



TANJONG KATONG GIRLS' SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023
SECONDARY FOUR EXPRESS

CANDIDATE
NAME

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CLASS

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INDEX
NUMBER

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HUMANITIES

2273/02

Paper 2 History

(The Making of the Contemporary World Order, 1900s – 1991)

14 August 2023

1 hour 40 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your full name, register number, class and question numbers clearly on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **one** question.

Begin your answers to Section B on a fresh sheet of paper.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

Setter and Marker: Ms Nurliana Abdullah

This document consists of **6** printed pages.

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

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 are 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.

Why do you think Khrushchev wrote this letter? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

How useful is this source to a historian studying the reasons for Soviet Union's aid to Cuba? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Sources C and D.

How are these two sources similar? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

Does Source F make you surprised by Source E? Explain your answer. [6]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'The Soviet Union is responsible for escalating tensions leading to the Cuban Missile Crisis.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

The Cuban Missile Crisis

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

In 1959, the Cuban government was overthrown by Fidel Castro who set about implementing policies to strengthen Cuba. However, these policies threatened US interests and the US in turn, took actions against Cuba. Following the invasion of the Bay of Pigs in April 1961, Castro announced that Cuba would adopt communism. This strengthened the Soviet Union's resolve to help defend Cuba against future threats posed by the USA. However, the Soviet placement of missiles in Cuba had alarmed the US causing Kennedy to declare a quarantine.

How far were the tensions during the Cuban Missile Crisis caused by the Soviet Union's actions?

Source A: *An extract from Khrushchev's letter to Kennedy, 24 October 1962.*

You, Mr. President...you are threatening that if we do not obey your orders, you will then use force...You are not appealing to reason; you want to intimidate us. No, Mr. President, I cannot agree to this, and I think that deep inside, you will admit that I am right. I am convinced that if you were in my place, you would do the same.

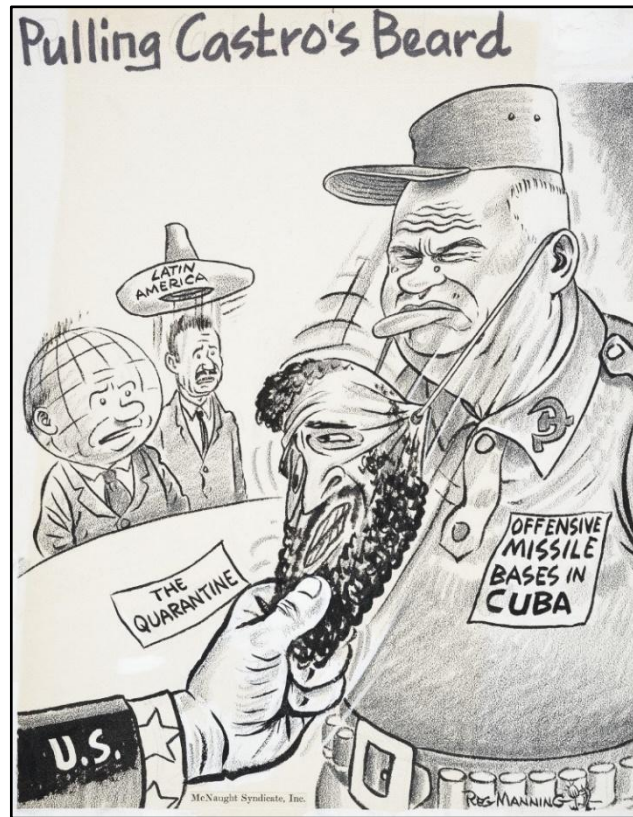
...The reason behind your demands is due to your hatred for the Cuban people and their government. This is not justifiable.

Therefore, Mr. President, if you weigh the present situation with a cool head without giving way to passion, you will understand why the Soviet Union cannot give in to your demands.

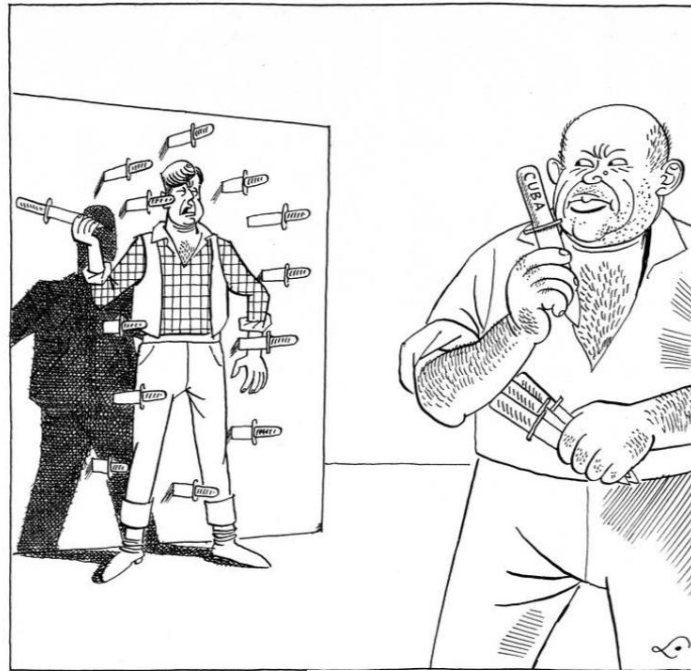
Source B: *An adapted extract of the memorandum of conversation between President Kennedy and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko (who visited the Oval Office in the USA), 18 October 1962.*

Mr. Gromyko continued that the Cuban Government had before them the vital question of whether they should remain unprepared to resist attack or to take steps to defend their country. He said he wished to reiterate that the Soviet Union had responded to appeals for assistance only because that assistance pursued the sole objective of giving bread to Cuba and preventing hunger in that country. As far as armaments were concerned, Soviet specialists were training Cubans in handling certain types of armaments which were only defensive --and he wished to stress the word defensive--in character, and thus such training could not constitute a threat to the United States. He reiterated that if it were otherwise the Soviet Union would never have agreed to render such assistance.

Source C: A cartoon illustrated by an American cartoonist, October 1962.



Source D: A West German cartoon published in October 1962. The man on the left is Kennedy while the man on the right is Khrushchev. The caption in the cartoon reads, "Okay, that's enough!"



“Jetzt ist's aber genug!”

Source E: *Adapted from Kennedy's speech at a closed press conference on 16 October 1962. This information was given exclusively for those present, and it was denied all publication rights.*

It appears unlikely that the USSR could afford to invest funds in Cuba that would be sufficient to meet Cuba's actual and long-term needs. Only the USA alone had a billion dollar trade with Cuba before the Castro revolution.

According to the American government's calculations, there are currently in Cuba around five thousand Russian military specialists. One must suppose that the Russians are sufficiently experienced people to understand that the military equipment which they are supplying to Cuba, or can supply in the future, would make little difference if the USA were to consider itself forced to take military action against it. They have enough experience as well in East Germany and the Eastern European countries to recognize the limits of their capacities.

Source F: *An adapted extract of President Kennedy's speech to the American public, announcing the quarantine against Cuba, 22 October 1962.*

Missiles in Cuba add to an already clear and present danger. This secret, swift, and extraordinary build-up of Communist missiles—in an area well known to have a special and historical relationship to the United States and the nations of the Western Hemisphere, in violation of Soviet assurances, and in defiance of American and hemispheric policy. This sudden, clandestine* decision to station strategic weapons for the first time outside of Soviet soil is a deliberately provocative and unjustified change in the status quo which cannot be accepted by this country.

The 1930's taught us a clear lesson: aggressive conduct, if allowed to go unchecked, ultimately leads to war. This nation is opposed to war. We are also true to our word. Our unswerving objective must be to prevent the use of these missiles against this or any other country, and to secure their withdrawal or elimination from the Western Hemisphere.

*Clandestine means to do something in secret.

Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

Answer **one** question.

2 This question is on the impact of World War I.

- (a) Explain why the Germans hated the Treaty of Versailles.
[8]
- (b) 'Post-war attitudes of the major powers was the main reason for the failure of the League of Nations.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer. [12]

3 This question is on the Cold War.

- (a) Explain why the relationship between the USA and the USSR soured after World War II. [8]
- (b) 'Gorbachev's reforms was the main reason for the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.' How far do you agree? Explain your answer. [12]

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