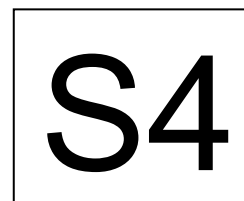


Name:	Index No:	Class:
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PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2025

HISTORY

2174/01

Paper 1: Extension of European control in Southeast Asia and challenges to European dominance,
1870s - 1942

Secondary 4

22 August 2025

Additional Materials: 5 sheets of writing paper

1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your index number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Section A.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

Start each section on a fresh sheet of paper.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

Hand in the question paper, Section A and Section B separately.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

Section A		30 marks
Section B Qn. No: () Qn. No: ()		20 marks
TOTAL:		50 marks

This document consists of 5 printed pages.

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Study the background information and all the sources carefully and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the questions you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

What can you learn about the Pangkor Treaty from Source A? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

Why do you think William Jervois wrote this letter to Sultan Abdullah? Explain your answer. [5]

(c) Study Sources C and D.

Are you surprised by Source C? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

How far does Source F prove that Source E is wrong? Explain your answer. [6]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'The Pangkor Treaty was a success for the British.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

The Pangkor Treaty

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

On 20 January 1874, Sir Andrew Clarke, the Governor of the Straits Settlements, signed the Pangkor Engagement with the Malay Chiefs of Perak. The treaty represented a major change in British policy, shifting from the previous approach of non-intervention to intervention. Under its terms, the British gained the right to install a Resident in Perak and resolve the succession dispute among the Malay Chiefs and put an end to the Larut Wars. Whilst marking the beginning of the process that would see the British extend their influence over the Malay states, the implementation of the terms of the Pangkor Treaty in Perak proved to be challenging. There were misunderstandings of the treaty's provisions, along with resistance and violence from some of the Malay Chiefs leading to the murder of James Birch and the Perak Wars. Thus, how far was the Pangkor Treaty a success for the British?

Source A: *An extract from a historical journal about the Residential System, published in 1951.*

Later Residents of Perak after the murder of James Birch had to confine their official activities to the offering of "advice" under the same conditions as those which brought Birch to grief. But both sides had learned much from the events of these years and under Hugh Low, great patience and caution from one side was met with growing co-operation from the other. It was therefore eventually possible to work out a system whereby the Resident's actual control could be clothed in the forms of "advice", financial security achieved, and investment and trade encouraged.

Source B: *An extract from a letter from William Jervois to Sultan Abdullah on 27 September 1875.*

We have shown you that there are now two Sultans in Perak, and that you have no authority in Upper Perak. We wish to help you in this matter, for the British Government cannot allow Perak to be disturbed any longer. You have proved that you are unable to govern the country by yourself, have not taken the advice of the Resident, nor fulfilled the engagements made at Pangkor, and you are responsible for not having done so. We wish, however, to be kind to you, and to maintain your position as Sultan. Thus, we propose to you that officers of the British Government shall govern the country in your name. If you agree to this, you will still be recognized as Sultan and receive a large allowance. But if you do not agree to this, we will not be able to help you any further.

Source C: *An extract from the journal of Sir William Jervois, who was the Governor of the Straits Settlements from 1875-1877.*

Instead of ruling his people with energy, firmness, and justice, Abdullah has abandoned himself to low pursuits and pleasures; he has 'squeezed' his subjects whenever he has been able to escape the vigilance of the Resident. His conduct has provoked the contempt of the Resident and the ill feeling of his subjects. A sultan in name, a puppet by nature, maintains his position simply by the presence of the Resident whose advice he disregards and whose instructions he does not heed. He only acts when the Resident has held out threats of the Governor's displeasure and the possibility of his being deposed. His extravagance entails expenses far beyond his salary, and he then ekes out a further income by 'squeezing' the people of Perak who are thus doubly taxed.

Source D: *An extract from the Pangkor Treaty, 20 January 1874.*

Whereas a state of anarchy exists in the Kingdom of Perak which lacks effective government and protection for its people and industries. British subjects, with significant tin mining investments, suffered from unprotected mines, piracy, murder, and arson, threatening British trade and nearby settlements. Perak's Chiefs, unable to cope, requested British assistance. Governor Sir Andrew Clarke, bound by treaty to protect Perak, proposed the following:

- That the Rajah Muda Abdullah be recognised as the Sultan of Perak.
- That the Sultan receive and provide a suitable residence for a British Officer to be called Resident, whose advice must be asked and acted upon on all questions other than those touching Malay Religion and Custom.
- That the collection and control of all Revenues and the general administration of the country be regulated under the advice of these Residents.

Source E: *An extract from the Straits Times Overland Journal, 8 July 1876 after the British Government decided to reverse William Jervois' decision to switch to the Queen's Commissioner System.*

It is presumed that the decision for the Residential System to be retained even after the murder of James Birch and the Perak War will cause significant disappointment. Firstly, this backward step may be perceived by native rulers as a sign of British weakness or indifference, hindering the industrial development of the countries by removing the guarantee of justice and property security. While Residents might still exert influence, Chinese capitalists and labourers are unlikely to trust this, ensuring widespread distrust. Secondly, those knowledgeable about the States and the Pangkor Treaty believe this advisory system merely postpones the need for direct rule which would inevitably be necessary after some future action against British subjects or the dignity of British authorities by the natives.

Source F: *An extract from an article in the 'Straits Times Overland Journal' 25 July 1874.*

There is no doubt that there are many in Perak to whom the Pangkor Treaty was unpalatable and whose interests lie in creating disturbances. Any perceived government indecision would be interpreted as a retreat, inevitably leading to renewed riot and disorder. Indeed, certain ill-intentioned individuals are reportedly conspiring to disrupt Perak's peace and incite rebellion against the new Sultan. A small spark could trigger another outbreak of widespread disorder. This is why the only remedy is the intervention of an impartial power in whom all the parties have confidence, and whose word and decision in all matters of dispute will carry authority. This is what the appointment of British Residents representing the British Government would achieve. All of these are urgent reasons why the Residents should be appointed without delay.

Section B: Essays

Answer **two** questions.

- 2 "The extension of French control in Vietnam c.1870s was the result of the French desire to restore their prestige." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 3 "Hitler's rise to power in Jan 1933 was the result of the Great Depression." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- 4 "Japan's decision to bomb Pearl Harbour in December 1941 was due to the impact of WW2 in Europe on the colonial powers." How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

- End of Paper -

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Source A: D Cowan and Frank A Swettenham, "Sir Frank Swettenham's Perak Journals, 1874-1876", Journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, December 1951, Vol.24, No.4(157).

Source B: D Cowan and Frank A Swettenham, "Sir Frank Swettenham's Perak Journals, 1874-1876", Journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, December 1951, Vol.24, No.4(157).

Source C: P Burns and W.H Read, "Annexation in the Malay States: The Jervois Papers", Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1999, Vol. 72, No. 1 (276) (1999)

Source D: https://web.archive.org/web/20161125221607/http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/hist/eia/documents_archive/pangkor-treaty.php

Source E : <https://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/newspapers/digitised/article/stoverland18760708-1.2.10?qt=pangkor%2c+treaty>

Source F: <https://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/newspapers/digitised/article/straitstimes18740725-1.2.5?qt=pangkor,%20engagement&q=pangkor%20engagement>