
SUBJECT:	History
PAPER NUMBER:	I – MALTESE HISTORY
DATE:	29 th August 2025
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

This paper carries 33% of the total marks of the examination.
 All three questions in this paper carry equal marks. This paper is marked out of 150 marks.
 Answer all **THREE** questions. Follow the instructions given in each question.

1. Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).

- EITHER** (a) To what extent were the British authorities influenced by Malta's role as a fortress colony in considering Maltese political demands in the nineteenth century?
- OR** (b) To what extent were relations between the Maltese Church and the British authorities in the nineteenth century conditioned by the Protestant identity of the rulers?
- OR** (c) Discuss the role played by migration in nineteenth and early twentieth century Maltese history.

(Total: 50 marks)

2. Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).

- EITHER** (a) The Break with Britain resolution in December 1957, and events in the following months, mark a big political shift in Malta's road to independence. Discuss.
- OR** (b) To what extent were the politico-religious clashes of the first and second half of the twentieth century in Malta both caused by comparable factors?
- OR** (c) Discuss the main social measures adopted by Maltese governments in the 1960s and 1970s.

(Total: 50 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b).

EITHER (a) Representation of the Maltese to Royal Commissioner Charles Cameron, October 1801

The Maltese have already begun to experience the advantages and enjoy the happiness of being governed by His Britannic Majesty; they have seen the trade of their islands flourishing, with every probability of their Island becoming the emporium of the Mediterranean, and, further, that the arts, sciences, and manufactures are protected. They begin to feel themselves of more importance through their becoming a portion of a vast Empire, and each individual experiences the consciousness that, having formerly been despised and vilified, he has become a respected member of society.

If in the future they are placed under the government of the Order or that of the French... they are convinced they will return to a condition of things more deplorable than what existed in the past. Every merchant possessing means is determined to leave the place, persuaded that under the Order their trade will be restricted as formerly... they further know well that under the French Government the ports of Marseilles and Toulon would have the preference.

...

If England possesses Malta she will be Mistress of the Mediterranean, despite the enmity of the surrounding nations; and that which concerns England still more, and which the Maltese do not ignore, is the fact that their Island would become a commercial emporium and a grand depot for British dry goods, where Italian, Turkish, and Russian produce would be abundantly poured in.

- (i) Describe briefly the historical context of this document dated October 1801. (10)
- (ii) Explain the reference to 'trade... flourishing' in Malta in this period. (10)
- (iii) Which factors ensured that Malta would continue to be an 'emporium of the Mediterranean' for the next few years? (10)
- (iv) To what extent did the Maltese representatives correctly foresee that England would become 'Mistress of the Mediterranean'? (10)
- (v) How far did Malta retain the role of 'a commercial emporium and a grand depot' in the course of the nineteenth century? (10)

(Total: 50 marks)

OR (b) Joseph Chamberlain, House of Commons, 28 January 1902

The immediate question with which we have to deal is the language question but, believe me, if we had not the language question to deal with, we should have the marriage question, the taxation question, or some other question which would be raised, and upon which precisely the same issues would have to be decided. But what does the House imagine the language question of Malta to be? Listening to the hon. Gentleman the Member for South Kerry I should have supposed, if I had not known better, that Italian was the national language of Malta. ... The language of Malta is not Italian; the language of Malta is an Arabic patois, which is not a literary language, and which cannot, therefore, be adopted for literary purposes. ...But the Italian language ... if not the national language of the Maltese, at any rate the language of the cultured, is not understood by one in seven of the population of Malta. I believe I am understating the case. There are more people in Malta that speak and read English than speak and read Italian; and if, indeed, we are to distinguish between the national language and the language of the more highly educated classes, then I say undoubtedly, on the figures in my possession English more than Italian is the language to which we should give the preference.

- (i) Explain Chamberlain's reference to 'the language question'. (10)
- (ii) Who defended the Italian language in Malta, and why? (10)
- (iii) What was the policy adopted by the British authorities with reference to English and Maltese? (10)
- (iv) What steps were taken in the following months by Chamberlain to address British concerns about the government of Malta? (10)
- (v) In what ways did the language question continue to be relevant in Maltese political life? (10)

(Total: 50 marks)



SUBJECT:	History
PAPER NUMBER:	II – EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL HISTORY
DATE:	1 st September 2025
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

This paper carries 33% of the total marks of the examination.

All three questions in this paper carry equal marks. This paper is marked out of 150 marks.

Answer all **THREE** questions. Follow the instructions given in each question.

1. **Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).**

- EITHER** (a) Why was Prussia, rather than the German confederation or Austria, able to create a united Germany?
- OR** (b) What did the Peace Settlement at the end of World War I plan to achieve, and was this achieved?
- OR** (c) How did the Industrial Revolution change working class conditions in Britain?

(Total: 50 marks)

2. **Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).**

- EITHER** (a) How and why was Germany able to conquer large parts of Europe between 1939 and 1942, only to see its gains quickly reversed in the latter part of the war?
- OR** (b) What were the main consequences and effects of the Great Depression?
- OR** (c) What was the significance of the Berlin Wall in a divided Germany?

(Total: 50 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b).

EITHER (a) Prince Metternich, Memoirs, 1820

We are convinced that society can no longer be saved without strong and vigorous resolutions on the part of the Governments still free in their opinions and actions. We are also convinced that this may yet be, if the Governments face the truth, if they free themselves from all illusion, if they join their ranks and take their stand on a line of correct, unambiguous, and frankly announced principles. By this course the monarchs will fulfil the duties imposed upon them by Him, who, by entrusting them with power, has charged them to watch over the maintenance of justice, and the rights of all, to avoid the paths of error, and tread firmly in the way of truth. Union between the monarchs is the basis of the policy which must now be followed to save society from total ruin. In short, let the great monarchs strengthen their union, and prove to the world that if it exists, it is beneficent, and ensures the political peace of Europe: that it is powerful only for the maintenance of tranquillity at a time when so many attacks are directed against it; that the principles which they profess are paternal and protective, menacing only the disturbers of public tranquillity.

- (i) Explain the historical context of Metternich's observations. (10)
- (ii) Discuss the political ideas reflected in this document. (10)
- (iii) How was 'union between monarchs' achieved, and what were its objectives? (10)
- (iv) Who were 'the disturbers of public tranquillity' according to Metternich? (10)
- (v) How was 'the political peace of Europe' disrupted in later decades? (10)

(Total: 50 marks)

OR (b) Franco-Russian Convention, 1892

France and Russia, being animated by a common desire to preserve peace, and having no other object than to meet the necessities of a defensive war, provoked by an attack of the forces of the Triple Alliance against either of them, have agreed upon the following provisions:

1. If France is attacked by Germany, or by Italy supported by Germany, Russia shall employ all her available forces to attack Germany. If Russia is attacked by Germany, or by Austria supported by Germany, France shall employ all her available forces to attack Germany.
2. In case the forces of the Triple Alliance, or of any one of the Powers belonging to it, should be mobilized, France and Russia, at the first news of this event and without previous agreement being necessary, shall mobilize immediately and simultaneously the whole of their forces, and shall transport them as far as possible to their frontiers.
3. The available forces to be employed against Germany shall be, on the part of France, 1,300,000 men, on the part of Russia, 700,000 or 800,000 men. These forces shall engage to the full with such speed that Germany will have to fight simultaneously on the East and on the West.
- ...
5. France and Russia shall not conclude peace separately.
6. The present Convention shall have the same duration as the Triple Alliance.
7. All the clauses enumerated above shall be kept absolutely secret.

- (i) Explain historically the reference in the treaty to 'the Triple Alliance'. (10)
- (ii) What were France's reasons to form this agreement with Russia? (10)
- (iii) Which strategy was planned by the allies against their enemies? (10)
- (iv) Which notable great power was not mentioned in the document above, and why? (10)
- (v) How far were international alignments able to hold the peace in Europe? (10)

(Total: 50 marks)

SUBJECT:	History
PAPER NUMBER:	III – MEDITERRANEAN HISTORY
DATE:	2 nd September 2025
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

This paper carries 33% of the total marks of the examination.

All three questions in this paper carry equal marks. This paper is marked out of 150 marks.

Answer all **THREE** questions. Follow the instructions given in each question.

1. **Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).**

EITHER (a) Why did Britain change its attitude towards the Suez Canal after 1871 following earlier hesitation?

OR (b) What were the consequences of the 'Great Eastern Crisis' of the 1870s?

OR (c) Why did Britain need a Mediterranean fortress colony like Malta in the nineteenth century?

(Total: 50 marks)

2. **Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b), OR part (c).**

EITHER (a) Why were the Axis powers unable to take Malta in World War II?

OR (b) Why did Algeria become a major test case of French decolonization?

OR (c) What were the main factors of the 'Palestinian Question' at the heart of the 'Arab-Israeli' conflict?

(Total: 50 marks)

Please turn the page.

3. Answer EITHER part (a), OR part (b).

EITHER (a) British Order in Council, 11 November 1807

Whereas certain orders establishing an unprecedented system of warfare against this kingdom, and aimed especially at the destruction of its commerce and resources, were some time since issued by the Government of France, by which "the British islands were declared to be in a state of blockade," thereby subjecting to capture and condemnation all vessels, with their cargoes, which should continue to trade with His Majesty's dominions:

And, whereas, by the same order, "all trading in English merchandise is prohibited, and every article of merchandise belonging to England, or coming from her colonies, or of her manufacture, is declared lawful prize:"

And, whereas the nations in alliance with France, and under her control, were required to give, and have given, and do give, effect to such orders: ...

And, whereas, His Majesty, under these circumstances, finds himself compelled to take further measures for asserting and vindicating his just rights, and for supporting that maritime power which the exertions and valour of his people have, under the blessings of Providence, enabled him to establish and maintain; and the maintenance of which is not more essential to the safety and prosperity of His Majesty's dominions, than it is to the protection of such states as still retain their independence, and to the general intercourse and happiness of mankind:

His Majesty is therefore pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that all the ports and places of France and her allies, or of any other country at war with His Majesty, and all other ports or places in Europe, from which, although not at war with His Majesty, the British flag is excluded, and all ports or places in the colonies belonging to His Majesty's enemies, shall, from henceforth, be subject to the same restrictions in point of trade and navigation, with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned, as if the same were actually blockaded by His Majesty's naval forces, in the most strict and rigorous manner: And it is hereby further ordered and declared, that all trade in articles which are of the produce or manufacture of the said countries or colonies shall be deemed and considered to be unlawful; and that every vessel trading from or to the said countries or colonies, together with all goods and merchandise on board and all articles of the produce or manufacture of the said countries or colonies, shall be captured and condemned as a prize to the captors.

- (i) Describe the historical context of the war between Britain and France. (10)
- (ii) Explain the reference to the 'unprecedented system of warfare' launched by France against Britain. (10)
- (iii) Describe the main features of the British response. (10)
- (iv) To what extent was the system established by means of this Order in Council successful? (10)
- (v) Describe the impact of these developments in the Mediterranean. (10)

(Total: 50 marks)

OR (b) Debate, House of Lords, 3 June 1878

The Marquess of Salisbury: My Lords, I have to inform the House that the German Government have issued an invitation to the Signatories of the Treaty of Paris to a Congress, and that Her Majesty's Government has accepted that invitation. I will read the terms of the invitation—and I will ask your Lordships to remember that an invitation in the same terms has been sent, and has by this time been accepted, by all the other Powers, Russia included. The invitation is as follows:— London, June 3, 1878. The Undersigned, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, King of Prussia, has the honour, by order of his Government, to convey to the knowledge of his Excellency the Marquis of Salisbury, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, the following communication:— In conformity with the initiative taken by the Austro-Hungarian Cabinet, the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Germany has the honour to propose to the Powers signatories of the Treaties of 1856 and 1871 to meet in Congress at Berlin, to discuss there the stipulations of the Preliminary Treaty of San Stefano, concluded between Russia and Turkey. The Government of His Majesty, in giving this invitation to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, understands that in accepting it the Government of Her Britannic Majesty consents to admit the free discussion of the whole of the contents of the Treaty of San Stefano, and that it is ready to participate therein. In the event of the acceptance of all the Powers invited, the Government of His Majesty propose to fix the meeting of the Congress for the 13th of this month.

- (i) Give the historical context to the treaty of 1856 referred in the document above. (10)
- (ii) Explain the reference to 'the Preliminary Treaty of San Stefano'. (10)
- (iii) How did British and Russian ambitions clash over the Ottoman empire? (10)
- (iv) What was achieved at the Congress of Berlin? (10)
- (v) Which later events proved that the main issues of the 1870s remained unresolved? (10)

(Total: 50 marks)