



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2012

## History

HIS2K

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

**Tuesday 22 May 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.  
Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.
- 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.  
Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

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### **Question 1**

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

**Source A** Adapted from a speech given by Mussolini in 1934 about the Corporate State

Corporations are established to provide the wealth, political power and welfare for the Italian people. It is necessary that these institutions, which we have created, shall be noticed as institutions through which Italians can improve their standard of life. The labourer, the peasant, should be able to tell himself and his loved ones: 'If I  
5 am better off, I owe it to the Corporations which Fascism has created for the benefit of the Italian people'.

**Source B** Adapted from a lecture given by the exiled leader of the Italian Communist Party, Palmiro Togliatti, in Moscow, 1935

The Fascist Party claims that Corporations were created to improve the living standards of the Italian people. This is a falsehood! Corporations were organised by the Fascist Regime in Italy only after all democratic liberties had been denied. Corporations were only organised after the workers had been deprived of all  
5 representation, when all political parties had been destroyed, and when trade union freedom and freedom of the press had been crushed. Corporations were only created when every other possibility of expression for the Italian worker had been eliminated. Even if Corporations had some importance, they would not be able to do anything unless approved of by the Fascist Party.

### **Source C**

**Source C**, a passage by P KNIGHT regarding the Italian economy under Mussolini's regime, is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.  
The full copy of this paper can be obtained from AQA Publications.

**0 | 1** 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 Fascist Corporations in Italy. *(12 marks)*

and

**0 | 2** Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How successful was Mussolini in developing Italy into a modern industrial nation by 1939? *(24 marks)*

**EITHER****Question 2**

- 0 | 3** Explain why the King did not dismiss Mussolini following the Matteotti Affair of 1924.  
*(12 marks)*

and

- 0 | 4** 'The use of terror was the key reason why Mussolini was able to secure his dictatorship in Italy in the years 1924 to 1929.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.  
*(24 marks)*

**OR****Question 3**

- 0 | 5** Explain why the Salo Republic collapsed in 1945.  
*(12 marks)*

and

- 0 | 6** 'Mussolini was dismissed in July 1943 because of the long-term failures of Italian Fascism.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.  
*(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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

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Question 1 Source C: Adapted from P KNIGHT, *Mussolini and Fascism*, pp 69–70, Routledge, 2003.

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