



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

GCE

History A

Y210/01: Russia 1645-1741

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for November 2020

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All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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Annotations

Annotation	Meaning of annotation
BP	Blank Page
	Highlight
Off-page comment	
A	Assertion
AN	Analysis
EVAL	Evaluation
EXP	Explanation
F	Factor
ILL	Illustrates/Describes
IRRL	Irrelevant, a significant amount of material that does not answer the question
J	Judgement
KU	Knowledge and understanding
P	Provenance
SC	Simple comment
?	Unclear
V	View

Subject Specific Marking Instructions

Question		Answer	Mark	Guidance
1	(a)	<p>Which of the following was the more significant development in Peter the Great's war against Sweden?</p> <p>(i) The Battle of Narva (1700) (ii) The Swedish invasion of Russia (1707)</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In dealing with the Battle of Narva, answers might argue it was a significant defeat in numerical terms for the Russians. • Answers might identify the long term impact of the loss of Russian artillery and wagon trains. • Answers might identify the impact of the loss of about 25% of Russian personnel, including 10 generals and 10 colonels. • Answers might however suggest that the shortage of personnel was mostly replenished. • Answers might suggest that Charles failed to capitalise on the victory by advancing into Muscovy. • Answers might argue that the significance of the defeat is reduced by Peter's subsequent taking of Narva in 1704. • In dealing with the Swedish invasion of Russia, answers might argue that it posed a significant threat to Peter because of Charles's plan to work with Ivan Mazeppa. • Answers might however suggest that Peter had already neutralised the threat from Mazeppa by the time Charles's troops arrived. • Answers might discuss the significance of Peter's scorched earth policy in overcoming the 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, mark as assertion. • Only credit material relevant to Peter the Great's war against Sweden. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to make a judgement, or may take a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

			<p>Swedish threat, and the subsequent victory at Poltava.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers might suggest that the consequences of the failure of the invasion were far-reaching, leading to a major shift in the balance of power in the Balkans, and the growing dominance of Russia in the region. 		
1	(b)		<p>‘Russia’s economic backwardness was the most serious problem facing Tsars Alexis and Feodor in the years from 1645 to 1682.’ How far do you agree?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In arguing that it was the biggest problem, answers might identify the difficulties caused by Russia’s lack of trading ports. Answers might argue that the legalisation of serfdom had a significant negative economic impact. Answers might argue that Russian economic backwardness was the major cause of the leaders’ inability to eliminate frequent bread shortages. Answers might suggest that many of Russia’s social and political problems stemmed from its economic problems. In arguing that it was not the biggest problem, answers might suggest that many of Russia’s economic problems came not from its ‘backwardness’ but inherent difficulties posed by geography and climate. Answers might suggest that a bigger problem was caused by the rebellions faced by Alexis. Answers might argue that the social impact of serfdom was more significant than the economic one. Answers might consider the Church schism to be a more significant problem than economic backwardness. 	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No set answer is expected. At higher levels there will be focus on ‘how far’, but at Level 4 may simply identify problems. At Level 5 and above there will be a judgement as to the relative significance of problems. At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge the significance. To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers might discuss the extent of the problem posed by the personal weaknesses of the leaders, particularly Alexis. 		
2	(a)	<p>Which of the following posed the greater threat to Russia's rulers?</p> <p>(i) The revolt of Stenka Razin (ii) The actions of Ivan Mazeppa</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In dealing with Stenka Razin, answers might argue that the threat was increased by the speed with which it spread, largely due to weak administration in the provinces. Answers might argue that there was significant physical destruction. Answers might argue that it stirred up considerable peasant revolt which lasted for months. Answers might however suggest that the revolt lacked political aims and did not consciously target the political authority of the Tsar. Answers might consider the fact that Razin himself fled and was later killed, as were many of his followers. Answers might argue that as a result of the revolt the Cossacks in fact lost some of their autonomy and so were less of the threat. In dealing with the actions of Ivan Mazeppa, answers might suggest that he aimed to create a united Ukrainian state. Answers might consider the fact that the Zaporozhian Host supported Mazeppa. Answers might consider Mazeppa's decision to ally with Sweden. Answers might however argue that the Tsar was able to exploit the distrust towards the starshina 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No set answer is expected. Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, mark as assertion. Only credit material relevant to Peter the Great's war against Sweden. Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to make a judgement, or may take a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme. 	

			<p>and that within a few weeks support for Mazeppa had faded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers might argue that the bulk of the Ukrainian population failed to support Mazeppa. 		
2	(b)*		<p>Assess the reasons for Peter the Great's foreign policy successes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers might argue for the significance of the improvements in the quality of the army through the use of conscription and training, and the introduction of wages. Answers might consider the importance of developments to the navy (although also identify that the fact that Peter only used the navy on a few occasions). Answers might suggest that a role was played by the alliance with Poland and Denmark (although equally might identify that, in reality, these allies were of little practical help to him). Answers might consider the impact of Charles's distraction trying to gain control over Poland; they might equally identify that this was temporary. Answers might emphasis the role of Peter's own leadership. Answers might suggest that Peter benefited from a trend of territorial expansion that had started before him. Answers might discuss the role played by, and reasons for, individual victories eg Poltava. 	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No set answer is expected. At higher levels there will be focuses on assessing the significance of factors. At Level 5 and above there will be a judgement as to the relative significance of factors. At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge the significance. To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

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