
ANSWER SHEET FOR WORLD HISTORY (SECTIONAL TEST-I)

Name: AVDHISA GUPTA
Email ID: [REDACTED]@gmail.com
Mob No.: [REDACTED]

Time Allowed: 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 130

There are FOUR questions in this paper.

Candidate has to attempt THREE questions in all.

Question No. 1 is compulsory and out of the remaining, TWO are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

Copyright © by SELFSTUDYHISTORY.COM

Selfstudyhistory.com: Contact Number: 9718593510, 8210076034, 9717510106
Email ID: selfstudyhistory@gmail.com

SECTION A

Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x3=30

Q.1 (a) How far do you think that Enlightened despots of Europe were politically liberal? Discuss with the help of examples. [10 Marks]

Early modern Europe witnessed an age of Enlightenment which had spread widely across all political and social strata. This to a great extent influenced the monarchs of the age.

The rulers which were otherwise despotic dictators and resort to authoritarian means had a change of attitude and way of governance. This can be stated as $\Rightarrow$

- i) Catherine the Great of Russia - who was influenced by the French philosophes and began to work for welfare of people, education for women. She also granted some freedom of press.
- ii) Joseph II of Austria - he introduced certain reforms in society.

Made the property laws more liberal, allowed freedom of speech, allowed criticism within his own council. Also he introduced welfare measures for poor with respect to education for women and girls etc.

iii) Frederick of Prussia - who was otherwise an authoritarian dictator, was influenced by philosophers like Voltaire. Freedom of religion was granted. Welfare reforms were introduced.

However, it will be misleading to call a complete change of heart. The era was still dominated by despotism as Catherine the Great still continued to imprison the opponents, Frederick's reforms were also not long lasting.

Thus the wave of enlightenment was rather a temporary exception.

Q.1 (b) "Latecomer" Industrial revolution in Japan involved certain factors that were markedly different from what west had experience. Discuss [10 Marks]

The Meiji Restoration in Japan took place in 1868 which was followed by rapid industrialization. However by then, most of the western Europe was already ahead in this.

Japan's industrial revolution can be called a rather dramatic success, rare in history. Main reasons for rapid success that made it different from west $\Rightarrow$

- i) The economy was controlled by the state unlike west. What to produce, how much to produce etc were decided carefully.
- ii) Traditional aristocracy and military, shoguns and samurai; gave up their titles willingly and practiced trade etc honestly.
- iii) Education was nationalized and national service was taught as the primary duty unlike west.

iv) While west invented most of the technologies, Japan borrowed it from them by sending its youth and experts to west. E.g. Ito Hirobumi worked with Bismarck to understand political and economic systems.

v) West had focused primarily on commercial interest whereas Japan had developed commercially by one hand and militarily by other.

vi) ~~Top~~ Japan being away from European mainland had taken advantage of war torn Europe during war years and had profited heavily.

vii) To capitalize human resource, since beginning, Japan maintained gender equality, workers' welfare and education etc. as a primary priority unlike west.

Thus despite being late comer, by 1920, Japan was one of the leading power in the world.

Q.1 (c) "The Great Reform Act of 1832 reshaped the political landscape of England but it still open to criticism." Discuss. [10 Marks]

The Great Reform Act of 1832 in England was not an event in isolation but was preceded by significant socio economic scenarios.

France witnessed an outbreak of mass revolt in 1830s which swept across Europe including England. This was against the miserable lives of commoners in different parts of Europe. Though the England's political system was much ahead than rest of Europe with respect to the government, it still ~~lacked~~ ^{fell short} of the demands of people.

- i) The condition of the working population was appalling.
- ii) No social security was granted.
- iii) Voting rights were extremely limited and that too only for propertied class.

- iv) Representation for workers in the Parliament was abysmal.
- v) Income inequality between rich and poor was glaring.

Thus after the revolt broke out, the Great Reform Act was passed $\Rightarrow$

- i) It extended voting rights. However property clause still remained.
- ii) Factory reforms were promised.
- iii) Representation in Parliament was extended to middle class.

However, the working class felt cheated by the reforms as they helped middle class organising the revolt and in return did not receive any benefits.

Therefore the Act was criticized on the grounds of being pro bourgeois and against the majority poor. This however later gave rise to Chartist Movement there.

Q.2 (a) "Hitler was merely traditional statesman, of limited aims, who was only responding to a given situation without any preconceived plan of world conquest." Comment. [20 Marks]

Historians had debated over the decades regarding the origin of the Second world war and who has to be blamed for this. The debate still carries logical arguments on various sides of the story.

Adolf Hitler had been regarded by many historians like Hugh Trevor Roper as the sole reason behind the outbreak of the war. Through his autobiography - 'Mein Kampf' it has been revealed that he wanted to =>

- i) Make Germany great again
- ii) Regain its lost prestige after Treaty of Versailles.
- iii) Secure lebensraum or living space for its people.

This made many historians conclude

that Hitler from the beginning wanted a war.

However historians like Alan Bullock has observed that Hitler was just utilizing the opportunities and had taken advantage of situations as and when it occurred. He had realized the weakness of the Allies and thus stretched his arms.

The turning point came when A.J.P. Taylor published his version of the origins of the ~~the~~ war. He stated that Hitler was a traditional statesman and had no pre conceived designs over Eastern Europe. He was an opportunist and thus succeeded in his earlier aims.

Taylor interpreted that maximum Hitler was looking for a small war with Poland to regain.

the territory of Danzig and Polish
corridor which was in fact
a genuine demand. Because
Hitler had seen Allies not atta-
cking him in case of annexation
of Czechoslovakia, he assumed
that so will be the case with
Poland which was more reasonable.

Thus according to Taylor,
Hitler had only limited aims
of restoring the lost territories
in first world war and in fact
had no plan of world conquest.
Taylor had been criticized heavily
for his views as many historians
still believe Hitler's further
aims were to capture Russia as
far as Urals as beyond.

The debate still remains
open to interpretation. What
most historians agree to is,
~~that~~ the fact that Hitler was
an opportunist and made best
use of the situations and crisis.

Q.2 (b) "The treaty of Versailles, which represented "peace" for some and a "diktat" for others, also sowed the seeds of the Second World War." Analyse. [20 Marks]

While many analysts and politicians had called the Treaty of Versailles as the Peace Treaty, others termed it as 'a peace which ended all peace'. Because it was treated a dictated peace by many, the consequences had to be complex.

At the peace of Versailles, the treaty signed with Germany was extremely humiliating according to some historians. Thus they believed that second world war was inevitable to restore what Germany had lost.

E. H. Carr had pointed out that establishing peace was just one step. What was more important was to enforce peace and it was here that allies failed.

After the war, as Carr had pointed out, the French search for security

was obvious as it had faced two major German attacks in past fifty years. Therefore the treaty was not very unreasonable. But looking from Germany's perspective, as pointed out by Andrew Cozler, for a nation like Germany which took so much pride in its military, such a treaty was as humiliating as possible.

Germany has felt the defeat immensely as -

- i) It was not allowed to participate in peace but was dictated terms.
- ii) It had to agree to the war guilt clause.
- iii) It had to pay huge compensation.
- iv) Disarmament and other clause.

These grievances are in fact pointed out by Hitler in his work and thus historians conclude that it made Hitler bitter and prepared himself for second world war.

Ruth Henig however observes that the terms of treaty was basic and were not harassing in long run. A.J.P. Taylor states that Germany still remained by and far most powerful state on European mainland and thus French search for security was evident.

Historians therefore agree that the treaty of Versailles can be termed as an important cause of origin of second world war. However, they do not believe it to be the sole cause since there were other factors like unsettled border disputes, Great depression, faulty system of alliance, mistrust among capitalist and communist state etc.

Q.2(c) How Marxian Communism traces its origin from German Hegelianism and French Socialism? [10 Marks]

The proponent of the most radical and apparently most successful form of communism, Karl Marx had been inspired by several intellects.

Marxian Communism has been described at length by Marx in his book 'Communist Manifesto' and 'Das Kapital'. He writes $\Rightarrow$

- i) Historical Materialism in origin of communism
- ii) ~~Error~~ of production existed
- iii) Since ancient times, there had been a clash between two classes.

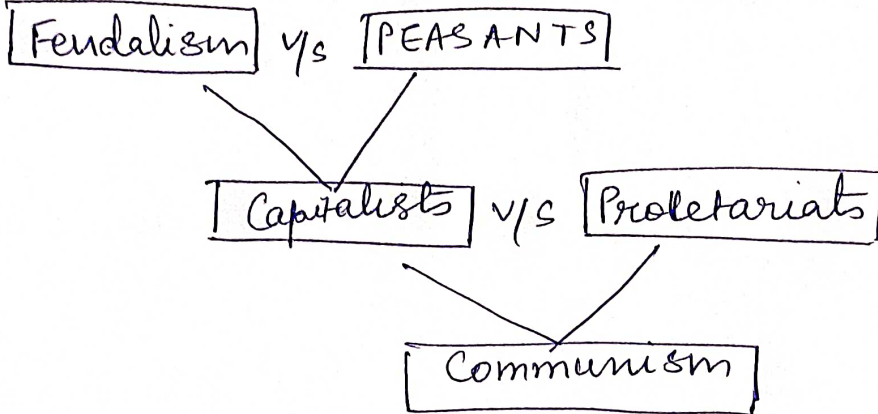
He had been taught by German ~~Hegelianism~~ scholar Hegel who propounded $\Rightarrow$ a

Thesis v/s Antithesis

Synthesis
(new thesis)

v/s Antithesis
and it continues.

Though Hegel explained it in terms of ideas in a common mind, Marx gave it a new flavour applying it to class struggle.



Thus he saw ultimate victory of class struggle with communism.

Marx was also inspired by French socialist ideas. Eg. He like Proudhon and Blanqui's idea of stateless society. He also liked the idea of 'to each from each according to his ability to each according to his need.'

Thus Karl Marx incorporated all the ideas that existed before and synthesized his theory popularly called Marxian Communism.

Q.3 (a) With reference to the 'Fascist ideology' discuss the rise to Totalitarian state in Europe after the First World War. [20 Marks]

Q.3 (b) "The bold knight, Lenin, having rescued the fair maiden of the Revolution from the evil sorcerer, Kerensky, everyone lived happily hereafter." Comment. [20 Marks]

Q.3(c) "Continental System was designed by Napoleon to paralyze Great Britain through the destruction of British commerce but it ultimately caused his downfall." Critically examine. [10 Marks]

Q.4 (a) American Revolution was an economic revolt against mercantilism. Substantiate. [20 Marks]

The thirteen American colonies of Britain had ~~decide~~ declared war of independence against the rule of Edward of England in 1775. This resulted in establishment of first independent state with democracy and freedom in modern sense.

However, the reasons behind the revolution are complex and intertwined. British had followed a mercantilist policy in the eighteenth century to the discontent of its colonies including America. It had an ~~state controlled~~ economy with interference of state. Thus many historians call this as a major reason for American revolt as $\Rightarrow$

- i) The English govt. had ~~for~~ been practicing a discriminatory trade policy with imports of raw material from America to Britain and

- exporting finished goods in their ready market.
- ii) Partial tariffs were applied for finished goods from America to England.
 - iii) America was not allowed freely to trade with other European powers.
 - iv) Industries were not allowed to be established and operated freely.
 - v) Heavy taxes were levied on certain goods.
 - vi) America was treated as a farm for raw material for agricultural commodities, plantation crops etc.

Thus many historians had pointed out that what caused discontent among Americans was not the amount of tax but the authority of British power to tax Americans.

However, it can not be called a revolt totally economic in nature as there were other immediate and long term reasons for war for independence.

Long term causes ⇒

- i) Politically Americans were under the British rule which annoyed them. They had been developed enough according to them to stay free.
- ii) Influence of the philosophes from France and England like Voltaire, Locke etc.
- iii) White race dominating another white race was not acceptable to many.

Short / Immediate causes

- i) Stamp Act 1765 - New taxes
- ii) Coercive Act 1773 - political freedom of Massachusetts curbed as a result of Boston Tea Party
- iii) Agreement of British with native Indians that no further acquisition of land will be done which annoyed Americans.

Thus when on repetitive requests, British did not grant them desired autonomy, they declared war of independence establishing first true democracy in a colony in 1779.

Q.4 (b) To what extent can Germany be held responsible for causing the two World Wars? Discuss critically. [20 Marks]

There are several commonalities between the two world wars fought in the twentieth century, the prime one being that Germany was the aggressor in both cases.

This had not only resulted in harsh consequences for Germany but also made many historians believe it to be the sole cause of two world wars.

In the case of the first world war, Germany had been called as the sole responsible for outbreak of war as it gave a blank cheque to Austria of all support militarily in any war. This made Austria declare an unnecessary war on Serbia despite Serbia agreeing to most Austrian demands by then.

However, many historians consider Austria and Russia responsible because they had been

building troops. Both had misled that it is just a warning and will not lead to actual war.

Russia is also blamed as after Austria declared war on Germany, Russia attacked Austria which had it not done so, it could have ended in a small war like previous Balkan wars (1912-13).

Thus after the world war, Woodrow Wilson had openly declared that the system of alliances between the nations, the secret military pacts are the chief cause of tension building up. Thus all secret pacts were prohibited and League of Nations was set up.

Thus Germany is one of the reasons for the war according to most historians.

In the case of second world war, historians like Hugh Trevor Roper had blamed Germany solely for the war and depicted Hitler as a pure evil. However other

things should also be noted.

i) The Allied nations should also be blamed according to some historians for their constant appeasement policy and lack of action at earlier stages.

ii) some believed it to be German people along with German leader who also wanted to restore the pride lost after first world war.

iii) Historians like Sally Marks blamed the ill drawn and misconceived treaty like Treaty of Versailles was a major cause of second world war.

Thus many historians agree that a war of this stature can't be really blamed on a person or a nation but on several interconnected factors.

So was the case with both the world wars which because of being initiated by Germany, are blamed on it even till today by some.

Q.4 (c) What was Chartism? Discuss the factors behind its origin. [10 Marks]

Chartism is referred to as a movement led by the working class of England in 1838, 1842 and 1848.

The movement mainly aimed at improving the lives of the workers in England. They demanded -

- i) The demanding welfare with respect to women and child labours.
- ii) social security benefits.
- iii) Better working conditions
- iv) Voting rights
- v) Representation in Parliament and decision making
- vi) Health and Education security

The origins of the Chartist Movement can be traced to the Great Reform of 1832 in England which was led by workers and middle class to uplift their conditions. The

reform improved the situation of middle class in the country. However workers who actively participated in the movement felt betrayed as they received nothing from the Act.

Therefore the workers continued to organize ~~reforms~~ results and movements. Though the three movements they organized did not immediately bring results, it had far reaching impact. Its consequences were —

- i) Passage of Factories Act later
- ii) Working hours were reduced.
- iii) Safety for women and children.
- iv) Measures for health and education were introduced.

Thus Chartism as a movement can be called if not immediately successful, a highly influential one as it inspired workers and people all across the world.

Comments and Suggestions after Evaluation of Answer Sheet