

## History Test 6c

15/02/2018

### Middle East

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Points: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. Short Questions / Definitions

Answer the following questions in short but complete sentences.

- a) Why was the meeting between David Ben Gurion and Konrad Adenauer symbolic?

The meeting made clear that Germany was now on good terms with the Jews and was willing to establish a Jewish country to. This was an action which was mostly driven by guilt. ✓ 1/2 Who were they?

- b) Explain the term "Zionism"

Zionism is the movement which wanted to build a Jewish state in the area of Palestine. ✓

- c) Explain the term "Panarabism"

Panarabism was the desire for a more united Arab union. It was mostly driven by nationalism. Nasser was its biggest supporter. ✓

- d) What do we understand by the abbreviation "PLO"?

PLO = Palestinian Liberation Organisation

The goal of the PLO was to get their own Palestinian territory back and in which they could build their own sovereign state.

- e) Who was Gamal Abd el Nasser

Gamal Abd el Nasser was the Egyptian President after the overthrow of the pro-western Egyptian government. He wanted that the Arab Nations have more influence on the world → wanted to unite. He was also very anti-Israel → wanted to ~~destroy~~ Israel. He also wanted Egypt to be less dependent/connected to western countries (USA, Britain)

with France  
and partly  
Israel

2. Which former colonial power (0.5pts) is at fault or at least complicit (=mitschuldig) in the Middle East conflict. Use as many arguments as possible in order to support this thesis. 6.5pts/J.T.

Balfour's doctrine

~~Britain~~ Britain was atleast complicit.

It started with their double promise while ~~they~~ Palestine was a mandate of Britain. They promised the Jews, that they could set up their own state in Palestine. On the other hand they needed support from the Arab states against the Ottoman Empire during WWI, so they promised Palestine, that they would have their own sovereign state too.

They increased the Jewish immigration which offended the Palestinians and during WWII, when the Jews fled from Europe, the immigration was lifted to 100000 per year, after that the British lost control over the situation and gave their mandate to the UN.

The British also didn't contribute to the stability of the middle east, when they launched an attack\* on the Suez channel, after Nasser nationalized the channel. This severely damaged their reputation and it also strengthened anti-British/Western movements.

3. Suez Crisis: a) Why had Britain and France lost most of their influence in the Middle East after the end of the Suez conflict? b) Which were the consequences of this loss of influence? 3pts / 1

a) After the end of the Suez conflict Nasser was treated like a hero among the other Arab nations. He encouraged to cut relations with Britain and France, which lead to Britain losing a lot of influence. Also other Nations Presidents/Rulers were overthrown, which were thought to be pro-Western. After the conflict Nasser encouraged the Algerians to get independent from France.

b) Consequences:

- After Britain had lost a lot of regions which they controlled, they now had to improve relations with the new governments or they would face oil supply problems.
- After the loss of influence they now were very dependent on the USA because they proved to be unable to handle problems effectively.

YSSR & MSA enlarged sphere of influence

4. Explain why the Camp David agreement of 1979 strengthened Israel's position. 2pts / 2

At Camp David the first arab nation acknowledged the state of Israel. No country before Egypt accepted the state of Israel.

After Camp David, they didn't have to fear an Egypt attack again, because they promised not to attack again. This symbolises kind of a buffer between Israel and the arab nations.

5. Lebanon Conflict: a) Why was Lebanon called "Switzerland of the Middle East"? (1) b) Explain the role of the Palestinian refugees and the PLO in the conflict (4) 5pts / 2

a) Before the civil war Lebanon was a prosperous and stable country which did a lot of banking. It was also separated in small regions which together symbolised the state of Lebanon.

b) The Palestinian refugees which immigrated into Lebanon were housed in refugee camps. These camps were a good outposed, base for radicalization and for terrorist groups. The PLO recruited most of their members in these refugee camps.

The Palestinians and the PLO ~~fed~~ were also attacked and wanted to be driven out of the country by the christians. The palestinian refugees faced border clashes with Israel and was attacked regularly by the israelites.

6. The Iran-Iraq war: Explain why the war broke out and what the results were for Iran, Iraq, the Gulf area and the USA. 6pts / 6

#### Reasons for outbreak

- Iraq:
- wanted to get rid of theocracy in Iran → posed a threat
  - Iraq also wanted access to the Persian gulf as a trading outlet.
  - Iraq too felt that Iran was very unstable and could be overthrown very easily
  - Iraq was also interested in the oil fields in the South-West of Iran.

#### Consequences for Iran

- Iran lost a lot of people during their "holy war".
- ~~The Iranian~~ gave the theocracy under Khomeini however gained a lot of popularity and influence through the war. As defenders, their mentality was boosted through the success. economically heavily shaken

#### Consequences for Iraq

- Iraq became very powerful through the broad international support ~~from many~~. They received lots of weapons from the US.
- Although they did not succeed they now had powerful allies (USA, Britain, France...)

#### Consequences for Gulf area

- The Gulf area was now dominated by the powerful Iraq.
- The area also feared ~~intended~~ the development of Islamist groups through the ~~hostile~~ Islamist state Iran, which became increasingly popular for extremists.

#### Consequences for USA

- through the vast support the US provided to Hussein, and the weapon delivery, ~~using~~ they afterwards faced their own weapons during the first Gulf war during the liberation of Kuwait.
- By supporting Iraq they kind of supported anti-western groups and movements.