

Background to the paper

- 2171/01 is a multiple-choice question paper for the Brunei O Level in History.
- The paper tests A01 and A02 skills and is worth 40 marks. Candidates have one hour to complete 40 questions.
- The paper is auto-marked.
- The paper tests knowledge and understanding on: the History of Brunei, 1800–1984 (15 questions), the History of Malaya, 1874–1963 (15 questions) and the Second World War in Asia, c. 1929–53 (10 questions).
- There are currently three item writers who are commissioned to write questions.

Instructions for Multiple Choice task

Please read through and check the multiple-choice questions and answer key below. Then, prepare feedback on how these questions might be improved. You may also choose to comment on any positive features. Please attach your feedback as a word document.

The questions should be suitable for 15-16-year-old O Level History learners whose first language is not English. Multiple-choice questions have an initial question or ‘stem’ followed by three or four options. Only one option should be correct; the others should be plausible distractors. Some additional key points to note are:

- Distractors should be in alphabetical or chronological order.
- Numerical distractors should be in ascending order.

The Second World War in Asia, c. 1929–53

- 1 Which Japanese export was most severely affected by the Great Depression?
 - A Coal
 - B Silk
 - C Wool
 - D Rubber

- 2 How did Japan react to the League of Nations report on the invasion of Manchuria?
 - A It accepted the terms of the report.
 - B It invaded northern China.
 - C It withdrew from the League of Nations.
 - D The Japanese prime minister resigned.

- 3 The Marco Polo Bridge Incident happened in what year?
 - A 1940
 - B 1937
 - C 1938
 - D 1920

- 4 Why was the United States reluctant to invade Japan in 1945?
 - A Japan was about to surrender unconditionally.
 - B President Truman had promised the Japanese Emperor there would be no invasion.
 - C The Americans were worried about how many of their soldiers would be killed.
 - D The Americans did not want to upset Japanese civilians living in the United States.

- 5 Who was Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) in Japan?
 - A MacArthur
 - B Churchill
 - C Roosevelt
 - D Stalin

- 6 What event in 1937 led to the outbreak of the Second Sino–Japanese War?
 - A the Long March
 - B the Marco Polo Bridge Incident
 - C Mukden Incident
 - D the Shanghai Massacre

- 7 Why was the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor not completely successful?
 - A The American defences were too strong.
 - B The American aircraft carriers were out at sea when the Japanese attacked.

- C The Americans already knew the Japanese were coming.
 - D The Japanese planes had to turn back to refuel.
- 8 How did MacArthur and SCAP help to rebuild Japan after World War 2?
- A He had final authority to make all decisions.
 - B He promoted large business organisations.
 - C He increased the status of Japan's emperor.
 - D He increased the power of rich landowners who had advocated for war and supported Japanese expansionism.
- 9 In 1949, where did Chiang Kai-Shek escape to?
- A Formosa
 - B Manchuria
 - C Shanghai
 - D United States
- 10 What was a consequence of the San Francisco Treaty (1951)?
- A Britain returned Hong Kong to China.
 - B The Allied occupation of Japan ended.
 - C The USSR promised financial aid to Japan.
 - D The war in Korea came to an end.

Answer key:

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