



Cambridge O Level

HISTORY (MAURITIUS AND MODERN WORLD AFFAIRS)

2162/02

Paper 2 International Relations and Developments

October/November 2025

1 hour 15 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages.

International Relations and Developments**The 1919–20 peace settlement and international relations in the 1920s**

In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources, as appropriate. You should support your answers with close reference to the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.

1 Study Source A.

What is the message of the cartoonist? Explain your answer using details from the source. [6]

2 Study Source B.

Why did the German delegation make this speech at this time? Explain your answer. [7]

3 Study Sources C and D.

How far do these sources agree about the purpose of the Treaty of Versailles? Explain your answer. [8]

4 Study Source E.

How useful is this source as evidence about British reactions to the Treaty of Versailles? Explain your answer. [7]

5 Use all the sources.

‘Germany was treated fairly in the peace settlement after the end of the First World War.’ How far do the sources support this judgement? Explain your answer. [12]

[Total: 40]

SOURCE A: A British cartoon, entitled 'The Reckoning', published in April 1919. The man represents Germany and says, 'Monstrous I call it. It's a quarter of what we would have made them pay if we'd won.'

'Indemnity' means reparations.



SOURCE B: From a speech by the head of the German delegation which went to Versailles to receive the Treaty, May 1919.

We are aware of the extent of our defeat and the degree of our own powerlessness. We know the forces of hatred which confront us here. We do not seek to excuse Germany from all responsibility, but we strongly deny the idea that Germany, whose people were convinced that they were waging a defensive war, should alone be burdened with guilt.

Crimes in war may not be easily forgiven, but they are committed in the struggle for victory, and they affect all nations. The hundreds of thousands of civilians who have perished since 11 November 1918 through the blockade were killed with cold deliberation after victory already had been won.

SOURCE C: *From a speech by Clemenceau to the Paris Peace Conference in June 1919.*

Justice is what the German delegation asks for and says that Germany has been promised. Justice is what Germany shall have. But it must be justice for all. There must be justice for the dead and wounded and for those who have been orphaned and bereaved, so that Europe will be freed from German tyranny. There must be justice for the nations who now struggle under huge war debts. There must be justice for those millions whose homes and land, ships and property have been destroyed by German savagery.

Germany must make reparations to the full extent of its power; because reparation for wrongs inflicted is essential for justice. Those individuals who were responsible for German aggression, and for those acts of inhumanity which have disgraced Germany during the war, must face justice. That is why Germany must submit to certain special arrangements.

SOURCE D: *From a speech by US President Wilson made in the United States in September 1919.*

Do not think of this treaty of peace as merely a settlement with Germany. It is a very severe settlement with Germany, but there is nothing in it that Germany did not deserve. Indeed, Germany deserved more punishment than it could afford, and this treaty is not a punishment greater than Germany can bear. The treaty is necessary so that no other nation may ever plan such a war against civilisation again.

But the treaty is not merely a settlement with Germany: it is a remedy for the injustices which are the foundation of European society. This is the first of several treaties which are all written upon the same lines. The treaties ensure that every government in this settlement is put in the hands of the people – and taken out of the hands of the kings who had no right to rule over the people. It is a people's treaty that liberates men who could not have liberated themselves. There is only one power that can free mankind, and that is mankind itself. Through the Covenant of the League of Nations, the power of the united forces of mankind is put into action.

SOURCE E: *From a speech by a member of the British Parliament to the Union of Democratic Control, November 1920. The Union campaigned for a just peace settlement at the end of the war.*

The lie on which the Versailles Treaty is built is the theory that Germany was solely and entirely responsible for the war. No one who understands the war and its causes should accept this argument. However, the propaganda story that Germany is solely guilty has been argued so persistently in the newspapers and in Parliament, that most of our people now believe this lie is true. And they believe that this story of Germany's guilt justifies the terms of the most brutal and unjust treaty in the world's history.

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