QUESTIONs

1. Can one write a history of women in Ancient Greece?
2. How far can politics in democratic Athens be characterised as ‘populist’?
3. ‘The constitution of the Roman Republic was mixed but not balanced.’ Discuss.
4. What were the differences between the ‘Athenian Empire’ and the Roman Empire?
5. How can the spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire before the fourth century CE be explained?
6. What factors best explain the success of the Arab Conquests of the seventh and eighth centuries CE?
7. Why did the cult of saints spread across the early medieval world?
8. What considerations determined the power that women could wield in the early medieval period?
9. To what extent was the stability of the Carolingian empire dependent upon continual military expansion?
10. What do Bede’s writings reveal about his eighth-century political environment?
11. How did the new Viking polities of the late ninth and early tenth centuries reshape the political landscape of Britain and Ireland?
12. By what point was the Norman conquest of England irreversible?
13. To what extent was Magna Carta a personal attack on John’s kingship?
14. Is it meaningful to speak of a ‘renaissance’ in intellectual life in twelfth-century Europe?
15. By what point was the Norman conquest of England irreversible?
16. How did the Mongol empire and Western Europe affect each other?
17. What caused the growth of towns and cities during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries in Europe?
18. What were medieval rebellions intended to achieve (answer with reference to one or more polities)?
19. What can historians learn from coins?
20. To what extent was the fall of Constantinople a consequence of long-term strife within Byzantium?
21. Was sixteenth and seventeenth-century warfare driven by incessant innovations in how it was pursued?

22. Is Thomas More’s *Utopia* (1516) best thought of as a response to the ‘enclosure’ of common land in England?

23. What did opponents of the Henrician Reformation achieve?

24. How great a threat did Mary Stuart pose to Elisabeth I and her realm?

25. Why was the monarchy abolished, and a Commonwealth established, in 1649?

26. In what ways is the political theory of Thomas Hobbes’s *Leviathan* (1651) shaped by the experience of civil war?

27. Were religious minorities invariably oppressed in early modern Europe?

28. ‘The Revolution of 1688/9 was a return to previously established constitutional principles.’ Do you agree?

29. What effect did print have on the political culture of early modern Britain?

30. In what ways was the economy of Europe before 1750 affected by the establishment of colonies in other continents?

31. What drove British expansion overseas in the period c.1600–c.1720?

32. Is it helpful to see the Ottoman Empire as a ‘superpower’ challenging Europe in the period up to 1699?

33. What impact did slavery and the slave trade have on either West or East African states and societies before 1850?

34. In what ways, if any, did Peter the Great’s programme of Westernization differ from that of Catherine the Great?

35. To what extent was science ‘popularized’ between 1750 and 1850?

36. Which is more fundamental in Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s *Social Contract* (1762): sovereignty, or government?

37. Was access to coal the necessary condition for successful industrialisation in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries?

38. How well-founded were fears about the threat of a British revolution in the 1790s?

39. Did the unexpected emergence of a party system in the 1790s help or hinder the development of the young American republic?

40. What was settled by the Vienna Settlement of 1815?

41. Why did were slaves emancipated in the West Indian colonies of the British Empire?

42. What were the most successful strategies of Native American resistance to white expansion in the decades before the Indian Removal Act of 1830?

43. How far did the 1832 Reform Act increase the role of ‘popular opinion’ in British politics?

44. Was the ‘Age of Revolutions’ (c.1770–c.1850) a global period of change?

45. In what ways did empire shape domestic politics in nineteenth century Britain?
46. How far could women be involved in British politics in the eighteenth or the nineteenth centuries?

47. What do you take to be the most significant argument in Mary Wollstonecraft’s *Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792)?

48. To what extent can the achievement of independence in Latin American countries in the nineteenth century be explained by international factors?

49. Were the nineteenth-century unifications of Italy and Germany inevitable?

50. In what ways did the nature and form of European imperialism change in the late nineteenth century?

51. Was the Meiji Restoration of 1868 actually a revolution?

52. Why was Irish Home Rule so controversial in Great Britain?

53. Was ‘race’ invented in the nineteenth century?

54. ‘The First World War marked a transition from imperial states to nation states’. How far do you agree?

55. How did Gandhi mobilise the masses against British rule in India?

56. To what extent did Labour’s appeal in 1920s Britain rely on the personal leadership of Ramsay MacDonald?

57. How uniform were the experiences of the populations that lived under Nazi occupation?

58. Which of the two world wars did most to reshape the role of government in Britain, and why?

59. Account for Labour’s election victory in Britain in 1945.

60. Has the strength of Indian democracy since Independence been exaggerated?

61. Britain’s policy towards European integration since 1945 should ‘only be judged in the context of its policy towards the whole world’. Do you agree?

62. To what extent was twentieth-century African nationalism a mass movement?

63. What accounts for the intensity of domestic anti-communism in the USA in the 1940s and ’50s?

64. Was the global Cold War simply a new form of imperialism?

65. What role did Frantz Fanon allow for violence in *The Wretched of the Earth* (1961)?

66. Why did the Northern Irish ‘Troubles’ last so long?

67. ‘The events of 1968 had their origins in a transnational youth revolt.’ Is this the best explanation?

68. What led to the emergence of Bangladesh as a separate nation-state?

69. ‘Outside Iran, Islamic movements since the 1970s have not aspired to revolution.’ Discuss.

70. In what ways did Scotland exercise a distinct influence on British politics in the later twentieth century?
71. What was the impact of radio on the social and political organisation of society? (Discuss one or more countries.)
72. How has the nature of refugees across the globe changed between 1918 and 2007?
73. Why did both religiosity and secularization increase in twentieth-century American society?
74. Did gender relations change more during the earlier part of the twentieth century than they did during its later part? (Discuss in relation to one or more countries.)
75. Why was the break-up of Yugoslavia so violent?
76. Why did the ‘culture wars’ intensify in the U.S. during the Presidency of a political moderate, Bill Clinton?
77. What can historians learn from archaeologists?
78. Which has done more to shape societies in human history: food, or disease?
79. In what ways can ideas bring about historical change?
80. Should historians think locally or globally?
81. How might you write a history of the future?