

Level 5 Exemplar and comments

Paper 1 Question 1

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- a) According to Kang Youwei, a democratic form of government with constitutions and definition of power of rulers and people made Western countries strong. In Source A, Kang said that the method of government that has enabled western countries to become strong was to adopt constitutions and define the power as the ultimate method.
- b) According to sources A and B, Kang and Zou had different views towards the prospect of revolution in China.
Kang thought that revolution was not good to China as there will be heavy casualties while Zou thought that revolution is a must to save China and to rebuild China.
Kang focused on the negative side of revolution and thought that in China, revolution would only bring destruction, while reform was the best way to save China.
Zou focused on the positive side and

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thought that only a revolution which destroy to construct can save China. Absolutism and slavery must be eliminated by revolution.

a) It is true to say 'Revolutions are violent, but they can be an effective means of strengthening china'.

According to source A, it proves that revolutions are violent as loss of lives would be resulted. In source A, it is mentioned that death will be resulted due to the use of guns and canons during revolutions. It shows that the process of revolutions is violent.

According to source B, it proves that though revolutions are violent, ~~it~~ they can strengthen China effectively. Source B mentions that revolutions required

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destruction, which is violent. But ~~at~~ after the violent process, the results will be pleasant as it strengthens China effectively. Source B mentions that revolutions are essential to strengthen China by overthrowing Manchu rule, becoming independent, gaining equal status and to survive in the ~~new~~ 20th century. Revolutions ~~are~~ destroy old, poor traditions such as dynastic rule, corruption to construct new ~~ones~~ and ~~are~~ modernised elements.

According to my own knowledge, the 1911 revolution proved that revolutions are violent but they can be an effective means of strengthening China. The 1911 revolution overthrew the Qing dynasty and ended 2000 years of dynastic rule to build a republic. Real democracy was introduced to China with a proposal of constitution. Politically, a revolution strengthened China by introducing

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a new form of government with democracy. Even though late Qing reform was carried out, it was regarded as a fake reform with no real practice of democracy. Socially, the 1911 revolution was a blow to traditional customs such as having pig tails. Confucianism was challenged. Liberated and western ideas were introduced which strengthened China. Diplomatically, after the 1911 revolution, China was able to regain concessions lost to colonial powers and cancelled extra territorial rights which the international status of China raised which the late Qing reform failed to accomplish.

Because of the failure of late Qing Reform and the ^{more} modernised practice of government of China after 1911 Revolution, it is true to say revolutions are violent but effective to strengthen China.

Paper 1 Question 2

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- a) The cartoonist thought that peace cannot be achieved under the Paris Peace Conference, and the Treaties signed in 1919. In Source C, "jail bird" is used to describe "peace". The goddess or lady representing peace was set free from jail. However, she was burdened by the Treaty 1919. It shows that in the Paris Peace Conference, the Big Three had come out of the Peace Treaty of 1919 but actually peace cannot be achieved.
- b) Clemenceau upheld that Germany must be punished with harsh terms in order to prevent it from starting another World War. Source D mentions that "Clemenceau maintains that one must never negotiate with a German or conciliate him; one must dictate to him". Clemenceau believed that only harsh punishment to Germany could protect France's interest

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and to prevent Germany "will once again hurl at France its greater numbers and its superior resources and technical skill. Therefore, we ~~is~~ upheld to punish Germany harshly.

c) The criticisms were not fair

According to source C, it is criticized that the peacemakers at Paris Peace Conference could not achieve the aim of maintaining peace as the Treaty 1919 is burdening the goddess of peace to set free.

According to source D, it is criticized that Clemenceau, the representative of France only focused on punishing Germany with harsh terms but not ~~taking~~ putting humanity and end of European civilisation struggling forwards to new order. It criticized Clemenceau

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only focused on France's interest but not to maintain peace with humanity and civilised manner.

The criticisms were partly correct, so they were not fair.

According to my own knowledge, harsh terms were indeed put in the Treaty to punish Germany with harsh terms. For example, Germany had to pay ~~to~~ a large sum of compensation to victorious powers, to demilitarised Rhineland, to cut down warships and number of soldiers, some land had to be ceded to victorious powers and also Germany was not allowed to reunite with Austria-Hungary. It proved that the criticism to Clemenceau in source D was partly correct as harsh terms were put to punish Germany.

However, peacemakers at the Paris Peace Conference actually also put collective

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Security to maintain world peace into consideration. Such harsh terms to Germany was intended to prevent another war from happening. Besides, The League of Nations was set up to maintain peace in a collective manner. The League of Nations was set up to settle international disputes, and to improve the conditions of mankind such as to solve world's problem and improve workers' conditions. The setting up of the League showed that the peacekeepers did not only took revenge or focused on punishing Germany with harsh terms, but they were aiming at keeping peace collectively.

The criticism in source C was not fair as it ignored the attempts of maintaining peace of the Big Three such as setting up the League. It only criticized their decision ~~can~~ could not achieve their aim but ignored their good intentions. Source D was not fair either since

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It also ignored the peacekeepers attempts to maintain peace in humanity and civilized manner.

Paper 1 Question 3

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a) Matsuhita's dream for Japan was to strengthen and modernised Japan with advanced technology, hard work and unity of people. In source E, the lyrics such as "work to exhaustion to revitalise the new Japan", "gather together" and "unity is strength" were used. The positive wordings used showed the Matsuhita wished to rebuild Japan with advanced technology for a economically powerful Japan.

b) I agree that Japan's economic development after the second world war up to the 1980s was primarily influenced by internal factors.

According to source E, internal factors such as the technology development and national character of Japanese were influential. Source E mentions that technology development was good in

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Japan after WWII as electric devices and advanced technology has developed such as high-tech industries. Besides, the national character such as responsible and hardworking attitude of Japanese was also important. In the lyrics, it says unity is strength and they're proud of themselves for upholding the traditional noble aspirations. It shows their character was important to build up Japan's economic development. Also, they have good and efficient enterprise management to boost workers' sense of belonging and unity. Company song was adopted as shown in Source F.

According to my own knowledge, internal factors such as government support and SCAP reforms (Supreme Commander of Allied Powers) were also important. The government of Japan set up specialised departments such as Economic ^{Planning} Agency and Economic Stabilization Board.

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to promote economic development. Income doubling plan was also introduced. Besides, SCAP reforms in Japan also served as internal factor as reforms were carried out in Japan in early 1950s. Land ~~ref~~, education and labour reforms were carried out to liberate Japanese productivity. They laid a foundation for good economic development. Besides, the adoption of Constitution of Japan provide good political environment for economic development.

However, other factors cannot be neglected.

The close relationship ~~of~~ with USA also helped the economic development. First, ~~of~~ Japan served as the ~~of~~ supply base' of USA during the cold war in Asia. It stimulated Japan's economy as most exports were war procurements.

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Besides, Security Treaty were signed with USA which USA assumed responsibility of defense of Japan. Japan had less military expenses so ~~the~~ it can emphasize more on economic development.

Also, revival of world trade also helped. For example, the signing of General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT) encouraged Japan exports to overseas.

Japan's economic development after WWII ~~was~~ up to 1980s was primarily ~~caused~~ influenced by internal factors as the internal factors laid solid foundation for ~~the~~ economic development in Japan and prolonged it for such quick recovery in economy.

Paper 1 Question 4

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a) First, Cold War was a non-direct conflict between the communist and capitalist bloc. Source F shows that the two people were separated and both wanted to remove the opposite bloc's influence but they had no direct conflict to fight.

Second, it was defensive in nature. Both people would like to remove the undesirable branches in the own area but not to remove them ~~for~~ completely. It shows the cold war was defensive a that both blocs would like to eliminate the threat but not being aggressive.

b) The USSR was more threatening to peace in the cold war period.

In Source F, it shows the USA had more influence in the world and they were expanding to the communist side with more branches. It shows USA was

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more threatening.

However, in source G, the speech by Khrushchev shows that the USA's power was weakening. ~~Conversely~~ Conversely, the USSR was still confronting to the USA that the speech was delivered to people in USSR to encourage them to fight against and resist against capitalism.

According to my own knowledge, the USSR was more threatening to world peace.

First, in the Cuban Missile Crisis, the USSR put ~~in~~ a missile basis in Cuba to threaten the USA's security which also led to a war. Second, the USSR ~~at~~ post Berlin blockade and build Berlin Wall to resist against the USA. The USSR often support the North Korea and North Vietnam to start war against the capitalist bloc.

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Paper 2 Question 4

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The Second World War happened in 1937 and ended in 1945. The War had brought fundamental changes to the world especially in Western countries, in different aspects such as economically, politically, socially and in maintaining peace through collective means.

Economically, WWII was a turning point of modern Western history as economic cooperations began after WWII. Before WWII, Western countries were independent in developing their own industry and economy. During the WWII, great destruction was created, many infrastructure and economic activities stopped due to the war. Countries involved in the war such as Britain, France, and Germany were suffering from serious destruction. Then, countries started to believe that having economic cooperation was a way out to recover from the war. Therefore, European countries started to have cooperation

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economically. After WWII, Benelux Union, European Coal and Steel Community, EUKATOM, European Economic Community and European Community, European Free Trade Area were set up one by one after WWII by European countries such as France, West Germany, Italy and Belgium and more. Economic cooperation only occurred after WWII which did not happen before WWII, which was a turning point of Western history.

Diplomatically, WWII led to decline of European supremacy and led to the rise of two superpowers which was a turning point in modern Western history. Before the WWII, European supremacy was upheld. Empires in Britain, France and Austria had a leading role in world diplomacy. However, during WWII, these countries were suffering from serious attack and they started to lose power. On the other hand, USA and USSR were able to develop new type of

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weapon, nuclear weapon. In the mean time, the USA were able to use atomu bomb to end the Aisa war zone of WWII, the USSR became more powerful after ungoing industrialization. After WWII, ~~the~~ European empires started to decline and gave rise to two superpowers, USA and USSR.

Furthermore, WWII was a turning point because it sparked off the cold war, which was a confrontation between ^{the} capitalist bloc and communist bloc. ^{did not start until 1940s} Before WWII, the USSR had transformed itself into a communist country. However, only isolation was done by capitalist countries since USSR was the only communist power at the time. During WWII, USA and USSR began to gain more influence in world diplomacy. Therefore, after WWII, the cold war started. It was a turning point as two blocs were gaining power in their sphere of influence and becoming more powerful. Non-direct conflicts were created in Western countries between

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the two blocs. Communication and interaction were totally cut off between two blocs, which had never happened before WWII.

Also, WWII further realized the idea of national self-determination which was a turning point in western history as western powers were no longer colonial powers. Before WWII, President Wilson from USA proposed the idea of self-determination in the Paris Peace Conference in 1919. However, such idea was not accepted by colonial powers such as Britain and France. During WWII, as colonial powers were suffering from ~~the~~ the great loss in the war, they were weakened in the colonial administration. After WWII, the idea of self-determination was realized by the decolonization movement in the world. ~~to~~ Many western colonial powers such as Britain, France and Netherlands gave up their colonies. Such change was certainly a turning point in western history.

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Besides, WWI was a turning point as a new international organisation, ^{the United Nations,} was set up. Before the WWI, the League of Nations was set up to uphold collective security. However, due to the institutional weakness of the League such as restrictions on membership of nations, not having its own military force and lack of major powers joining, the League had been proven to be failure as WWI broke out. During WWI, the allied powers such as USA, Britain, France, USSR proposed to have a new peacekeeping organisation to be set up after WWI in order ~~at~~ in wartime conference. After WWI, the United Nations was set up as a new international organisation to maintain peace and improve the livelihood of mankind. The setting up of UN marked the WWI as a turning point of Western history as it successfully maintain peace up to 1960s. No great scale disputes broke out during that time.

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Socially, WWI was a turning point also because it further gave rise to women status. Before WWI, though women status had been improving, equality had not been achieved. During WWI, women had more important posts in jobs as male were participated in the war zones. The work showed that women had the ability to work like men. Therefore, after WWI, women status rised and gender equality further achieved. Therefore, it was a turning point in Western history.

To conclude, WWI brought great destruction to the whole world. However, it also brought good changes to the world. It is good to see WWI as a turning point of modern Western history to improve the livelihood of mankind.

Paper 2 Question 6

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It is true to say in the period 1945 - 2000, European countries became less dependent on the superpowers and more autonomous in their economic cooperation.

After WWII, European countries were still dependent on the two superpowers, USA and USSR under the Marshall Plan and Molotov Plan. In 1948, the USA announced the Marshall Plan to provide economic assistance to European countries. Organisation of European Economic Community (OEEC) was set up to distribute American Aids and to promote trade. On the other hand, in 1949, the USSR announced the Molotov Plan to provide economic assistance to Eastern European countries. Under these two plans, European countries were still dependent on the two superpowers and were not autonomous in their economic cooperation.

However, in later years, Western Europe became less dependent on USA and more

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autonomous by setting up their own economic cooperation organisations.

In 1948, Benelux Union was set up to promote free flow of goods, resources and manpowers by Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg. It was a small scale of European economic cooperation by three European countries without reliance on USA.

In 1952, due to the successfulness of Benelux Union, 6 European countries, France, West Germany, Italy, with 3 Benelux Union's countries set up the European Coal and Steel Community to expand their cooperation to coal and steel production. Later, in 1958, EURATOM and European Economic Community were also set up to further expand their field of cooperation to nuclear power and open a common market within member nations. These organisations were fully operated by the six European countries with no American influence.

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Meanwhile, other European countries led by Britain also set up European Free Trade Area for economic cooperation. Internal tariffs were unified to encourage trading within member nations. Similarly, USA did not joined in the organisation. It shows that Western European countries had become less dependent on one of the super-powers, USA and more autonomous.

In 1960s, European Community was set up to merge ECSC, EURATOM and EEC together. Later in 1970s, more European countries joined the EC such as Britain. Still, no American influence were affecting their economic cooperation.

On the Eastern Europe side, however, Eastern European countries were still dependent on USSR. Though Western Europe became less dependent on USA and more autonomy, Eastern European countries were still depending on USSR as they were not allowed to

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joined the above organisations I mentioned, until 1990s, when the USSR dissolved.

In 1991, USSR dissolved and many Eastern European countries turned back to capitalist bloc. In 1993, EC renamed to European Union to expand their cooperation to non-economic area. Many Eastern European countries who were freed from Soviet influence joined the EU for further economic cooperation. In 1990s, both East and Western European were not dependent on the superpowers, USA and USSR. Both Marshall Plan and Molotov Plan ended which also marked that European countries were no longer dependent and rely on the superpowers. Also, the setting up of different European economic cooperation organisations marked that European countries were becoming more autonomous in their economic cooperation.

To conclude, in the period 1945-2000,

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European countries were becoming less dependent on superpowers and more autonomous in their economic cooperation as there were less and less influence from superpowers to European countries throughout the development of European economic cooperation in 1945 to 2000.

Comments

The script demonstrates comprehensive knowledge of the curriculum content. In Paper 1, the candidate generally managed to answer questions at different levels of difficulty, sometimes performing excellently (such as with Q.3). In Paper 2, the candidate provided logical answers to the questions, despite occasional weak points in the answer to Q.4.