Mark Scheme (Results)

January 2025

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level in History (WHI01/1A)

Paper 1: Depth Study with Interpretations

Option 1A: France in Revolution, 1774-99

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Generic Level Descriptors for Paper 1

Targets: AO1 (10 marks): Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.

AO3 (15 marks): Analyse and evaluate, in relation to the historical context, difference ways in which aspects of the past have been interpreted.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
1	**1-6**	• Simple or generalised statements are made about the view presented in the question. • Some accurate and relevant knowledge is included, but it lacks range and depth and does not directly address the issue in the question. • Judgement on the view is assertive, with little supporting evidence.
2	**7-12**	• Some understanding of the issue raised by the question is shown and analysis is attempted by describing some points that are relevant. • Mostly accurate knowledge is included, but it lacks range or depth and only has implicit links to issues relevant to the question. • A judgement on the view is given, but with limited support and the criteria for judgement are left implicit.
3	**13-18**	• Understanding and some analysis of the issue raised by the question is shown by selecting and explaining some key points of view that are relevant. • Knowledge is included to demonstrate some understanding of the issues raised by the question, but material lacks range or depth • Attempts are made to establish criteria for judgement on the view and to relate the overall judgement to them, although with weak substantiation.
4	**19-25**	• Key issues relevant to the question are explored by analysing and explaining the issues of interpretation raised by the claim. • Sufficient knowledge is deployed to demonstrate understanding of the issues raised by the question and to meet most of its demands. • Valid criteria by which the view can be judged are established and applied in the process of coming to a judgement. Although some of the evaluations may only be partly substantiated, the overall judgement is supported.

Question	Indicative content
1	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether in the years before 1789, the most significant challenge faced by the ancien régime came from the Enlightenment. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • Writers of the Enlightenment, such as Rousseau and the encyclopaedists, were questioning old traditions and this created a climate of debate, criticism and challenge • The writings of Thomas Paine, particularly *Common Sense*, challenged the notion of the Divine Right of Kings and was a direct attack on the ancien régime • The Enlightenment stressed reason over tradition, which challenged noble privilege, e.g. Beaumarchais' *Marriage of Figaro* • Resentment of the power of the Church was encouraged by the writing of Voltaire. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The financial crisis was a challenge to the legitimacy of the ancien régime as it meant that government spending was not sustainable • The ancien régime was challenged by the increased resentment of the taxation system and its impact on some of the Estates • Trade depression and bad harvests of 1770s and 1780s created challenge to the ancien régime that was seen as increasingly corrupt, inefficient and out of touch • The unpopularity of the court and particularly the Queen was a challenge for the ancien régime as it had to deal with accusations of corruption and popular ridicule. Other relevant material must be credited.

Question	Indicative content
2	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether in the years 1791-92, the war with Austria and Prussia was the main reason for the emergence of Republicanism in France. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The war increased distrust in the king as Louis had hoped that war would lead to a French defeat and an overthrow of the revolutionary government, and this fuelled the demand for a republic • The Queen, as an Austrian, was regarded by many as traitor, and this further undermined the standing of the monarchy and fuelled demands for a Republic • The war increased economic problems and food shortages and made the revolution increasingly extreme and republican • The increasing threat to Paris from the Austrian and Prussian armies produced a revolutionary fervour, which led to an attack on the Tuileries and the suspension of the monarchy • The arrival of new troops to defend Paris (the Fédérés) increased the revolutionary atmosphere and demands for a republican government. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The inflexibility of Louis and his use of the royal veto, e.g. the law regarding refractory clergy, fuelled demands for a Republic • Some radical clubs who were dissatisfied with the new constitution demanded a Republic and gained support, e.g. the Cordeliers Club was hostile to the active/passive citizen distinction of the new constitution • Being brought back to Paris, in disgrace, after his flight to Varennes, seriously weakened support for the King and a constitutional monarchy, and Parisians began to talk of a Republic. Other relevant material must be credited.

Question	Indicative content
3	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether instability in France was the main consequence of Thermidorean government (July 1794 – October 1795). The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The Thermidorians were a disparate group with many fundamental divisions as they infuriated the extreme left and did not satisfy the royalists and this caused instability • To many the Thermidorians appeared as cynical self-seekers who had done well out of the revolution and this weakened their authority • Thermidorian financial policies, e.g. the excessive printing of assignats, added to inflation and further damaged the economy and continued economic instability • The Thermidorians had no new answers to the ongoing war and its domestic impact on France, therefore France remained unstable. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The Thermidorian government ended the excesses of the Terror, e.g. it repealed the Law of Suspects and this contributed to greater stability • There was a greater spirit of toleration and a partially successful attempt to reconcile republicans and royalists • The more controversial aspects of Robespierre's policies, e.g. the cult of the Supreme Being, were abandoned • The Thermidorian government reassured property owners who had gained from the revolution that their gains were secure. Other relevant material must be credited.

Question	Indicative content
4	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether Sieyès played a more significant role in the success of the coup de Brumaire than did Napoleon Bonaparte. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • Sieyès was instrumental in preparing the ground for the coup that would bring about change by peaceful means and strengthen the executive without disturbing the political equilibrium • Sieyès produced a constitution that he was confident the Council would accept and support • By the use of extensive political manoeuvring, Sieyès had been elected by the Council of the Five Hundred to the Directory, and he was then able to dissolve the Directory, ensuring the success of the coup • It was Sieyès who enlisted the support of Napoleon to ensure that the coup was successful. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • Napoleon was a national hero as a result of his military success, which contrasted with the incompetence of the Directory, and enabled the coup to succeed • Napoleon's use of propaganda regarding a possible Bourbon restoration and destruction of the revolution, damaged the Directory beyond repair, and led to the success of the coup • Napoleon's use of the army was crucial, e.g. he took control of the Paris garrison of 8000 regular troops • As the coup progressed slowly, Napoleon's impatience for action led him to take control of the situation. Other relevant material must be credited.

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