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History
Higher level
Paper 3 – history of Africa and the Middle East

6 May 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer any three questions.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section 1: The ‘Abbasid dynasty (750–1258)

1. Evaluate the importance of religious factors in the ‘Abbasid defeat of the Umayyads.
2. Examine the factors that led to the Golden Age of Islam.

Section 2: The Fatimids (909–1171)

3. “The most important impact of the conquest of Egypt was economic.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
4. “Fatimid ideology had little impact on the Islamic world.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 3: The Crusades (1095–1291)

5. “The main reason for the success of the First Crusade was a lack of opposition.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
6. To what extent was poor leadership responsible for the eventual Christian failure in the Crusades?

Section 4: The Ottomans (1281–1566)

7. To what extent was strong leadership responsible for the rise of the Ottomans?
8. Evaluate the contribution of the Ottomans to Islamic culture.

Section 5: Trade and the rise and decline of African states and empires (800–1600)

9. To what extent was economic organization the main cause for the rise of the Ghana Empire (c830–1235)?
10. Evaluate the factors that contributed to the emergence of Swahili culture.

Section 6: Pre-colonial African states (1800–1900)

11. “Economic factors were the most important cause of the Mfecane/Difaqane.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
12. Evaluate the role of leaders in the expansion of **two** of the following: the Mandinka Empire; the Lozi kingdom; the Ndebele kingdom; the Asante empire; the Nyamwezi; the Hehe state.

Section 7: The slave trade in Africa and the Middle East (1500–1900)

13. Evaluate the social and economic impact of the slave trade in Africa.
14. Evaluate the impact of the anti-slavery acts of the 19th century on Africa.

Section 8: European imperialism and the partition of Africa (1850–1900)

15. Evaluate the role of chartered companies on the partition of Africa between 1850 and 1900.
16. “Military weakness in African states was the main reason for encouraging European annexation from 1850 to 1900.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 9: Response to European imperialism (1870–1920)

17. Evaluate the reasons for the failure of Herero and Nama resistance in Namibia.
18. Discuss the factors influencing African states’ decisions to collaborate with the colonial powers.

Section 10: Africa under colonialism (1890–1980)

19. Discuss the reasons that contributed to regional rivalries in Nigeria up to 1960.
20. Examine the reasons for the success of economic development in Senegal up to 1960.

Section 11: 20th-century nationalist and independence movements in Africa

21. “Internal factors were more important than external factors in the independence of Ghana.” Discuss.
22. Compare and contrast the strategies used by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) in the struggle for Angolan independence up to 1975.

Section 12: The Ottoman Empire (c1800–1923)

23. Evaluate the importance of declining Ottoman power as a cause of the 19th-century crises in the Balkans.
24. To what extent were the Tanzimat reforms successful?

Section 13: War and change in the Middle East and North Africa 1914–1945

25. Discuss the reasons for, and the results of, the mandate system in Syria and Lebanon up to 1939.
26. Examine the reasons that enabled Ataturk to transform Turkish society.

Section 14: Africa, international organizations and the international community (20th century)

27. “The Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC)/Southern African Development Community (SADC) was largely unsuccessful.” Discuss.
28. Compare and contrast the impact of **two** UN specialized agencies on Africa.

Section 15: Developments in South Africa 1880–1994

29. Examine the political and social consequences of the discovery of gold in the Boer republics.
30. To what extent was the Soweto massacre the main cause for the changing nature of opposition to apartheid in the 1970s and 1980s?

Section 16: Social and cultural developments in Africa in the 19th and 20th centuries

31. Evaluate the impact of colonialism on the role of women in **two** African countries.
32. To what extent did emigration positively impact **two** African countries?

Section 17: Post-war developments in the Middle East (1945–2000)

33. Examine the reasons for the rise and fall of the United Arab Republic (UAR).
34. To what extent was the 1979 Revolution caused by opposition to western influence?

Section 18: Post-independence politics in Africa to 2005

35. “Economic breakdown was the main result of ethnic conflict.” Discuss with reference to **two** African countries.
36. Evaluate infrastructural development as a reason for economic growth with reference to **two** African countries.
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