CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

HISTORY **9489/21**

Paper 2 Outline Study **May/June 2026**

1 hour 45 minutes

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You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions from **one** section only.
  - Section A: European option
  - Section B: American option
  - Section C: International option
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **4** pages.

Answer **two** questions from **one** section only.

Section A: European option

Modern Europe, 1750–1921

1 France, 1774–1814

(a) Explain why the dismissal of Necker in 1789 was important in causing the revolution. [10]

(b) 'The purpose of Napoleon's domestic policies was to keep him in power.' How far do you agree? [20]

2 The Industrial Revolution in Britain, 1750–1850

(a) Explain why the development of roads was important to the early Industrial Revolution. [10]

(b) To what extent was mechanisation the main cause of popular protest? [20]

3 Liberalism and Nationalism in Germany, 1815–71

(a) Explain why the Zollverein was important to the development of nationalism in Germany. [10]

(b) 'Prussia was able to defeat Austria because Bismarck ensured Austria had few allies.' How far do you agree? [20]

Section B: American option

The history of the USA, 1820–1941

4 The origins of the Civil War, 1820–61

(a) Explain why the Slave States wanted to maintain the constitutional balance of sectional interests. [10]

(b) How far do you agree that the secession of the seven Deep South States was the reason for civil war starting in April 1861? [20]

5 The Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 1870s–1920

(a) Explain why tariffs were kept high during the Gilded Age. [10]

(b) To what extent do you agree that Taft achieved little for Progressivism? [20]

6 The Great Crash, the Great Depression and the New Deal policies, 1920–41

(a) Explain why opposition to the New Deal from the Supreme Court created a crisis. [10]

(b) ‘Structural weaknesses in the US economy were the main cause of the Great Crash.’ To what extent do you agree? [20]

Section C: International option

International history, 1870–1945

7 Empire and the emergence of world powers, 1870–1919

(a) Explain why the USA did not join the world war until 1917. [10]

(b) How strong was popular support in European countries for imperial expansion? [20]

8 The League of Nations and international relations in the 1920s

(a) Explain why the League of Nations was successful in solving the Silesian Coalfields dispute. [10]

(b) How important was the role of the USA in the improvement in relations between European powers in the 1920s? [20]

9 The League of Nations and international relations in the 1930s

(a) Explain why Chamberlain thought the Munich Conference of September 1938 was a success. [10]

(b) 'The Non-intervention Agreement of 1936 was ineffective in preventing foreign involvement in the Spanish Civil War.' How far do you agree? [20]

