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PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ORDINARY LEVEL

HUMANITIES (HISTORY)

2261/02

Paper 2: The Making of the 20th Century Modern World, 1910s-1991

16 Aug 2024

1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, register number, and class on all the work you hand in. Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper. Do not use highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer all parts of Question 1.

Section B

Answer two questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question. The total number of marks for this paper is 50.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together. You may keep the question paper.

This document consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.



[5]

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

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

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you were told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

How useful is this source as evidence about the Munich Agreement? Explain your answer. [6]

(b) Study Source B.

Why was the Christmas card produced? Explain your answer.

(c) Study Sources C and D.

Does Source D prove Churchill's statement in Source C wrong? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

How far would the cartoonists who drew these two sources have agreed with each other? Explain your answer. [5]

(e) Study all sources.

"The Munich Agreement was a mistake." How far do the sources support this view? Explain your answer. [8]

Policy of Appeasement

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Instituted in the hope of avoiding war, appeasement was the name given to Britain's policy towards Nazi Germany in the 1930s. It is most closely associated with British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and involved the use of negotiation and diplomacy to secure Hitler's cooperation. The most prominent example of appeasement would be the Munich agreement — a settlement reached by Germany, France, Britain and Italy that permitted German annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland. At the time, it was a popular and seemingly pragmatic policy.

However, some see it as allowing Hitler to expand German territory unchecked and view it as a sign of weakness. One of appeasement's harshest and most vocal critics was Winston Churchill – a key member of the opposition Labour party.

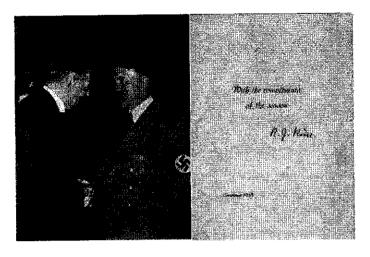
Was the policy of appeasement a wise decision or a grave error in judgement?

Source A From a speech by Neville Chamberlain during a parliamentary debate about the Munich Agreement, October 1938.

In my view the strongest force of all, one which grew and took fresh shapes and forms, the force not of any one individual... that unmistakable sense of unanimity among the peoples of the world that war must somehow be averted.

Ever since I assumed my present office my main purpose has been to work for the pacification of Europe, for the removal of those suspicions and those animosities which have so long poisoned the air. The path which leads to appeasement is long and bristles with obstacles. The question of Czechoslovakia is the latest and perhaps the most dangerous. Now that we have got past it, I feel that it may be possible to make further progress along the road to sanity.

Source B A Christmas card sent out by members of the Conservative Party, in December 1938. It features Adolf Hitler and Neville Chamberlain - Leader of the Conservative Party - on the front.

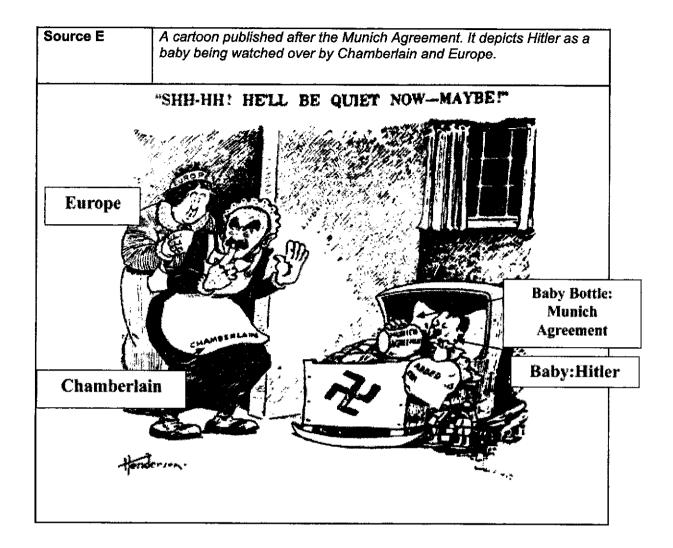


Source C Adapted from Churchill's statement in response to Hitler who accused him of being a warmonger, 6 November 1938.

I'm surprised that the head of a great state is attacking an ordinary British MP who isn't even a party leader. Attacking me probably increases my influence rather than reducing it. Hitler is wrong to say that I desire and want war with Germany. However, I do want our country to be properly defended and also want to be able to help those we've promised to defend. I admire Hitler as a leader and for the way he has restored German pride. But he should be happy with his successes and should now stop demanding more. History would be very positive towards Hitler if he became a man of peace and tolerance now.

Source D From Churchill's first speech as the newly-minted Prime Minster of Britain, May 1940

We have before us an ordeal of the most grievous kind. We have before us many, many long months of struggle and of suffering. You ask, what is our policy? I can say: It is to wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us; to wage war against a monstrous tyranny, never surpassed in the dark, lamentable catalogue of human crime. That is our policy. You ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word: It is victory, victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory, however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival.



Source F A British cartoon published after the Munich Agreement. It depicts Chamberlain rolling the world towards peace.



Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

Answer two questions.

2 This question is on peace settlements after World War I

'The Treaty of Versailles was the main reason for Germany's struggles after World War I'. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

3 This question is on the Korean War.

'The Soviets were responsible for the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950'. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

4 This question is on the Vietnam War.

'America was responsible for the outbreak of the Vietnam War in 1964.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

END OF PAPER

Answer Scheme

Section A: Source-based Questions

Qn	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Study Source A How useful is this source as evidence about the Munich Agreement? Explain your answer.	6
L1	Undeveloped provenance	1
	e.g. The source is useful because it was by Neville Chamberlain who was personally involved in the Munich Agreement.	
L2	Useful and/or not useful for what it says about the Munich Agreement, supported with source content	2-3
	e.g. The source is useful as evidence in telling me why Britain signed the Munich Agreement. The source states that the aim was to "work for the pacification of Europe" and that "war must somehow be averted."	
	AND/OR	
	e.g. The source is limited in helping me understand the long-term impact of the Munich Agreement / why Hitler signed the Munich Agreement.	
	Answers which argue that the source is not useful based on assertions about purpose. Award 3 marks for such responses.	
	e.g. The source is not useful because it is unreliable. Chamberlain is trying to convince parliament and the people of Britain that the Munich Agreement was the right decision as it helped prevent war. Hence, it is unreliable and not useful in helping me understand the Munich Agreement.	
L3	Useful/not useful based on source content, supported with evidence and cross-reference	4-5
	e.g. The source is useful as evidence in telling me why Britain signed the Munich Agreement. The source states that the aim was to "work for the pacification of Europe" and that "war must somehow be averted." This is supported by the background information which states that "the in the hope of avoiding war, appeasement was the name given to Britain's policy toward Nazi Germany." This supports the fact that the goal of appeasement and its related instruments – such as the Munich Agreement – was to avoid war.	
	AND/OR	
	e.g. The source is limited as evidence about the Munich Agreement as it does not help us understand Hitler's reasons for signing the Munich Agreement. According to my contextual knowledge, Hitler wanted to realise his ambition of uniting all ethnic Germans and expand German land. Hitler's policy of Lebensraum or living space led to the occupation of Austria previously and now he had set his eyes on Sudetenland.	

	Other possible reasons: Impact of Munich Agreement, Other reasons for appeasement (e.g. more concerned about communism)	
L4	e.g. Ultimately the source is limited in its usefulness. This was taken from a speech Chamberlain made in Parliament after the Munich Agreement. He is trying to convince other members of Parliament that the Munich Agreement was a good decision so that they would continue to support his leadership of the country. As he was trying to justify his policy, his speech is unreliable and hence limited in its usefulness in helping us understand the Munich Agreement better.	6
	e.g. However, despite its limitations, this source is still useful as evidence about the Munich Agreement. In the source, Chamberlain is trying to convince other members of Parliament that the Munich Agreement was a good decision. It helps us understand the priorities Chamberlain had when signing the agreement. Seeing that Chamberlain was a key player in the affair, it is important to understand his rationale for participating in the agreement.	

Qn	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Study Source B. Why was the Christmas card produced? Explain your answer.	5
L1	Answers question without relevant support or with irrelevant inference. e.g. The Christmas card was produced to show support for Chamberlain and Hitler/	1
L2	card was produced to celebrate for Christmas. Reason related to the context of the Munich Agreement, unsupported or with irrelevant support	2
	e.g. The card was produced to celebrate the Munich agreement as it shows Chamberlain and Hitler on the front. This was because the Munich Agreement was also signed that year.	
L3	e.g. The card was produced to celebrate the Munich agreement. The card shows Chamberlain and Hitler on the front shaking hands. This shows that they are very proud of this achievement as the Munich Agreement is seen as an achievement at the time for it prevented war from breaking out.	3
L4	Reason based on purpose and context Award 5m for responses that are more developed. e.g. The Conservative Party wanted to use Christmas as an opportunity to tell their supporters that their biggest achievement for the year was the signing of the Munich Agreement. The source celebrates the Munich Agreement by showing Hitler and Chamberlain on the front. The reason why this was worth cheering about was because the Agreement at the time was seen as having successfully prevented war.	4-5

	Marker's note: Responses for L4 should show awareness of the sender and/or	
	Marker 3 role. Responses for L4 should show awareness of the serioe and/of	i
1		ĺ
	recipient.	i
		i

Qn	Answer	Marks
1(c)	Study Sources C and D. Does Source D prove Churchill's statement in Source C wrong? Explain your answer.	
L1	Yes or No based on superficial understanding of provenance or misinterpretation of the sources. e.g. Source D does not prove Churchill's statement in Source C wrong because it is also from Churchill.	1
L2	Yes or No based on similarity/difference, supported with evidence Award the higher mark for responses with clear explanation. e.g. Yes, Source D proves Churchill's statement in Source C wrong as they differ in telling me whether Churchill wanted war. In Source C Churchill states that "Hitler is wrong to say that I desire and want war with Germany". However, in Source D, Churchill states that his policy is to "wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us".	2-3
L3	ldentifies similarity/difference, but uses cross-reference to decide which is wrong e.g. Yes, Source D proves Churchill's statement in Source C wrong as they differ in telling me whether Churchill wanted war. In Source C Churchill states that "Hitler is wrong to say that I desire and want war with Germany". However, in Source D, Churchill states that his policy is to "wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us". However, based on my contextual knowledge, I know that it was Hitler that waged war with Britain by ignoring various agreements and going on the invade Poland. Hitler had also attacked Britain directly in events such as the Battle of Britain. Hence, my contextual knowledge suggests that Churchill's statement in Source C is not wrong as it was Hitler who desired war with Britain and the rest of Europe.	
L4	Identifies difference but uses cross-reference and/or context/purpose to decide which is wrong. Award the higher mark for more developed responses – especially those that accurately evaluate purpose/context e.g. Source D differs from Source C in telling me whether Churchill wanted war. In Source C, Churchill states that "Hitter is wrong to say that I desire and want war with Germany". However, in Source D, Churchill states that his policy is to "wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us". However, although they are different, Source D does not prove Source C wrong. This is because Source D was produced during wartime while Source C was produced before war started and as an outcome of the Munich Agreement. In Source D, Britain was facing a possible attack from Nazi Germany hence Churchill, who at the time was Prime Minister needed to convince the people of Britain to be courageous and determined when facing the Nazis. Hence, this explains why Source D differs from Source C and why Source D does not prove Source C wrong.	

Qn	Answer	Marks
		5
11(d)	Study Sources E and F.	

	How far would the cartoonists who drew these two sources have agreed with each other? Explain your answer.	
L1	Writes generally about the source	1
L2	Agreement and/or disagreement, unsupported with evidence	2-3
	e.g. Both cartoonists would agree that the Munich Agreement was a risky situation.	
	AND/OR	
	e.g. Both cartoonists would disagree on the consequences of the Agreement failing.	
L3	Agreement and/or disagreement, supported with evidence	4-5
	e.g. Both cartoonists would agree that the Munich Agreement was a risky situation/unpreditable situation. In Source E, the cartoon shows Chamberlain with a finger on his lips while the caption states "Shh! He'll be quiet now – maybe!" as Hitler suckles on a baby bottle. This shows that Chamberlain is uncertain whether the Munich Agreement will be enough. Similarly, in Source F, the cartoon shows Chamberlain rolling the world towards peace. However, the path towards peace is unsafe and it looks like it might plunge the world and Chamberlain towards war at any moment.	
	AND/OR	
	e.g. Both cartoonists would disagree on the consequences of the Agreement failing. Source E seems to suggest that the consequence would be Hitler crying again while Chamberlain and Europe attempt to appease him once more. However, Source F suggests that Chamberlain and the entire world will be affected and the consequence will be far more consequential – as failure will plunge the world into war.	

Qn	Answer					Marks
1(e)	"The Munich Agreement was a mistake." How far do the sources support this view? Explain your answer.					8
L1	Writes about hypot			ce use		1
L2	YES or NO supported by valid source use Award 1 mark for each source up to the maximum of 4 marks.					
	s	ource	Support	Does not support]	
	A			Х	1	
	В			X	1	
	C	;		Х	1	
	D)	X			:
	E		X			
	F		X			
i	appeasement had prand that it is "possible.g. Source B does	revented le to ma not sup celebrate	d war. Source ke further prog port the view es the agreer	view as it suggests t A states that Chamberla gress along the road to s as it suggests that the M nent by showing Cham	ain had succeeded sanity." Munich Agreement	

e.g. Source C does not support the view as it suggests that appeasement had prevented war. Source C makes the suggestion that "Hitler ...became a man of peace and tolerance".

e.g. Source D supports the view as it suggests that war had broken out – which was the main aim of appeasement. Source D states that "before us an ordeal of the most grievous kind" and the have "many, many long months of striggle and of suffering".

e.g. Sources E and F support the view as it shows that the Agreement did not completely achieved its aims of appeasing Hitler. Both Sources E and F suggest that the agreement was a temporary or risky measure.

L3 YES and NO supported by valid source use

5-8

Refer to sample responses in L2

Bonus of up to two marks (i.e. +1,+1) for use of contextual knowledge to evaluate a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc but the total for the question must not exceed 8.

e.g. However, although Source B does not support the view one must note that it is an unreliable source. As it was designed to convince the supporters of the Conservative Party that the Munich Agreement was a success, it would definitely portray the situation in a positive light. Hence, it should not be used to support the statement.

ANSWER SCHEME

Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

War I.'	Treaty of Versailles was the main reason for Germany's struggles after How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.	
L1	Identifies/Describes how the TOV was a reason for Germany's struggles. (Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more, Award 2 marks for describing one reason, and 3 marks for describing 2 or more.) e.g. Yes, the Treaty of Versailles had several clauses which made the	1-3
10	Germans feel humiliated and led to severe hardship for the people.	
L2	Explains how the TOV was a reason for Germany's struggles after WWI. The Treaty of Versailles was a reason for Germany's struggles as one of the clauses was reparations. This demanded that Germany pay significant reparations to the Allied countries. It placed an immense financial burden on the already weakened German economy. Germany was required to pay 132 billion gold marks (approximately \$33 billion at that time), which led to severe economic distress. As outlined in the Treaty, the reparations were meant to compensate for the damage caused during the war. The payments strained Germany's finances, leading to inflation and economic instability. The pressure to meet reparations payments contributed to hyperinflation in Germany during the early 1920s. The government printed more money to try and meet the reparations, leading to a devaluation of the German mark and a collapse in the currency's value. In 1923, the hyperinflation crisis peaked, with prices rising uncontrollably and the German mark becoming virtually worthless. This economic instability caused widespread hardship among the German population, eroding savings, and causing severe social unrest. The economic hardships caused by the reparation's payments led to political instability. The Weimar Republic, Germany's post-war government, faced significant opposition from various political factions. Many Germans felt betrayed by the Weimar government for agreeing to the Treaty, and this discontent illustrated the struggles faced by the Germans.	4-5
L3	Explains how the TOV were a reason for Germany's struggles AND how other factors were also reasons. (Award 6 marks for explaining loss of territories, and other reasons, and additional marks for further supporting details, up to a maximum of 8 marks.) L2 plus No, other factors significantly contributed to Germany's struggles after World War I.	6-8
	Political instability within the Weimar Republic was a significant factor that contributed to Germany's struggles after World War I. The weaknesses of the Weimar government, characterized by frequent changes in leadership, coalition politics, and an inability to effectively address national issues, undermined its legitimacy and stability. The Weimar Republic's decision to sign the Treaty of Versailles, perceived	

as a diktat, further eroded public trust. The treaty's harsh terms were seen as humiliating and unjust, leading to widespread discontent. The government's unpopularity provided fertile ground for extremist ideas, voices, and violence to take root. For instance, the Kapp Putsch in 1920 and the Beer Hall Putsch in 1923 were notable attempts to overthrow the government, reflecting the deep-seated unrest and lack of confidence in the democratic system. The proportional representation electoral system also led to fragmented parliaments and weak coalition governments, making it difficult to implement consistent and effective policies. This environment of political instability created a lack of direction and cohesion, which hampered Germany's ability to recover economically and socially. Therefore, while the Treaty of Versailles imposed severe conditions, it was the inherent weaknesses of the Weimar government that significantly exacerbated Germany's post-war struggles. Other factors:

Occupation of the Rhineland Military Restrictions

War Guilt Clause (Article 231)

Award an additional 2 marks (Up to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of the relative significance of different reasons.

The total marks to be awarded for the response was be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6 + 2; L3/7 + 2; L3/8+2)

In comparison, while the territorial losses affected Germany's sense of national identity and pride, the reparations had a more immediate and tangible impact on the day-to-day lives of ordinary Germans. The economic hardships caused by the reparations were felt directly by the populace, leading to widespread suffering and disillusionment with the Weimar government. Both factors were crucial, but the reparations had a more direct effect on Germany, therefore was a more important reason for German resentment.

3) "The Soviets were responsible for the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950". How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

- Identifies/Describes how the Soviets were a reason for the Korean War in the 1950s. (Award 1 mark for identifying one reason, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more, Award 2 marks for describing one reason, and 3 marks for describing 2 or more.)
 - e.g. Yes, the Soviets were a reason for the Korean War. Due to the victory of the Chinese Communist party, China became a communist state in October 1949. This eventually led to the Korean War as it increased communist influence in Asia and made Stalin more confident of victory.
- Explains how Stalin was a reason for the Korean War in the 1950s. L2

Yes, the Soviets were a reason for the Korean War.. Due to the victory of the Chinese Communist party, China became a communist state in October 1949. The Soviets supported

1-3

4-5

Mao (leader of CCP) during the Chinese Civil War, and they were delighted to have an ally. China and USSR then signed the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance which, amongst other things, involved a cumulative loan of \$300 million from the USSR to help China rebuild. Because of communist China and its friendship with the Soviets, it made the USA particularly concerned about the increasing communist presence in Asia. Additionally, China and North Korea shared a border. Since the USSR needed a platform to spread communist ideology and counterbalance US's influence in Japan, it made sense to leverage on their ally's geographical proximity to Korea. At the same time, China was also looking to assert itself on the world stage. Therefore, the emergence of Communist China not only gave the USSR a powerful ally, it also led the US to set out a more assertive and aggressive foreign policy to deal with the Communist threat. This turn of events meant both the US and USSR shifted from reluctance to interfere before 1949 to indirectly supporting different sides in the Korean War. The heightened tensions eventually led to the Korean War.

Other reasons

Soviet atomic bomb

Explains how the Soviets were a reason for the Korean War AND how other factors were also reasons. (Award 6 marks for explaining the Soviets, and another event that also had a reason, and additional marks for further supporting details, up to a maximum of 8 marks.)

(L2 plus)

No, other factors were reasons for the Korean War.

North Korean aggression was also a reason for the Korean War. Kim II Sung, the North Korean leader had a large army of well-trained and experienced troops who were eager to reunite Korea. Many North Koreans were also skilled as they fought in the Chinese Civil War previously. On June 25, 1950, North Korean forces launched a full-scale invasion of South Korea, crossing the 38th parallel with the intent of unifying Korea under communist rule. This aggressive move was driven by Kim's ambition and the belief that a swift military victory would be achievable due to perceived weaknesses in the South Korean government and its military. The invasion caught South Korea and its allies off guard, leading to an immediate and forceful response from the United States and the United Nations. The initial success of North Korean troops, who managed to capture Seoul within days, demonstrated the intensity and determination behind the invasion. This act of aggression triggered the Korean War and set the stage for a broader international confrontation, drawing in the United States, China, and other nations into a prolonged and bloody war. Thus, the aggressive action by North Korean forces was a critical factor that led to the Korean War

Other reasons

US's containment policy

Award an additional 2 marks (Up to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of the relative significance of different reasons.

The total marks to be awarded for the response was be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6 + 2; L3/7 + 2; L3/8+2)

While Stalin's increased confidence as a result of the emergence of communist China led to the Korean War, there were other reasons which also led to the Korean War. The aggressive North Korean forces under Kim II Sung were also a significant reason for the state of the Korean and equally as important as the emergence. However, Soviet partnership with

-8

Communist China was more significant as the support from both Soviet and China for North Korea, and the subsequent entrance during the Korean War increased the scale of the war.

4) "America was responsible for the outbreak of the Vietnam War in 1964." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. 1-3 L1 Identifies/Describes how America was a main reason for the Vietnam War. (Award 1 mark for identifying one impact, 2 marks for identifying 2 or more, Award 2 marks for describing one impact, and 3 marks for describing 2 or more.) e.g. The Americans led to the Vietnam War as it resulted in the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. This meant the US could increase military involvement in Vietnam. Explains how America was a main reason OR explains how there were other reasons 4-5 L2 that led to the Vietnam War Yes, American reaction to the Gulf of Tonkin incident in 1964 was a reason for the Vietnam War. The Gulf of Tonkin incident was a turning point that significantly increased tensions, leading to outbreak of the Vietnam War. On August 2, 1964, North Vietnamese torpedo boats allegedly attacked the USS Maddox, followed by another reported attack on August 4. These incidents led to the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which granted President Johnson broad authority to increase U.S. military involvement without a formal declaration of war. This resolution resulted in a substantial escalation of U.S. military presence, including the deployment of ground troops and extensive bombing campaigns, such as Operation Rolling Thunder. The resolution's passage marked a turning point where the U.S. moved from advisory and support roles to active combat, thereby intensifying the conflict significantly. This escalation in U.S. military operations directly led to increased hostilities and prolonged the war, demonstrating that the Gulf of Tonkin incident led to the war. Other reasons: American containment Explains how the Americans led to the war AND how other factors were also reasons. 6-8 (Award 6 marks for the Gulf of Tonkin reason, and another event that also had a reason, and additional marks for further supporting details, up to a maximum of 8 marks.) L2 plus While the American reaction to the Gulf of Tonkin incident was a reason, other factors also played crucial roles for the Vietnam War. For example, Vietnamese nationalism and desire for reunification in the 1950s were a reason for how tensions escalated, leading to Vietnam War in 1964. Both North and South Vietnam were deeply committed to their respective visions for the country's future, which led to conflict and instability in both Vietnams. The North, under Ho Chi Minh, sought to unify the country under a communist government. Ho Chih Minh quickly consolidated his hold on North Vietnam, getting rid of potential opponents and introducing sweeping land reforms in the 1950s. His vision was fueled by the belief that communism was the best path to independence for Vietnam. In contrast, South Vietnam, under Diem was supported by the United States. Diem was a fervent anti-communist and aimed to establish a non-communist state. His actions were supported by the US reflecting fears of communist expansion in Southeast Asia. However, his increasingly authoritarian rule

was very unpopular, as he resorted to harsh and repressive methods, such as locking thousands of suspected communists during the South Vietnam Insurgency. This ideological divide led both sides to engage in increasingly aggressive and determined military actions. It also led to increasing unhappiness amongst the local civilian population. Thus, a divided Vietnam with two different leaders led to the Vietnam War.

Other events could include:

- The South Vietnam insurgency
- the Viet Cong's military resistance
- the broader Cold War context
- Award an additional 2 marks (Up to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on explicit consideration of the relative significance of different reasons.

The total marks to be awarded for the response was be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6 + 2; L3/7 + 2; L3/8+2).

While America was a reason for the escalation of the Vietnam War, a divided Vietnam was also an important reason. Due to the differing ideologies that the different leaders had, a peaceful reunification of Vietnam was not possible. In the long run, even without the external interference from the US, there might still have been a full-scale civil conflict due to the measures taken by the different leaders. Therefore, a divided Vietnam is also an equally important reason.