

AS HISTORY

Italy and Fascism, c1900–1945

Component 2L The crisis of Liberal Italy and the Rise of Mussolini, c1900–1926

Monday 20 May 2019

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2L.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From the official record of the Italian Parliament reporting Mussolini's speech and the reactions to it, 3 January 1925. This followed evidence that Fascists had murdered the Socialist leader Matteotti.

I declare before this assembly and before the entire Italian people that I assume full political, moral and historical responsibility for all that has happened. (Vigorous applause. Shouts of 'we are with you'.)

Right now, I declare that the problem will be resolved. Fascism, the Government and the Party are completely ready. (Applause.) Gentlemen, Italy wants peace, tranquillity and calm, by means of love if possible but by force if necessary. (Lively applause.) Within forty-eight hours the situation will be clarified in all areas. (Prolonged applause.) Everyone must realise that what I am planning to do is not a lust for power, but solely an expression of my unlimited and mighty love for the Fatherland. (Shouts of 'Long Live Mussolini'.)

5

10

Source B

From an article 'Mussolini's New Policy', in 'The Times' newspaper, published in London, 8 January 1925. The article was written by the newspaper's correspondent in Italy.

The unhappy country of Italy is the victim of another crisis such as seems inseparable from her complicated political system. After six months of a policy to re-establish a normal condition of affairs following the murder of Matteotti, Mussolini has now reversed the whole trend of his actions. Italy is virtually under martial law with the drastic control of the press, the removal of citizens' rights and the mobilisation of an armed militia. An examination of the reasons given by Mussolini can only increase bewilderment. It is not in the least true that the constitution was in danger. The reason for his actions is that he thought he was in danger himself.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining Mussolini's response to the murder of Matteotti?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0	2
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 'The divisions between the North and the South were Italy's most significant weakness in 1900.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0	3
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 'Italy's involvement in the First World War was a failure.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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