



Write your name here

Surname

Other names

# Scholarship Paper 2025

**Subject: HISTORY**

**Time: 1 Hour**

**You must have:**

Pen

**Total Marks**

**/40**

## Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name.
- Answer the questions in the answer sheets provided.
  - there may be more space than you need.

## Information

- The marks for each question are shown in brackets.
- This examination is 1-hour long.
- The paper is divided into two sections:
  - Section 1: 20th Century Document Questions
  - Section 2: Outline Questions:
- You must answer **ALL** the questions in **section A** and **ONE** question from **section B**.
- You should spend five minutes reading and then no more than twenty minutes on Section A
- Handwriting and presentation are important.

## SECTION A

### ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS

#### WHO WAS MAINLY TO BLAME FOR THE LEAGUE'S FAILURE OVER ABYSSINIA?

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

#### Background Information

As the two leading members of the League of Nations, Britain and France are often blamed for the League's failure to deal with the Italian invasion of Abyssinia. It has been argued that both were more interested in having Italy as an ally against the greater threat from Germany.

Was Britain or France more to blame for the failure of the League to act against Italy?

#### SOURCE A



*A cartoon published in Britain in February 1935. The figures on the left represent Britain and France.*

## **SOURCE B**

Sir Samuel Hoare has told us of the determination of Britain to keep to the system of collective security. France receives these words with great satisfaction. I rejoice with all my country, for my country fully understands the need for close collaboration with Britain for the defence of the peace of Europe. The solidarity in all circumstances which is implied by such a declaration constitutes a great date in the history of the League. France is loyal to the Covenant. The Covenant is our international law. Our obligations are inscribed in the Covenant. France will not evade them.

*Laval speaking to the Assembly of the League, September 1935.*

## **SOURCE C**

On 10 September I had conversations with Sir Samuel Hoare and Mr Eden. We discussed, in that spirit of close co-operation that is always the case with British and French statesmen, the grave situation of the Italian–Abyssinian war. We found ourselves in instant agreement about ruling out military sanctions, not adopting a naval blockade and never considering the closure of the Suez Canal. We agreed to rule out anything that might lead to war. We also agreed that other measures such as an embargo on arms should first be submitted to a committee which had not yet been set up, and then that other measures such as refusal to buy from or sell to Italy might be adopted.

*Laval speaking to the French Parliament, 28 December 1935. He is reporting about an agreement he made with Britain on 10 September 1935 that had been kept secret until this speech. Hoare was in charge of British foreign policy but had to resign on 18 December 1935 and was succeeded by Eden.*

## **SOURCE D**

The talks with Laval had taken place in an atmosphere of threatened war in which all the member states appeared to be opposed to military action. It was a moment when Anglo-French co-operation was essential if there was to be no breach at Geneva. Our proposals were the only basis upon which it was even remotely likely that we could start a peace discussion with Italy. They were certainly the minimum upon which the French were prepared to proceed. I felt dangers of the continuance of war were so serious it was worth making an attempt.

We alone have taken military precautions. There is a British fleet in the Mediterranean; there are British reinforcements in Egypt and Malta. Not a ship, not a man has been moved by any other member state. If every member state will by action prove that it is determined to take its full part in resistance to an aggressive action, then it will be possible to have peace. Remember, the aggressor has his forces mobilised and is ready to strike. That makes it necessary that all member states make themselves ready now. I say this because I believe that unless these facts are faced, either the League will break up, or a most unsatisfactory peace will result from the conflict that is now taking place.

*From Hoare's resignation speech to the British Parliament on 19 December 1935.*

Now answer **all** the following questions. You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources which 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. Study Source A.

What is the message of the cartoonist? Explain your answer using details of the source and your knowledge. [7]

2. Study Sources B and C.

How far does Source C mean that Laval was lying in Source B? Explain your answer using details of the sources and your knowledge. [7]

3. Study Source D.

Do you believe Hoare? Explain your answer using details of the source and your knowledge. [6]

**[TOTAL: 20 MARKS]**

**SECTION B**  
**ANSWER ONE QUESTION ONLY**

1. Opinions over the nature of the Versailles peace settlement varied.
  - a. What were Clemenceau's aims for the peace settlement? [4]
  - b. Why was Germany made to accept the 'war-guilt' clause? [6]
  - c. How important were Wilson's 14 points in determining the nature of the Versailles Treaty? Explain your answer. [10]
  
2. Upto 1939, Hitler's foreign policy had few setbacks.
  - a. What was the Anti-Comintern pact? [4]
  - b. Why was the Anschluss important to Hitler? [6]
  - c. 'Chamberlain got what he wanted at the Munich Conference.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
  
3. The Cuban Missile Crisis was a serious threat to world peace.
  - a. Who was Fidel Castro? [4]
  - b. Why did the United States object to the Soviet Union placing nuclear missiles on Cuba? [6]
  - c. Who gained more from the Cuban Missile Crisis: Kennedy or Khrushchev? Explain your answer. [10]
  
4. The road to power was a long one for Hitler.
  - a. Describe Hitler's actions during the Munich Putsch. [4]
  - b. Why did the Night of the Long Knives take place? [6]
  - c. Which was more important to Hitler, the Reichstag Fire or the Enabling Act? Explain your answer. [10]

**[TOTAL: 20 MARKS]**