

IB History Higher Level (HL) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What was the main critique raised by Betty Friedan in her landmark book?**
 - A. The glorification of motherhood**
 - B. The struggles of working women**
 - C. The limitations placed on women in society**
 - D. The needs of racially marginalized women**
- 2. What was the significance of the Rome-Berlin Axis established in November 1936?**
 - A. It signified an alliance against communism**
 - B. It ended hopes for a common front against Hitler in Western Europe**
 - C. It promoted peace in Europe**
 - D. It aligned Italy with the Soviet Union**
- 3. What was the main outcome of the World Disarmament Conference held in Geneva in February 1932?**
 - A. Creation of the League of Nations**
 - B. Arms reduction and implementation challenges**
 - C. Signing of the Treaty of Versailles**
 - D. Establishment of military alliances**
- 4. Which movement focused heavily on the need for voter registration among African Americans?**
 - A. Black power movement**
 - B. Freedom Summer**
 - C. Civil Rights Act**
 - D. Southern Christian Leadership Conference**
- 5. What was one of the failures of SALT I negotiations?**
 - A. It disarmed the majority of nuclear warheads**
 - B. It prioritised the reduction of conventional forces**
 - C. It limited the disarmament of outdated warheads**
 - D. It led to the comprehensive control of chemical weapons**

- 6. Who was Phyllis Schlafly?**
- A. A proponent of women's rights in the 1960s**
 - B. A prominent opposition figure against the ERA**
 - C. A leading figure in the women's suffrage movement**
 - D. A politician advocating for workplace equality**
- 7. What aspect did Allan Bullock emphasize regarding Hitler's foreign policy flexibility?**
- A. It had a detailed timeline for action**
 - B. It allowed for opportunistic alliances and shifts**
 - C. It was influenced heavily by public opinion**
 - D. It focused solely on military expansion**
- 8. Which of the following best defines the Triple Alliance?**
- A. An alliance of Italy, Germany, and France**
 - B. An alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Russia**
 - C. An alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy**
 - D. An alliance of France, Russia, and Serbia**
- 9. What was the significance of the Treaty of Rapallo signed in 1922?**
- A. It marked the end of hostilities between France and Germany**
 - B. It allowed Germany to secretly develop weapons**
 - C. It established a peace treaty between Austria and Hungary**
 - D. It created economic sanctions against Italy**
- 10. What significant military action took place in 1936 within Germany?**
- A. Annexation of Austria**
 - B. Remilitarization of the Rhineland**
 - C. Invasion of Czechoslovakia**
 - D. Formation of the Axis Powers**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. C
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

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1. What was the main critique raised by Betty Friedan in her landmark book?

- A. The glorification of motherhood**
- B. The struggles of working women**
- C. The limitations placed on women in society**
- D. The needs of racially marginalized women**

Betty Friedan's landmark book, "The Feminine Mystique," primarily critiques the limitations placed on women in society, particularly during the 1950s and 1960s. Friedan argues that many women were denied opportunities outside the domestic sphere and were unfulfilled by the traditional roles assigned to them. She describes a pervasive dissatisfaction that many women felt, often referred to as "the problem that has no name," stemming from their confinement to domestic responsibilities and societal expectations of being solely caretakers and homemakers. Friedan's analysis highlights how these limitations were not just personal failures but were systemic and culturally reinforced. She critiques the idealized image of women as housewives, suggesting that this glorification obscured the reality of women's potential and aspirations. By emphasizing the need for individuality and self-fulfillment, she called for societal change to expand women's roles beyond the home and to promote equality in both personal and professional domains. While discussions about motherhood, the struggles of working women, and the needs of racially marginalized women are important aspects of feminist discourse, they are not the primary focus of Friedan's critique. Her work laid the foundation for understanding the broader implications of gender roles and the societal structures that limit women's identities and

2. What was the significance of the Rome-Berlin Axis established in November 1936?

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The significance of the Rome-Berlin Axis established in November 1936 lies primarily in its role as a formalized alliance between Italy and Germany, which effectively ended hopes for a coordinated response against the rise of Nazi Germany in Western Europe. This alliance demonstrated a shift in political alignments, as countries that previously might have collaborated to curtail Hitler's ambitions found themselves unable to unite against this growing threat. The Axis signaled that Italy and Germany were not only willing to work together but also to pursue their own expansionist policies, which undermined collective security efforts in Europe. This development fostered an environment where other nations perceived an increased risk of aggression from the Axis powers, making diplomatic resolutions more challenging and diminishing any opportunities for a united front against them. In contrast, the other options suggest different interpretations of the Rome-Berlin Axis. While it did indeed signify a shared interest in opposing communism, the primary impact was on Western European dynamics and the diminishment of collaborative resistance to Hitler. The idea that it promoted peace in Europe is also contrary to historical evidence, as the alliance instead contributed to the escalation of tensions leading up to World War II. Lastly, aligning Italy with the Soviet Union is inaccurate, as the Axis was fundamentally an alliance based on

3. What was the main outcome of the World Disarmament Conference held in Geneva in February 1932?

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The primary outcome of the World Disarmament Conference held in Geneva in February 1932 was the attempt to achieve arms reduction and the subsequent challenges that arose in the implementation of such agreements. This conference represented a significant effort by nations to address the growing tensions and the arms race that were contributing to international instability in the lead-up to World War II. While countries expressed a desire for disarmament and negotiated terms, the conference ultimately faced considerable difficulties. States were concerned about their own national security and were reluctant to reduce their military capabilities. This led to significant disagreements among nations regarding the terms of disarmament, particularly between those that were disarmed post-World War I and those that had maintained or increased their military strength. The other options do not accurately reflect the main outcomes of the conference. The League of Nations was established prior to this conference and was not a direct product of it. Similarly, the Treaty of Versailles was signed in 1919 and is unrelated to the 1932 conference outcome. The establishment of military alliances is more applicable to the events leading up to the Second World War, rather than an outcome of the World Disarmament Conference where the focus was on reducing military tensions.

4. Which movement focused heavily on the need for voter registration among African Americans?

- A. Black power movement**
- B. Freedom Summer**
- C. Civil Rights Act**
- D. Southern Christian Leadership Conference**

The Freedom Summer, which took place in 1964, was a pivotal movement aimed specifically at increasing voter registration among African Americans in the South, particularly in Mississippi. This initiative was part of a broader civil rights campaign to combat voter discrimination and suppression, which were rampant due to Jim Crow laws and other systemic barriers. During Freedom Summer, activists organized a large-scale effort to educate and assist African Americans in registering to vote, as well as to challenge the hostile environment that often met those who attempted to do so. The initiative attracted national attention, drawing hundreds of volunteers, primarily white college students, to assist with the registration process and to conduct community training. This movement was instrumental in highlighting the injustices faced by African Americans and laid groundwork for subsequent legislation aimed at ensuring civil rights and voting rights, such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The other movements and initiatives mentioned, while also related to civil rights, focused on broader issues of racial equality or different forms of activism, rather than exclusively on the voter registration aspect that was the central theme of Freedom Summer.

5. What was one of the failures of SALT I negotiations?

- A. It disarmed the majority of nuclear warheads**
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One of the notable failures of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT I) negotiations was that it primarily focused on limiting the number of nuclear delivery systems, such as intercontinental ballistic missiles, while not addressing the disarmament of older or outdated warheads. This meant that although new technologies were restricted in terms of their development and deployment, there was no significant progress in reducing the overall nuclear arsenals, particularly concerning warheads that had already been built before the negotiations began. This limitation meant that both superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, could continue to maintain and even modernize their existing arsenals, as long as they adhered to the treaty constraints on new systems. Thus, while SALT I marked a critical step in arms control, its effectiveness was undermined by this oversight regarding disarmament of the older stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

6. Who was Phyllis Schlafly?

- A. A proponent of women's rights in the 1960s**
- B. A prominent opposition figure against the ERA**
- C. A leading figure in the women's suffrage movement**
- D. A politician advocating for workplace equality**

Phyllis Schlafly was a significant figure in the conservative movement, particularly known for her strong opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) during the 1970s. She argued that the ERA would undermine traditional family structures and the rights of women, asserting that women were protected under existing laws. Schlafly's activism played a pivotal role in rallying grassroots support against the amendment, influencing public opinion and contributing to its eventual failure to be ratified by the necessary number of states. Her activities highlighted a crucial divide in the broader women's rights movement, showcasing the complexities of gender politics during that era. The impact of her work not only shaped discussions around women's rights at the time but also left a lasting legacy in conservative politics. This understanding of Schlafly's life and influence underscores the reason why the recognition of her as a prominent opposition figure against the ERA is accurate.

7. What aspect did Allan Bullock emphasize regarding Hitler's foreign policy flexibility?

- A. It had a detailed timeline for action**
- B. It allowed for opportunistic alliances and shifts**
- C. It was influenced heavily by public opinion**
- D. It focused solely on military expansion**

Allan Bullock emphasized that Hitler's foreign policy was characterized by its flexibility, which included the ability to form opportunistic alliances and make shifts as the international situation changed. This flexibility allowed Hitler to exploit weaknesses in other countries and adjust his strategies based on the evolving political landscape. Rather than adhering to a rigid plan, this approach enabled the Nazi regime to take advantage of chances that arose, such as forming temporary alliances or altering tactics in response to the actions of other nations. In tracing Hitler's foreign policy, it becomes evident that this adaptability was crucial in pursuing his broader goals of territorial expansion and the establishment of Germany as a dominant power. The capacity to pivot, rather than commit to a predetermined timeline or solely focus on military goals, empowered Hitler to secure victories in the early years of World War II.

8. Which of the following best defines the Triple Alliance?

- A. An alliance of Italy, Germany, and France**
- B. An alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Russia**
- C. An alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy**
- D. An alliance of France, Russia, and Serbia**

The Triple Alliance was a military alliance established in 1882 primarily to counter the perceived threat from the Triple Entente, which consisted of France, Russia, and Britain. The members of the Triple Alliance were Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. This alliance was rooted in mutual interests: Germany sought to strengthen its position in Europe, Austria-Hungary sought support against Slavic nationalism, and Italy aimed for territorial expansion and security against France and its enemies. This alliance played a significant role in the complexities of European diplomacy leading up to World War I, as it created a network of obligations, potentially pulling member states into conflict due to alliances. The collaboration, however, was not without its tensions, particularly as Italy would later diverge from the alliance during the war. The other options reference different combinations of countries that do not align with the historical context of the Triple Alliance. The combination mentioned in the correct choice captures the essence of the alliance's members, solidifying its historical significance in early 20th-century geopolitics.

9. What was the significance of the Treaty of Rapallo signed in 1922?

- A. It marked the end of hostilities between France and Germany**
- B. It allowed Germany to secretly develop weapons**
- C. It established a peace treaty between Austria and Hungary**
- D. It created economic sanctions against Italy**

The Treaty of Rapallo, signed in 1922 between the Weimar Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union, held significant implications for both nations, particularly in the context of military and economic cooperation. The treaty effectively reestablished diplomatic relations that had been severed during World War I and allowed both countries to circumvent the restrictions imposed by the Treaty of Versailles. One of the critical aspects of the agreement was that it provided a framework under which Germany could develop military technology and weapons in secret, away from the scrutiny of the Allied powers. This arrangement enabled Germany to enhance its military capabilities despite the limitations outlined in the Treaty of Versailles. In return, the Soviet Union gained access to German industrial expertise and technology, which it sorely needed during its early years following the Russian Revolution. Hence, the treaty served as a pivotal moment for both nations, signaling a shift in international relations and the beginning of a tactical alliance that would eventually have significant ramifications in the lead-up to World War II. The other options pertain to different historical contexts and events that do not accurately relate to the Treaty of Rapallo.

10. What significant military action took place in 1936 within Germany?

- A. Annexation of Austria**
- B. Remilitarization of the Rhineland**
- C. Invasion of Czechoslovakia**
- D. Formation of the Axis Powers**

The remilitarization of the Rhineland in 1936 stands out as a significant military action because it was a direct challenge to the post-World War I international order established by the Treaty of Versailles and the Locarno Treaties. Under the Treaty of Versailles, Germany was prohibited from stationing military forces in the Rhineland, which was meant to act as a buffer zone between Germany and France. When Adolf Hitler ordered German troops to re-enter and occupy the Rhineland on March 7, 1936, it marked the first time Germany openly defied the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. This military action was significant not only because it demonstrated Hitler's willingness to use military force to revise the borders and terms imposed on Germany after World War I, but also because it was a pivotal moment that encouraged further German aggression in Europe. The lack of a strong response from France or Britain emboldened Hitler's regime and paved the way for subsequent expansions, such as the annexation of Austria and the eventual invasion of Czechoslovakia. Overall, the remilitarization of the Rhineland was a crucial turning point that illustrated the failures of the League of Nations and the policy of appeasement that would ultimately lead to