

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

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**Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level**

**Tuesday 2 June 2026**

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI03/1C**

**History**

**International Advanced**

**PAPER 3: Thematic Study with Source Evaluation**

**Option 1C: Germany: United, Divided and Reunited, 1870–1990**

**You must have:**  
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

## Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided  
– *there may be more space than you need.*

## Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets  
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

## Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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## SECTION A

**Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.**

**Study Sources 1 and 2 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.**

- 1** How far could the historian make use of Sources 1 and 2 together to investigate democratic government in Germany in 1871?

Explain your answer using both sources, the information given about them and your own knowledge of the historical context.

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

**TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS**



## SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

**EITHER**

- 2** How accurate is it to say that Ebert's aims for Germany, in the years 1918–24, and Hitler's aims for Germany, in the years 1933–39, were essentially similar?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

**OR**

- 3** 'The USSR and the West share equal responsibility for both the formation and collapse of the GDR.'

How far do you agree with this judgement?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☒ **Question 3** ☐

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**TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS**  
**TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS**



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# Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

**Tuesday 2 June 2026**

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper  
reference

**WHI03/1C**

## History

International Advanced

**PAPER 3: Thematic Study with Source Evaluation**

**Option 1C: Germany: United, Divided and Reunited, 1870–1990**

### Sources Booklet

**Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.**

Turn over ►

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### Sources for use with Section A.

**Source 1:** From an article written by Heinrich von Sybel in a popular and influential English magazine, published 1 January 1871. Sybel was a well-known German historian and a National Liberal politician. Here he is writing about the issues surrounding the new German constitution of the Second Reich.

We already have parliaments, a North German and a Prussian one. We have universal suffrage for both, and vote in secret as well. The government has only limited influence on elections and commits itself to the spending budgets approved by parliament. It does not pass laws without parliamentary assent. Without a doubt these things make it impossible to have a government directly opposed to the people's will. Democratic ideas are gaining popularity throughout Germany and by means of the electoral laws our people are represented on a purely democratic basis. 5

However, anyone enjoying the advantages of democratic institutions must accept limitations. In this context, one may ask whether the limitations are really so bad. In Germany, a parliament of the people does not have the power to install and remove ministers. However, the very existence of parliament and its debates, its criticism of the budget and its authority to reject bills represents a significant barrier to any arbitrary absolutism by government. 10

What we need is steadiness and security in government. It is a matter of survival that the good threads of our political tradition are not torn apart carelessly. Our rulers know that the military system, which has led them to such successes, is based on the patriotism of the people. All members of our government clearly recognise this fact and this guarantees that they will always strive for the freedom of the people. 15 20



**Source 2:** From a speech made by August Bebel to the newly-formed German Reichstag, 8 November 1871. Bebel was a leading Socialist. Bebel's speech was delivered as part of a debate on political power in Germany.

The Socialists opposed the extension of Prussian powers in the Constitution. We did so, however, not because we were particularly in favour of the small states but because, compared with Prussia's absolutist-militarist system, constitutional life in the small states was more developed. Now all liberal attitudes have completely vanished from the small states. They are no longer able to resist the pressure on them from the Federal Government in Berlin. Now the German Reich has been established, the south German states have also become powerless, their independent activities over and done with. Today, the small states do little more than act as Prussia's agents. 25

The Federal Government has all the power and parliament is simply forced to obey. If parliament fails to obey, it gets trodden on. That brings me to another example of the powerlessness of parliament. The Reich Chancellor mentioned the other day that he believes that, after the recent war against France, he has become more of a constitutionalist. But what about the reality. The Reich Chancellor has not become more constitutional. However, the liberal parties and the parliamentary assemblies have become more submissive. 30 35

The Liberals have provided the Reich Chancellor with a constitution – the German Reich Constitution – that is really reactionary. This is not a constitution for the people. In reality it is clearly the dominance of the Emperor hiding behind a parliamentary framework. This is because public opinion believes that a parliamentary framework is necessary. 40

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**Acknowledgements:**

**Source 1 from:**

[https://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub\\_document.cfm?document\\_id=1833](https://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=1833)

**Source 2 from:**

[https://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub\\_document.cfm?document\\_id=604](https://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=604)

