**Exam Practise – Treaty of Versailles
END OF UNIT 2 TEST - MARKSCHEME**

**Relation to your IGCSE exam - on Paper 1 of your IGCSE you will write answers to 3 sets of questions in 2 hours (120 minutes). In the end of unit assessment you were given, you were asked to complete a single set of questions in 40 minutes.**

**The question set was taken from the Cambridge IGCSE 2010/13 paper**

**Examine the mark-scheme carefully so that you can improve you answers further….**

**(a) What actions did Hitler take between 1933 and 1936 to re-arm Germany?**

Level 1 General answer lacking specific contextual knowledge [1]

‘He ignored the Treaty of Versailles.’

Level 2 Describes measures [2–5]

One mark for each relevant point; additional mark for supporting detail.

‘Hitler withdrew from the Disarmament Conference.’

‘He began increasing the army size from 1934. It increased from 100,000 to 600,000 by

1936.’

In 1934, Hitler started building tanks and warships.’

‘Hitler started using the unemployed in new armament factories.’

‘Hitler reintroduced conscription in March 1935.’

‘Hitler introduced his new air force, the Luftwaffe, in 1935.’

‘In 1935, Hitler signed the Anglo-German Naval Treaty, which allowed Germany 35% of the size of Britain’s navy.’

‘In 1936, Germany re-militarised the Rhineland.’

**(b) Why were Britain and France prepared to sign the Munich Agreement?**

Level 1 General answer lacking specific contextual knowledge [1]

‘To save Czechoslovakia.’

Level 2 Identifies AND/OR describes reasons [2–3]

‘A solution to avoid war.’

‘It had been agreed at Bad Godesberg.’

‘It guaranteed Czechoslovakia’s borders.’

‘It gave time to re-arm.’

‘Hitler was a bulwark against Communism.’

Level 3 Explains reasons [4–7]

‘Britain and France wanted to avoid war at all costs. Both countries had suffered badly during the First World War and they did not want a repeat. They were, therefore, willing to sacrifice part of an ally to avoid conflict.’

‘Many Conservatives thought that the communist threat from Russia was a greater danger than Hitler. It was worth giving away part of an ally so that Hitler’s Germany would be a buffer against communist expansion westwards.’

‘British military chiefs told Chamberlain that Britain was not strong enough to fight against

Hitler and their assessment was that France was weak and divided. Chamberlain realised he needed time to speed up British rearmament.’

**(c) How far was the coming of the war in 1939 caused mainly by the Treaty of Versailles?**

**Explain your answer.**

Level 1 General answer lacking specific contextual knowledge [1]

‘It was the Treaty as it was unfair.’

‘It was Hitler’s foreign policy.’

Level 2 Identifies AND/OR describes reasons [2]

‘The terms of the Treaty were severe.’

‘Hitler’s aim was to destroy the Treaty of Versailles.’

‘The League proved to be a failure.’

‘The isolationist policy of the USA helped Hitler.’

‘The policy of appeasement was a mistake.’

‘The Depression made countries aggressive.’

Level 3 Explanation of the **importance of and problems with the Treaty** in causing war [3–5]

‘In Germany, resentment against the Treaty persisted and, as part of his foreign policy,

Hitler was determined to reverse it. He had never accepted the Treaty and was determined to restore German pride.’

‘Hitler destroyed the Treaty by his **aggressive** foreign policy. He left the League, began re-arming, introduced conscription, re-occupied the Rhineland and united with Austria. These actions demonstrated his determination to avenge the Treaty and increase his power in Europe.’

**OR**

‘The **League of Nations’** main weapon was sanctions. It was unwilling to impose meaningful ones against powerful countries such as Italy. The failure of the League to act against Japan and Italy led to its demise and Hitler noted this. Britain and France stopped working through the League.’

‘Britain and France followed a policy of **appeasement** in the mistaken belief that eventually

Hitler would be satisfied. They did not realise until too late that he would never be satisfied.’

Level 4 Explanation of the importance of the Treaty in causing war AND other reasons [5–7]

Both sides of Level 3.

Level 5 Explains with evaluation of ‘how far’ [8]