

Student Name: _____

Student Number: _____

HISTORY 2MM3E

EVENING CLASS

DR. S. HEATHORN

DURATION OF EXAMINATION: 3 hours

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY FINAL EXAMINATION

April 2011

THIS THREE-PAGE EXAM HAS TWO SECTIONS, THE FIRST WITH A SERIES OF TRUE/FALSE STATEMENTS, THE SECOND WITH A SELECTION OF ESSAY QUESTIONS. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT YOUR COPY OF THE PAPER IS COMPLETE. BRING ANY DISCREPANCY TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR INVIGILATOR.

Section A: TRUE/FALSE Statements. Indicate whether the following statements are either TRUE or FALSE in **your Exam Booklet** (not on the exam itself). For statements that you think are false, explain why in a few sentences. There are five (5) true statements worth one (1) mark each, and five (5) false statements worth five (5) marks each. One mark will be given for correctly identifying the truth/falsity of the statement. If you mark a statement as true, nothing further is required. For those that are false, you need to explain why the statement is incorrect, and for the quality of the explanation up to four marks each will be awarded. This section is worth 30% of the exam.

1. Richard Bright and Henry Mayhew led the Anti-Corn Law League, a largely working-class 18th Century movement opposed to free trade.
2. Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli pursued a deliberate policy in the 1870s of associating the Conservative Party with the monarch, empire and patriotism.
3. For the British, the Blitz refers to the bombing of London and other British cities by the Germans during the spring and summer of 1940. The Germans were unsuccessful because British night fighter pilots were better than German bomber pilots and because 90% of the civilian population of London sheltered in Tube (subway train) stations, making them safe from the raids.
4. The Jarrow Hunger Marchers successfully delivered their petition to parliament and received much popular respect and sympathy, but did not achieve any immediate concessions from the government.

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5. Despite the first two Reform Acts and the Repeal of the Corn Laws, the landed aristocracy retained its wealth, status, and political power largely intact until at least the 1880s.
6. Britain financed its war effort in the First World War by selling off its German assets, borrowing heavily from France and Belgium, and negotiating the lend-lease agreement with the United States.
7. The Parliament Act of 1911 removed the right of the House of Lords to veto financial legislation and gave the Commons the power to over-ride the Lords veto on ordinary legislation by passing a disputed measure in three successive parliamentary sessions.
8. The Pax Britannica refers to the period of British naval supremacy after the Washington Naval Agreement in 1922.
9. Clement Attlee is known for being the Conservative Prime Minister who Winston Churchill replaced in May 1939.
10. Initially, the Anglo-Boer War generated much imperial enthusiasm, which was replaced with pessimism after the defeats of 'Black Week,' but ultimately, and despite the revelations of 'the methods of barbarism,' most of the population supported the war effort throughout the conflict.

Section B: Essays – answer any TWO (2) of the following essay questions. Each essay is worth 35%; this section is therefore worth 70% of the exam.

1. Explain the positions of all sides of the Irish Home Rule debate. Why was Home Rule so divisive an issue?
2. Discuss some of the social consequences of industrialization in Britain. How has the debate been conducted? What is the most convincing position? Why?

OR

Discuss the development of 19th century popular political protest – both middle and working class movements. What was the impact of these movements on British government policy and/or parliamentary politics?

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3. What were the political, social and economic consequences of Britain's participation in the First World War?

OR

To what degree did the experience of the two World Wars in the 20th Century transform the position and roles of women in Britain?

4. What was the impact of the Great Depression on Britain's society, economy and domestic politics, and on British foreign policy, between 1929 and 1939?
5. Discuss at least two of the myths/collective memories discussed in the course that have had a clear impact on both subsequent events and on popular perceptions of British history.

OR

What were the principles behind the Labour government's policies between 1945 and 1951? What historical legacies were being addressed? What particular constraints did this government face?

6. How did the practice of democracy advance in Britain between 1832 and 1928? What drove the changes evident in the various franchise reform acts? Discuss at least three examples.

END OF EXAM