NATO was "directed solely against aggression" and sought to "prevent future conflict and promote stability in Europe". This suggests that NATO was intended to preserve peace rather than increase tensions.</i> <i>e.g. Source D does not support the assertion. Source D states that NATO sought to "promote stability and well-being" and preserve "peace and security" through collective defence. This suggests that NATO was defensive rather than aggressive.</i>	
L3	Yes AND No, supported by valid source use. <i>Award 5m for one Y and N supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 7m.</i> Bonus of two marks (i.e. +1, +1) for use of contextual knowledge to evaluate a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc. but the total for the question must not exceed 8. <i>e.g. Overall, the sources support the assertion that the formation of NATO increased Cold War tensions in Europe. Some sources, such as Source B, are unreliable. Source B was delivered by Truman at the signing of NATO and therefore had a purpose to gain support for the newly formed alliance and therefore present it positively. By cross-referencing to contextual knowledge, the commitment of NATO</i>	5 - 8

members to collective defence meant that they agreed to go to war if any member was attacked and US forces could be given secure bases in Europe. This was viewed by the Soviet Union as a hostile military alliance, splitting the world into two military blocs (pg. 64). Therefore, Source B downplays the extent to which NATO contributed to Cold War tensions.

Section B: Essays

- 2 'Economic policies had the greatest impact on the lives of Germans under Nazi rule.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.
[10]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Identify/Describes reasons <i>Award 1m for identifying 1 reason, 2m for identifying 2 or more. Award 2m for describing 1 reason, 3m for describing 2 or more.</i> <i>e.g. Nazi economic policies reduced unemployment.</i> <i>Other impacts may include: e.g. political – loss of freedoms under dictatorship and one-party rule; social - control of youths through education and youth organisations; changes to the lives of women; persecution of Jews and minorities.</i>	1 - 3
L2	Explains yes or no <i>Award 4m for an explanation of how economic policies impacted Germany (OR) other impact(s), and an additional mark for additional impact(s) or further supporting detail, to a maximum of 5m.</i>	4 - 5

	e.g. Yes. Economic policies impacted Germany through re-employment and improvement of working conditions. Firstly, before Nazi rule in 1932, about six million Germans were unemployed due to the Great Depression, with many families living in poverty and uncertainty. After the Nazi Party came to power, large-scale public works such as the construction of autobahns, rearmament programmes, and the compulsory Reich Labour Service (RAD) created jobs, reducing unemployment to around 350,000 by 1939. <u>This gave many Germans a stable income again, allowing families to better support themselves and improving their standard of living.</u> Also, the impact of economic policies under Nazi rule was evident in the improvement of working conditions. Before 1933, workers had the freedom to join trade unions but often faced disputes with employers over pay and hours, which weakened their sense of security. After the Nazis banned independent unions and replaced them with the German Labour Front (DAF), workers were given regulated working hours, wage agreements, and access to benefits such as cheap holidays and cultural activities through the “Strength Through Joy” scheme. <u>These policies improved workers' welfare and gave many Germans the impression that the Nazi government cared for their well-being, even though workers lost the right to strike or bargain collectively.</u> e.g. No. Social policies impacted Germany through social and legal ostracization of the Jews and the massacre of the disabled and mentally ill. Firstly, before Nazi rule, Jews in Germany were generally able to live as citizens with legal rights, own property, run businesses, and participate in public life. With Nazi rule, they faced systematic discrimination under the Nuremberg Laws (1935), which stripped Jews of citizenship and banned marriage with non-Jews, isolating them socially and legally, escalating to Kristallnacht (1938) and eventually the Holocaust, which killed six million. <u>These policies changed the lives of Jews as they lost their rights and faced increasing discrimination and violence.</u> Furthermore, this was also seen in eventual massacre of the disabled and mentally ill. Prior to Nazi rule, these minorities lived amongst German society. With Nazi rule, a so-called “euthanasia programme” of them began in 1939. Within 2 years, at least 5,000 disabled babies and children were killed and 72,000 mentally patients were gassed. <u>These social policies thus had an impact in that they led to the deaths of many innocent people.</u>	
L3	Explains Yes AND No Award 6m for an explanation of how economic policies impacted Germany (AND) other impact(s), and an additional mark for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8m.	6 - 8
	Evaluation Award an additional 2m (to a max of 10m) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.	+2m

	e.g. <i>In conclusion, I disagree that economic policies had the greatest impact on the lives of Germans under Nazi rule. While economic policies reduced unemployment and improved working conditions for many workers, these benefits were not experienced equally by all Germans. In contrast, Nazi social policies affected a wider range of people and had more severe consequences. The persecution of Jews and the disabled not only deprived them of their rights and freedoms but also led to the loss of millions of lives.</i>	
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- 3 'The most important reason why the Allies won World War Two was the role of the Soviet Union.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Identify/Describes reasons Award 1m for identifying 1 reason, 2m for identifying 2 or more. Award 2m for describing 1 reason, 3m for describing 2 or more. e.g. <i>The Soviet Union forced Germany to surrender at Stalingrad in 1942-43.</i> <i>Other reasons may include: e.g. role of USA; allied strategies; military weaknesses of Germany and Japan, etc.</i>	1 – 3
L2	Explains yes or no Award 4m for an explanation of how the role of the Soviet Union led to the victory of the Allies in World War Two (OR) other reasons(s), and an additional mark for additional reason(s) or further supporting detail, to a maximum of 5m.	4 – 5
L3	Explains Yes AND No Award 6m for an explanation of how the role of the Soviet Union led to the victory of the Allies in World War Two (AND) other reasons(s), and additional mark for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8m. e.g. <i>Yes. I agree with the statement that the most important reason why the Allies won World War Two was the role of the Soviet Union. During Operation Barbarossa, Germany invaded the USSR in 1941. However, Stalin reorganised the Soviet war effort and used resources provided through the US Lend-Lease programme to build resistance. <u>This enabled the USSR to launch a strong counter-offensive against Germany, causing Germany to suffer around 90% of its casualties on the Eastern Front and severely weakening its military strength.</u> (pg. 8) Also, the Soviet Union achieved a major victory at Stalingrad in 1942-43. German forces were surrounded and forced to surrender. <u>This marked the beginning of Germany's decline and shifted momentum in favour of the Allies, contributing significantly to Germany's eventual defeat.</u> (pg. 24)</i>	6 – 8

	e.g. No. The most important reason why the Allies won World War Two was the role of the Axis Powers. The inter-service rivalry between the Japanese army and navy meant both branches pursued different priorities and competed for scarce resources. <u>This lack of coordination prevented Japan from mounting a unified defence and made it increasingly vulnerable (pg. 29), as seen in the devastating US bombing of Tokyo in 1945, weakening Japan's ability to continue the war. (pg. 14).</u> Also, Germany's ineffective command structure meant that Hitler frequently overruled his generals despite lacking military experience, making poor strategic decisions (pg. 26) such as halting the advance of German forces towards Dunkirk in May 1940. <u>This gave the RAF time to recover, denied Germany air superiority, and wasted valuable resources, ultimately contributing to the defeat of the Axis Powers.</u>	
	Evaluation Award an additional 2m (to a max of 10m) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons. e.g. In conclusion, I disagree with the statement. Although the Soviet Union played a decisive role in defeating Germany, its impact was largely limited to the European theatre. In contrast, the military weaknesses of the Axis Powers contributed to the defeat of both Germany and Japan.	+2m

- 4 'The outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by the actions of North and South Korea.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Level	Level Descriptors	Marks
L1	Identify/Describes reasons Award 1m for identifying 1 reason, 2m for identifying 2 or more. Award 2m for describing 1 reason, 3m for describing 2 or more. e.g. North Korea led to the outbreak of the Korean War by launching an invasion across the 38th Parallel in June 1950. Other reasons may include: e.g. Cold War developments; actions of USA; actions of China, etc.	1 - 3
L2	Explains yes or no	4 - 5

	Award 4m for an explanation of how the actions of North and South Korea led to the outbreak of the Korean War (OR) how other reason(s) contributed to outbreak of the Korean War, and an additional mark for additional reason(s) or further supporting detail, to a maximum of 5m.	
L3	Explains Yes AND No Award 6m for an explanation of how the actions of North and South Korea led to the outbreak of the Korean War (AND) how other reason(s) contributed to outbreak of the Korean War and additional mark for further supporting detail or reason, to a maximum of 8m. e.g. Yes. The outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by the actions of North and South Korea. Kim Il Sung was determined to reunify Korea under communist rule and repeatedly sought Stalin's approval to invade South Korea. He also gained Mao Zedong's support should conflict break out. <u>Believing that the South was weak and that reunification could be achieved quickly, Kim became more determined to use force and eventually launched an invasion across the 38th Parallel in June 1950.</u> (pg. 76; 82–83) This can also be seen in the actions of Rhee. Like Kim, Rhee wanted to reunify Korea under his own government and supported the use of force against the North. His increasingly authoritarian rule and persecution of suspected communists heightened tensions between the two Koreas. In addition, frequent border clashes occurred along the 38th Parallel between 1949 and 1950, including a South Korean naval attack near the Taedong River in July 1949. <u>These actions increased hostility and made a full-scale war increasingly likely.</u> (pg. 75-76) e.g. No. The outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by Cold War developments. This can be seen in the communist victory in China in October 1949. Mao Zedong's success strengthened the communist bloc in Asia and gave North Korea a powerful communist neighbour. <u>Kim Il Sung became more confident that he could reunify Korea by force, while Stalin was more willing to support him as communism appeared to be gaining strength in Asia. This eventually led to Stalin approving Kim's invasion plans in April 1950.</u> (pg. 82) Cold War developments were also evident in the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty in February 1950. The treaty strengthened cooperation between the USSR and China and assured Kim that North Korea would not face South Korea alone if war broke out. <u>With the support of both communist powers, Kim was encouraged to launch an invasion across the 38th Parallel in June 1950. Therefore, Cold War developments increased tensions in Korea and directly contributed to the outbreak of the Korean War.</u> (pg. 80-83) OR e.g. No. The outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by the actions of the USA and China. The communist victory in China in 1949 and the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty in February 1950 strengthened the communist bloc in Asia. Mao's willingness to support North Korea gave Kim greater confidence that he would not	6 - 8

	<i>face the South alone if war broke out. <u>This encouraged Kim to launch an invasion across the 38th Parallel in June 1950.</u> (pg. 80-83) The United States also contributed to the outbreak of the war. Initially, Dean Acheson's January 1950 speech excluded Korea from the US defensive perimeter in Asia, which thus appeared that USA would not intervene if North Korea attacked (pg.77). At the same time, the growing US fear of communist expansion, reflected in NSC-68, intensified Cold War tensions in Asia. <u>These developments encouraged North Korea to believe that an invasion would not trigger immediate US intervention, contributing to its decision to invade South Korea in June 1950.</u> (pg. 77, 81-82)</i>	
	Evaluation <i>Award an additional 2m (to a max of 10m) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons.</i> <i>e.g. In conclusion, I disagree with the statement that the outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by the actions of North and South Korea. It was the support and encouragement provided by these wider Cold War developments that led to the North Korea launching its invasion in June 1950. The communist victory in China and the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty strengthened the communist bloc and led to Stalin approving Kim's invasion plans in April 1950.</i> OR <i>e.g. In conclusion, I agree that the outbreak of the Korean War was mainly caused by the actions of North and South Korea. While Cold War developments involving the USA and China created favourable conditions for conflict, it was Kim Il Sung's determination to invade and Rhee's confrontational policies that directly led to war. Furthermore, Kim's repeated appeals for support led to Stalin and Mao backing his plans.</i>	+2m