



General Certificate of Secondary Education  
2025

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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# History

Unit 2:  
Outline Study



[GHR21]

\*GHR21\*

**THURSDAY 5 JUNE, MORNING**

## TIME

1 hour 15 minutes.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page and on any additional sheets.

**You must answer the questions in the spaces provided in this question paper** – there may be more space than you need. Additional lines have been added to the booklet if you require more space.

**Do not write outside the boxed area on each page or on blank pages.**

Complete in black ink only. **Do not write with a gel pen.**

Answer **all** questions in Section A and **two** questions in Section B.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 60.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Question **6(a)** or **6(b)** in Section B.



## Section A

Answer **all** questions

The questions which follow are about different interpretations of the actions of the USA and USSR outside Europe and the impact on international relations, 1950–1973.

1 Study **Source A** below and answer the question which follows:

**Source A: General MacArthur, UN Commander in Korea, speaking in 1950**

Asia is where the communists have chosen to spread their power and influence to another area of the world. Asia is the gateway to Europe for the USSR. South Korea is an area of great importance to the security of the USA in Asia. We must fight against communism in Korea. If we lose this war against communism in Asia, the fall of Europe is next. The power and importance of the USA is at stake. We must win this war.

What does **Source A** tell us about the reasons why the USA became involved in the Korean War?

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2 Study **Source B** and **Source C** below and answer the questions which follow:

**Source B: The view of Fidel Castro, speaking in a television interview in 1985 about the reasons for the Cuban Missile Crisis, 1962**

After the Bay of Pigs attack, the Soviets were worried about Cuba and what the USA was doing here. The Soviets offered to help us by placing missiles in Cuba as the USA was threatening us. I believe that nuclear war was a possibility in 1962, but it was not our fault. The USA started this crisis by blockading Cuba, organising the Bay of Pigs invasion and cutting off our trade links. There was no other option. I was afraid of an attack by the USA. I believe that we responded to all of these threats correctly.

**Source C: The view of an American politician writing on the 60th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis in 2022**

In the early 1960s tensions had been rising in Cuba. Castro had overthrown the previous leader. He then announced that he had become a communist. Cuba's growing closeness to the USSR worried the USA and they had to act because communism was now close by. The USSR was being openly aggressive, and Cuba was supporting it. In 1962 American intelligence confirmed Soviet nuclear missile sites in Cuba, just 90 miles south of Florida, in the USA. In response President Kennedy wisely announced a naval blockade by the USA around Cuba.



(a) **Source B** and **Source C** give different views about the causes of the Cuban Missile Crisis, 1959–1962.

Explain **two** ways in which these views differ.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

(b) Explain **one** reason why the views in **Source B** and **Source C** are different.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

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**Section B**

Answer question **5** and **either** question **6(a)** or question **6(b)**

**5** Describe **two** reasons for the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Answer **either** question **6(a)** or question **6(b)**

**Either**

- 6 (a)** Why and how did the USA and the USSR become involved in tensions over Germany and Berlin up to 1961?

Use the following guidelines in your answer. You **must** also use information of your own.

- Yalta and Potsdam, 1945
- Berlin Blockade and Airlift, 1948–1949
- Disagreements over Berlin, 1959–1961

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**Or**

- (b)** How did relations change between the USA and the USSR in the period from 1968 to 1985?

Use the following guidelines in your answer. You **must** also use information of your own.

- Czechoslovakia and the Brezhnev Doctrine, 1968
- Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, 1979
- Changing relations between the USA and the USSR, 1980–1985

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE**

**Sources**

**Source A**.....© CCEA GCSE History Third Edition, authors Finbar Madden and John D. Clare, Hodder education (2017)

**Source B**.....Adapted from <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/1985-interview-castro-spoke-fearing-u-s-invasion>

**Source C**.....© Adapted from <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/cuba-cuban-missile-crisis/2022-10-17/cuban-missile-crisis-60-how-john-f-kennedy>

**Source D**.....Examiner

**For Examiner's  
use only**

**Section A**

Question Number	Marks
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1	
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2	
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3	
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**Section B**

5	
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6	
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<b>Total Marks</b>	
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Examiner Number

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