BENENDEN

SIXTH FORM 2018

HISTORY

1 hour 30 mins

Full Name: _____

Current School: _____

Date: _____

Instructions to Candidates:

- Use black pen for writing.
- You must answer the question in **Section A** and you only need to answer **two** questions from the choice of four for **Section B**.
- Please write your answers to **Section A** and **Section B** in this booklet

Total marks for this paper = **100**

The marks for each question are shown
*It is advised to spend 30 minutes on **Section A** (including time to read the extract)*
*It is advised to spend 30 minutes on each question you do in **Section B***

SECTION A

The following passage is adapted from the diary of a middle-class British housewife. This entry was written in 1945, a few months after the end of the Second World War. ***You do not need to know anything about post-war Britain to answer the question below.***

I feel I've never had such a sour attitude on life in general. I thought of the fun and laughter there used to be, even in the darkest days of war. Sometimes they just say in the office, 'You are quiet' – they say it in wonder – and I just smile, but think, 'I feel quiet, I'm tired out', and wonder if that is why others feel dim. There was such an eager looking forward to the end of the war. When I used to talk of still lean times till all got reorganised, I was looked on as a real dismal Jimmy. Now it's over. We look forward to a winter which promises to be short of coal and food. Women who thought their husbands would be released [from military service] if their old job was waiting are feeling disappointed. Husbands are coming home so tired and with such altered outlooks they seem strangers. Women are leaving their wartime jobs and finding it's not as easy to pick up threads as lay them down. Clothes coupons are beginning to seem inadequate lately when big things are needed. Meat is scarcer and milk is down to two pints of milk a week. There is so little brightness in life, and people's heads are so tired. Speaking for myself, I feel that if anyone said, 'tell me what you would really like to do,' I could not tell them. I could say I'd like to go somewhere where there were no bitter winds and damp to make me dread winter, somewhere where I could lie down in the sun and feel warm, but I feel too indifferent to think of anything I'd really like to buy, or do, and what I do seems only like another job – all except when I come to bed and lie reading. It's my chief joy today. I think this tiredness must be magnified to the highest degree amongst the homeless.

What can this extract tell us about British society in 1945?

This Section is worth **30 marks.**

SECTION B

You need to answer **two** of the following questions. You can use any information from History courses you have studied/are studying. Each question is worth **35 marks**. Section B therefore is worth a total of **70 marks**.

1. It is sometimes suggested that the study of history enables us to increase our understanding of the world in which we live.

   Choose **ONE** of the following areas.

   Explain how a knowledge of its past can help us understand what that area is like today, its problems and successes and the role it plays in the modern world.

   a) China
   b) The USA
   c) Africa (or one African country)
   d) India
   e) South America (or one South American country)

2. It has been said that 'History is the biography of great people' and much of the history we study is based on the lives of important leaders from the past

   Choose **ONE** political leader from history –
   a) What factors were behind this leader coming to power? Was it down to their personal qualities?
   b) In what ways did this leader make a difference to the country they led?

3. Many historians feel that we concentrate too much on the lives of the rich and famous and ignore the lives of the majority of people. Using an example from what you have studied/are studying, answer the following questions -

   Why have historians often ignored the lives of ordinary people instead focusing on leaders and the wealthy/powerful? Why is it important to study 'ordinary people'?

4. Political and religious ideas have often been a significant factor in bringing about historical change.

   Choose **ONE** period in which religious **OR** political ideas were important

   a) What were the main features of these ideas?
   b) How did these ideas bring about historical change?

ANSWER BOOKLET

Question Number