Contents

Introduction 4

1 The French Revolution and Napoleon 1789–1804 6
   The aims and domestic problems of French politicians 1789–91 8
   The instability of French governments 1791–99 19
   Napoleon Bonaparte’s rise to power 30
   Napoleon’s domestic aims 1799–1804 32

2 The Industrial Revolution c. 1800–50 42
   Causes of the Industrial Revolution by 1800 44
   What factors encouraged and discouraged industrialisation from 1800 to 1850? 48
   The social effects of the Industrial Revolution on different classes 57
   The political effects of the Industrial Revolution up to 1850 63

3 Liberalism and nationalism: Italy and Germany 1848–71 72
   The rise of nationalism in Germany and Italy 74
   Prussia and the unification of Germany 81
   Italian leaders and the unification of Italy 95

4 The origins of the First World War 106
   The development of the alliance system 108
   Militarism and the naval race 116
   Instability in the Balkans 123
   Reasons for the outbreak of war in 1914 126

5 The Russian Revolution 1905–17 136
   Russia at the beginning of the 20th century 138
   The causes and immediate outcomes of the 1905 Revolution 141
   The strengths and weaknesses of Romanov rule 1906–14 148
   The causes of the February Revolution in 1917 152
   The Bolsheviks’ rise to power 158

6 Examination skills 168
   What skills will be tested in examination, and how? 170
   Knowledge and understanding questions 172
   Analysis and evaluation questions 175
   Source-based questions 182
   Examination technique 193

Index 196

Acknowledgements 200
Cambridge International AS Level History is a new series of three books that offer complete and thorough coverage of Cambridge International AS Level History (syllabus code 9389). Each book is aimed at one of the AS History syllabuses issued by Cambridge International Examinations for first examination in 2014. These books may also prove useful for students following other A Level courses covering similar topics. Written in clear and accessible language, Cambridge International AS Level History – European History 1789–1917 enables students to gain the knowledge, understanding and skills to succeed in their AS Level course (and ultimately in further study and examination).

Syllabus and examination

Students wishing to take just the AS Level take two separate papers at the end of a one-year course. If they wish to take the full A Level there are two possible routes. The first is to take the two AS papers at the end of the first year and a further two A Level papers at the end of the following year. The second is to take the two AS papers as well as the two A Level papers at the end of a two-year course. For the full A Level, all four papers must be taken. The two AS papers are outlined below.

Paper 1 lasts for one hour and will be based on Liberalism and Nationalism in Italy and Germany 1848–71. The paper will contain at least three different sources, and candidates will have to answer two questions on them. Students are not expected to have extensive historical knowledge to deal with these questions, but they are expected to be able to understand, evaluate and utilise the sources in their answers, and to have sound background knowledge of the period. In the first question (a) candidates are required to consider the sources and answer a question on one aspect of them. In the second question (b) candidates must use the sources and their own knowledge and understanding to address how far the sources support a given statement. Chapter 3 provides the appropriate level of historical knowledge to deal with Paper 1.

Paper 2 lasts for an hour and a half. The paper contains four questions, and candidates must answer two of them. Each question has two parts: part (a) requires a causal explanation; and part (b) requires consideration of significance and weighing of the relative importance of factors. A question on each of the four topics outlined in the Cambridge syllabus (for example, The Industrial Revolution c. 1800–50) will appear in every examination paper.
Examination skills

Chapter 6, which is entirely dedicated to helping students with examination skills and techniques, gives guidance on answering all the different types of exam questions. Students should read the relevant section of the exam skills chapter before addressing practice questions, to remind themselves of the principles of answering each type of question. Remember that facts alone are not enough; they must be accompanied by a clear understanding of the questions and must employ a range of skills such as focused writing, evaluation and analysis.

All chapters have a similar structure. They key features are as follows:

1. **Key questions** pose thought-provoking pointers to the key issues being dealt with in the chapter.
2. **Content summary** explains the essence of a chapter.
3. **Timeline** offers an overview of significant events of the period.
4. **Key figures** offer a detailed profile of key personalities.
5. **Notes** highlight significant points from within the text.
6. **Definitions** of key terms enhance students’ understanding of the text.
7. **Questions** interspersed within the chapters help to consolidate learning.
8. **Key issues** outline the main aspects of the content that might be significant for exam preparation.
9. **Revision questions** help students assess their own understanding and skills.
10. **Further reading** provides a list of extra resources that will help with gaining a wider perspective of the topic.