



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 21 May 2019 – Afternoon

A Level History A

Y321/01 The Middle East 1908–2011: Ottomans to Arab Spring

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet
(OCR12 sent with general stationery)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and any **two** questions in Section B.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended responses will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

SECTION A

Read the two passages and then answer Question 1.

- 1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages and explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the reasons for Israel's survival in 1948–1949. [30]

Passage A

If anything the Palestine War demonstrates that there is far more to armed conflict than the size of the armies engaged in combat operations or the nature of their equipment. That war was not won by the militarily stronger combatant: had this been the case, the far better armed and organised Arab armies would have readily defeated the poorly equipped and widely dispersed Israeli forces before they had a chance to equip themselves during the first truce. Rather it was a clash of national wills in which the more resilient society prevailed. In 1948, both the Jewish and Arab communities in Palestine were thrown into a whirlpool of hardship, dislocation and all-out war-conditions that no society can survive without the absolute commitment of its most vital elites. Yet while the atomised Palestinian Arab community, lacking a cohesive identity, fragmented into small pieces, the *Yishuv** managed to weather the storm by extreme effort: its 6,000 fatalities, a full one per cent of the total Jewish population, were heavier in relative if not absolute terms than those of any of its Arab adversaries, including the Palestinians. Neither did the Arab states throw their full weight and whole-hearted commitment behind the Palestinian War.

**Yishuv* – Jewish community in the region prior to the establishment of the state of Israel

Adapted from: E. Karsh, *The Arab–Israeli Conflict: The Palestine War 1948*, published in 2009.

Passage B

C Herzog, 'The Arab-Israeli War', pp106-107, Cassell Military, 1982. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

*Outflanking – attacks from behind or encirclement

Adapted from: C. Herzog, *The Arab–Israeli Wars*, published in 1982.

SECTION B

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions.

- 2*** To what extent have the Great Powers achieved their aims in the Middle East in the period from 1908 to 2011? **[25]**
- 3*** 'Conflicts between Zionists and Palestinians from 1908 to 2011 have been primarily caused by disputes over settlements.' How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 4*** To what extent did the reasons for the development of Pan-Arabism in the period from 1908 to 2011 remain the same? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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