

IB History - Understanding Paper 1

What is Paper 1? It is a source-based exam based on the prescribed subject: *The Move to Global War*. This topic includes two case studies: Japanese Expansion in East Asia 1931-41 and Italian and German expansion 1933-40. The paper contains four sources that will be primary or a mixture of primary and secondary, and may be written, pictorial, or diagrams. It includes four questions and students must answer all four questions.

Paper 1 Questions and Marks

First question, part A	This question will test comprehension of one of the sources.	3 marks
First question, part B (10 minutes)	This question will test understanding of one of the sources - usually a visual.	2 marks
Second question (10 minutes)	This question will ask you to analyse the value and limitations of one of the sources. In your analysis of value and limitations, you should refer to the origin, purpose and content of the specified source.	4 marks
Third question (15 minutes)	This question will ask you to compare and contrast what two of the sources reveal to a historian studying this topic.	6 marks
Fourth question (25 minutes)	This will be an essay question that asks you to draw on all of the sources and your own knowledge in their evaluation.	9 marks

**The maximum mark for this paper is 24. Duration: 1 hour.

Case Study 1: Japanese Expansion in East Asia (1931–1941)

Causes of Expansion

- The impact of Japanese nationalism and militarism on foreign policy
- Japanese domestic issues: political and economic issues, and their impact on foreign relations
- Political instability in China

Events

- Japanese invasion of Manchuria and northern China (1931)
- Sino-Japanese War (1937–1941)
- The Three Power/Tripartite Pact; the outbreak of war; Pearl Harbor (1941)

Responses

- League of Nations and the Lytton report
- Political developments within China—the Second United Front
- International response, including US initiatives and increasing tensions between the US and Japan

Case Study 2: German and Italian Expansion (1933–1940)

Causes of Expansion

- Impact of fascism and Nazism on the foreign policies of Italy and Germany
- Impact of domestic economic issues on the foreign policies of Italy and Germany
- Changing diplomatic alignments in Europe; the end of collective security; appeasement

Events

- German challenges to the post-war settlements (1933–1938)
- Italian expansion: Abyssinia (1935–1936); Albania; entry into the Second World War
- German expansion (1938–1939); Pact of Steel, Nazi–Soviet Pact and the outbreak of war

Responses

- International response to German aggression (1933–1938)
- International response to Italian aggression (1935–1936)
- International response to German and Italian aggression (1940)