This is a Class 3 exam

Lebanon Evangelical School for Boys and Girls

Lebanon Evangelical School
for Boys and Girls Loueizeh - Baabda

Stage Exam 03
10FEB2026

Do NOT write in this box. Your MARK will be placed here.

Subject :	History	
Class :	9A	
Teacher :	Dr. Mark Woolmer	
Duration :	1 hour	
Your name :		*Time taken to complete exam*
Your Class :		
Exam Room :		
How many sheets, including cover sheet :		

- Do not open this paper until the teacher in charge instructs you to do so.
- The most important thing to remember in taking an exam is NEVER PANIC.
- If you are caught cheating in this exam, you will be awarded zero for ALL exams that are taken on this day.

9A

The Origins and Course of the First World War, 1905–18

YOU MUST ANSWER QUESTIONS A, B, AND C.

(a) Describe TWO features of EITHER the Gallipoli Campaign OR the German threat to Britain in the North Sea.

(marks = 6)

(b) Study Sources A and B, then answer the question that follows.

Source A: From a report in an English newspaper on the sinking of the Lusitania, 10 May 1915.

The world has reacted with horror to the loss of life on the Lusitania but, in Germany, the people are delighted. Germany justifies the sinking as part of its submarine blockade of Britain. German newspapers also claim that the Lusitania was fitted with guns, but this is false. Though the British government had the right to use the Lusitania for the purposes of war, it did not do so. The Lusitania was an unarmed passenger vessel.

Source B: From a statement issued by the German Government about the sinking of the Lusitania, 28 May 1915.

Germany sank the Lusitania in self-defence to protect the lives of our armed forces. The Lusitania was built using money from the British government so it could be used during a war. On a previous trip, the Lusitania had Canadian troops on board. On its last trip, it was certainly fitted with heavy guns when it left New York. The Lusitania sank so quickly because its cargo of ammunition exploded when struck by the torpedo.

How far does Source A support the evidence of Source B about the sinking of the Lusitania?

Explain your answer.

(marks = 8)

*** QUESTIONS CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE ***

(c) Study Extract C and then answer the question that follows.

Extract C: From an article on the sinking of the Lusitania, published in 2020.

The Lusitania sank killing 1198 people, including many women and children. Few had believed that Germany would attack a passenger liner, especially one carrying so many Americans.

However, Germany was justified in sinking the Lusitania. The Germans knew they had to prevent Britain from receiving supplies from abroad if they were going to win the war. Also, the British Navy ignored Germany's warnings that U-boats posed an extreme danger to the liner. The Navy did not ask the Lusitania to change course or provide it with a naval escort.

Extract C suggests that Germany was justified in sinking the Lusitania.

How far do you agree with this interpretation?

Use Extract C, Sources A and B and your own knowledge to explain your answer.

(16)

TOTAL MARK FOR PAPER = 30

END

The origins and course of the First World War, 1905–18

You must answer all questions.

(a) Describe TWO features of EITHER the Allied drive to victory (July-November 1918) OR the German threat to Britain in the North Sea.

1. German U-boat (Submarine) Warfare

- A major threat came from Germany's use of U-boats to attack British shipping.
- Submarines targeted merchant vessels bringing food, fuel, and weapons to Britain.
- In 1917, Germany introduced unrestricted submarine warfare, meaning ships could be sunk without warning.
- This created serious shortages in Britain and threatened to cut off vital supplies.
- U-boat warfare was one of Germany's most dangerous strategies in the North Sea.

2. The German High Seas Fleet and Naval Power

- Germany also posed a threat through its powerful High Seas Fleet, based in the North Sea.
- Britain feared a major naval battle that could weaken the Royal Navy's control of sea routes.
- The threat led to large-scale clashes such as the Battle of Jutland (1916).
- Even though Britain remained dominant, Germany's fleet still forced Britain to maintain a strong blockade and constant naval patrols.
- The presence of the High Seas Fleet was a continuing pressure on British security.

3. Naval Mines

- Germany used large numbers of naval mines in the North Sea to disrupt British shipping.
- Mines were laid in key sea routes used by merchant and naval vessels.
- They could sink ships unexpectedly, creating danger even without direct combat.
- This forced Britain to devote resources to mine-sweeping and protecting trade routes.
- Mines made the North Sea far more hazardous for Britain's navy and supply lines.

4. Raids by German Surface Ships

- German warships also carried out coastal raids on Britain.
- Towns such as Scarborough, Whitby, and Hartlepool were attacked in 1914.
- These raids caused civilian casualties and raised fears of invasion.
- They demonstrated that Germany could strike Britain directly from the North Sea.
- Surface raids undermined British confidence and forced the Royal Navy to remain on high alert.

(b) Study Sources A and B and then answer the question that follows.

Source A: From a report in an English newspaper on the sinking of the Lusitania, 10 May 1915.

The world has reacted with horror to the loss of life on the Lusitania but, in Germany, the people are delighted. Germany justifies the sinking as part of its submarine blockade of Britain. German newspapers also claim that the Lusitania was fitted with guns, but this is false. Though the British government had the right to use the Lusitania for the purposes of war, it did not do so. The Lusitania was an unarmed passenger vessel.

Source B: From a statement issued by the German Government about the sinking of the Lusitania, 28 May 1915.

Germany sank the Lusitania in self-defence to protect the lives of our armed forces. The Lusitania was built using money from the British government so it could be used during a war. On a previous trip, the Lusitania had Canadian troops on board. On its last trip, it was certainly fitted with heavy guns when it left New York. The Lusitania sank so quickly because its cargo of ammunition exploded when struck by the torpedo.

How far does Source A support the evidence of Source B about the sinking of the Lusitania?

Explain your answer.

(8)

Agreements between Source A and Source B

1. Germany was responsible for sinking the Lusitania

- Source A reports Germany justified the sinking.
- Source B openly states Germany sank it.

2. Germany connected the sinking to the wider naval war against Britain

- Source A says Germany justified it as part of its submarine blockade of Britain.
- Source B claims it was done in self-defence to protect German armed forces.

3. The sinking caused international reaction

- Source A says "the world has reacted with horror."
- Source B responds defensively, suggesting Germany felt it needed to justify its actions.

Disagreements between Source A and Source B

1. Whether the Lusitania was armed

- Source A says the ship was unarmed, and German claims it had guns were false.
- Source B insists it was "certainly fitted with heavy guns."

2. Whether the ship was being used for military purposes

- Source A claims Britain had the right to use it for war purposes but did not do so.
- Source B argues it was built using British government money and could be used during war, implying military use.

3. Presence of troops

- Source A does not mention troops and presents Lusitania as purely civilian.
- Source B claims that on a previous trip it carried Canadian troops.

4. Cause of the ship sinking so quickly

- Source A focuses only on loss of life and unjustified sinking.
- Source B claims it sank quickly because its cargo of ammunition exploded.

5. Germany's motives

- Source A implies the sinking was morally wrong and unjustified, and Germans were "delighted."
- Source B claims Germany acted in self-defence.

6. Public reaction in Germany

- Source A says Germans were "delighted" by the deaths.
- Source B presents Germany as defending itself, not celebrating.

***** Questions continue on the next page *****

(c) Study Extract C and then answer the question that follows.

Extract C: From an article on the sinking of the Lusitania, published in 2020.

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However, Germany was justified in sinking the Lusitania. The Germans knew they had to prevent Britain from receiving supplies from abroad if they were going to win the war. Also, the British Navy ignored Germany's warnings that U-boats posed an extreme danger to the liner. The Navy did not ask the Lusitania to change course or provide it with a naval escort.

Extract C suggests that Germany was justified in sinking the Lusitania.

How far do you agree with this interpretation?

Use Extract C, Sources A and B and your own knowledge to explain your answer.

(16)

Agreements with Extract C (Germany was justified)

1. Part of the submarine blockade

- Extract C says Germany needed to stop Britain receiving supplies.
- Source A agrees Germany justified the sinking as part of its submarine blockade.
- :Germany used U-boats to weaken Britain by cutting off imports.

2. Germany believed it was self-defence

- Extract C implies Germany acted for strategic survival.
- Source B agrees, claiming Germany sank the ship in self-defence.
- Germany saw Britain's blockade of Germany as equally threatening.

3. Britain may share some responsibility

- Extract C argues the British Navy ignored warnings and gave no escort.
- Britain did not provide full protection despite the danger of U-boats.

Disagreements with Extract C (Germany was NOT justified)

1. Lusitania was a civilian passenger ship

- Extract C notes it was a passenger liner carrying many civilians.
- Source A stresses it was an unarmed passenger vessel.
- 1,198 people died, including women and children.

2. Dispute over whether it was a military target

- Source B claims the ship was armed and carrying ammunition.
- Source A directly says this was false.
- The sinking was widely viewed as an attack on civilians.

3. Worldwide outrage suggests unjustified action

- Source A says "the world reacted with horror."
- Extract C acknowledges shock, especially because Americans were aboard.
- The sinking damaged Germany's reputation and helped push the USA toward entering the war.

4. Unrestricted submarine warfare was controversial

- Extract C presents justification, but…
- Germany's policy of sinking ships without warning broke traditional naval rules and was condemned internationally.

END