Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Time 1 hour 30 minutes

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History

Advanced

PAPER 2: Depth study

Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46

Option 2G.2: Spain, 1930–78: republicanism, Francoism and the re-establishment of democracy

Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46

Sources for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From a statement issued by Mussolini in *Il Popolo d'Italia* newspaper, 28 October 1922. Mussolini was the editor of *Il Popolo d'Italia*.

The time for determined battle has come! Today, the army of the blackshirts will restore the victory that was achieved in the Great War but subsequently mutilated. By marching directly to Rome, the Fascist army will once more bring glory to the Capital City. The martial law of Fascism now becomes a fact. By order of the *Duce*, all the military, political and administrative functions of the party management are taken over by a secret Quadrumvirate* of Action with dictatorial powers.

The Italian army must not take part in this struggle. Fascism, furthermore, does not march against the police. Rather, Fascism marches against a political class that is both cowardly and incompetent. In four long years, this political class has not been able to give a functioning Government to the Nation.

Workers must know that Fascism only wants to impose order and discipline upon the Nation. Workers have nothing to fear from the Fascist Government. The just rights of the workers will be protected. We will even be generous with unarmed opponents.

Fascism draws its sword to cut the knots which tie and burden Italian life. We call on God and the spirit of our five hundred thousand war dead to bear witness that only one passion burns within us – the desire to contribute to the safety and greatness of our Country.

Long live Italy!
Long live Fascism!

*Quadrumvirate – a group of four people with the authority to take action

Source 2: From George Seldes, *Sawdust Caesar, The Untold History of Mussolini and Fascism*, published 1935. Seldes was an American investigative journalist. He worked in Italy from 1923 until 1925, when he was expelled after accusing Mussolini of involvement in the murder of Matteotti. Here Seldes is commenting on events in October 1922.

On 26 October, the *Fascisti* demanded control of the government. The next day, Mussolini went back to his newspaper office in Milan and the Fascist *squadristi* got their orders to march.

Under the command of many generals, the *squadristi* 'marched' on Rome. As their open trucks went slowly along the dusty roads, the Fascist civilians praised the adventure as friendly, while opponents said simply that the Fascists were like children playing.

But the city of Rome was alarmed and the army was put to work stringing barbed wire around some of the gates. On the morning of 28 October, the general staff officers received reports that there were no more than 800 poorly-clothed and ill-fed Fascists in the neighbourhood of Rome. Prime Minister Facta, who could have sent a few machine-guns against them, did what was typical of that government – he did nothing but run around, talking and gesturing.

The King refused to sign the decree of martial law. The King had been told, untruthfully, that the Duke of Aosta* was among the *Fascisti* outside the walls of Rome. The King was told that the Duke had 80,000 men ready to seize the Crown, and that the army had refused to fight against the Fascists. The King was frightened. He surrendered.

The King telegraphed Mussolini in Milan to come and form a government.

*Duke of Aosta – the pro-fascist second cousin to King Victor Emmanuel III

Option 2G.2: Spain, 1930–78: republicanism, Francoism and the re-establishment of democracy

Sources for use with Question 2.

Source 3: From an article, *After the Victory. A Single Demand: The Power to Govern*, published in the Socialist Party newspaper, 18 February 1936. This article was published two days after the 1936 elections. Here the writer gives the response of the left-wing to the election result.

Victory was obtained on Sunday and, as a result, the Popular Front has successfully established its claim to be the government. No one and nothing can now stand in the way of the conclusive and overpowering consent of the people. No one – and of this we are sure – will stand in the way.

At this time, it is necessary to show great calm. We must not allow anyone to provoke those who are against us. Nothing would be more damaging to all our purposes. Our victory will make our struggle easier and will result in the absolute defeat of our enemies.

It is urgent that the powers of government be handed over to the Popular Front. The whole country is demanding that our most fundamental objectives be fulfilled. We demand one thing: the handing over of the powers of government. The people must now ask for a single thing: the powers of government. Power belongs to the people. No one can oppose power falling into their hands. Once the powers of government are in their hands, the people will no longer have to ask for anything.

Source 4: From Luis Bolin, *Spain: The Vital Years*, published 1967. Bolin was a right-wing journalist. He was responsible for arranging Franco's air flight to Morocco in July 1936. He became a member of Franco's government after the civil war. Here he is commenting on the outcome of the 1936 election in Spain.

There was no democratic justification for the triumphant excesses of the Left. Even after a good deal of manipulation, the elections of 16 February had not shown conclusive results – 4,570,000 votes for the Right, 4,356,000 for the Left, and 340,000 for the Centre. These results showed that Spain was splitting into two extremes. However, the results were enough for the Left to seize power and to appoint a Popular Front Government.

The Left introduced a programme that included the removal of President Zamora. This programme also placed restrictions on army officers and called for the confiscation of property and the nationalisation of banks and private industries. It included the destruction of all churches and convents and the destruction of the bourgeois class and of bourgeois newspapers. It included the creation of armed militias. This programme was a first step towards the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Azaña was elected as President. He was a most suitable candidate for the Presidency of such a Republic. Positions in the cabinet were allotted to the Republican Left, Republican Union and Catalan Left, all willing puppets of the Red extremists.

Revolt broke out in a dozen towns, and outrages were committed daily in big cities. In Madrid, a riot was caused by a ridiculous rumour that the ladies who worked for social welfare had distributed poisoned sweets to children. As a reprisal, several churches were burnt and three nuns and two other women were assaulted by an infuriated mob.

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Acknowledgements

Source 1 from: My Autobiography: With "The Political and Social Doctrine of Fascism" By Benito Mussolini and Richard Washburn Child © Dover Publications Inc., 2006

Source 2 from: Sawdust Caesar, The Untold History of Mussolini and Fascism By Georges Seldes © London, Arthur Barker Ltd., 1936

Source 3 from: Modern Spain: A Documentary History By Jon Cowans © University of Pennsylvania Press, 2003

Source 4 from: The Vital Years By Luis Bolin © Ebenezer Baylis and Son Limited, 1967