



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
January 2012

## History

## HIS2K

Unit 2K A New Roman Empire? Mussolini's Italy, 1922–1945

Monday 23 January 2012 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2K.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

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Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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### Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A** From 1925 teachers were subjected to increasing 'fascistisation'. In December of that year Mussolini declared that schools 'at all levels and in all their teaching should educate Italian youth to understand fascism'. From 1929, every primary and secondary teacher was obliged to take an oath of loyalty to the regime, while four  
5 years later membership of the Fascist Party became compulsory. To what extent all this centrally-directed education succeeded in influencing the minds of the young is very hard to say. Despite the purges of the later 1920s many teachers inevitably continued to hold beliefs derived from older value systems such as Catholicism and socialism. Teachers' support for the regime and its directives was no doubt often  
10 superficial and based on practicalities more than real faith.

Adapted from C DUGGAN, *The Force of Destiny: A History of Italy Since 1796*, 2007

**Source B** The Fascist regime did introduce some significant institutional changes in Italian education. By 1943 the system was much more centralised and more directly controlled by the state. Some new types of schools had been established to broaden the educational base, with varying results. Religion had entered the classroom and  
5 the Catholic Church was playing a key role in educational affairs. But the really important changes in the Italian schools system under fascism, and the basis for the regime's claims that it had brought about a revolution in education, were not so much changes in organisation as changes in the way education became fascist in spirit.

Adapted from TH KOON, *Believe, Obey, Fight: Political Socialization of Youth in Fascist Italy 1922–1934*, 1985

**Source C** The most extraordinary aspect of accelerating 'fascistisation' after 1936 was the grotesque efforts to reform the conduct, habits and attitudes of Italians. The PNF banned the use in its own organisations of the impersonal form of address, 'lei', and insisted on the more comradely form, 'voi'. Other obligatory lessons in Fascist style  
5 included the replacement of the unhygienic handshake of greeting by the raised arm of the Fascist salute. 'Fascistisation' broadened into a determined attack on the so-called bourgeois outlook and lifestyle. As Mussolini put it to Ciano in July 1938, 'henceforth the revolution must change the habits of Italians. They must learn to be less sympathetic in order to become hard, relentless and hateful – in other words,  
10 masters.'

Adapted from P MORGAN, *Italian Fascism 1915–1945*, 2004

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 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to education in Fascist Italy. (12 marks)

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 Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How far had Mussolini's regime succeeded in creating a nation of loyal Fascists by 1939? (24 marks)

**EITHER****Question 2**

**0 3** Explain why the Battle of the Lira was launched by Mussolini. *(12 marks)*

**0 4** 'Mussolini's economic policies completely failed to modernise Italy in the years 1922 to 1939.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**OR****Question 3**

**0 5** Explain why Mussolini wanted to expand Italy's empire in Africa. *(12 marks)*

**0 6** 'In the years 1923 to 1940, Mussolini achieved all of his foreign policy ambitions.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source B: From *Believe, Obey, Fight: Political Socialization of Youth in Fascist Italy 1922–1934*, by TRACY HUTCHINS KOON. Copyright © 1985 by the University of North Carolina Press. Used by permission of the publisher.

Question 1 Source C: P MORGAN, *Italian Fascism 1915–1945*, 2004, Palgrave Macmillan, reproduced by permission of Palgrave Macmillan.

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