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# 2

91233



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## Level 2 History 2020

### 91233 Examine causes and consequences of a significant historical event

2.00 p.m. Wednesday 25 November 2020  
Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Examine causes and consequences of a significant historical event.	Examine, in depth, causes and consequences of a significant historical event.	Comprehensively examine causes and consequences of a significant historical event.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should write ONE essay in this booklet.**

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

**Low Excellence**

**TOTAL**

**7**

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

Write an essay on ONE significant historical event, using the essay question below.

Your essay must include an introduction and a conclusion, and use detailed supporting evidence.

You should provide context for your discussion by adding a concise paragraph describing the historical event.

Write your chosen historical event in the box below.

Plan your essay on page 3. Begin your essay on page 4.

**ESSAY QUESTION**

Examine the causes of a significant historical event and two of its important impacts.

**Historical event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLANNING**

You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than 4–5 pages. The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay.

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Begin your essay here:

The Battle of Dien Bien Phu is a significant battle that had the power to determine the independence of Vietnam from foreign powers. The ~~large term~~ causes of the battle being the history and centuries of invasion, and the first Indochina war. While the two important impacts it had were the Geneva conference and the civil war that followed it with foreign intervention. //

The long term cause of the battle of Dien Bien Phu was centuries of invasion by foreign powers, such as the Chinese occupation of Vietnam from 344 BCE, the arrival of Europeans in 1500 and the French and Japanese. The French came to Vietnam in 1858 with the ideology of "God, gold and glory", which was the expansion of the French empire for gaining natural and labour resources of other countries. This was also due to the ideology and belief of "white man's burden" where they believed it was their job to "civilise" Vietnam and other countries. The French saw the Vietnamese as "savages" and the Vietnamese were treated ~~less~~ cruelly by the French, which this harsh treatment, exploitation of natural resources and labour caused Vietnamese resistance for the first time in 1885. However, these resistance were suppressed easily by the French, and in 1887 Vietnam was nearly wiped off completely by a French state called Indochina Union. In 1919, President Wilson of the United States campaigned to return colonies

their independence, and Ho Chi Minh attempted to gain and present the case of Vietnam independence, but he wasn't listened to as President Wilson had died and the campaign discontinued. In 1923 another resistance against the French colonialism rose in Vietnam, called Viet Nam Quon Dan Lang, but very soon they were suppressed by the French. The incidence of 12000 Vietnamese out of 44000 being killed in a rubber plantation increased the resistance again in 1927 and more resistance of Vietnamese against the French were becoming common. In 1930, the Indochinese Communist Party was formed which with an idea of communism led by Ho Chi Minh conducted series of raids on the French using guerilla tactics. In 1940 ~~French~~ France was invaded by Germany, and the French shifted their resources and attention from their colonies towards mainland France. This provided the Japanese to invade Vietnam, which again met resistance from the Viet Minh, which was formed in 1941 by Ho Chi Minh. Viet Minh were supplied by the Americans, as they wanted to stop the spread of Japanese Empire. After the Nagasaki and Hiroshima ~~ban~~ nuclear bombs were dropped by the United States in Japan on 2 August 1945, the Japanese pulled out of Vietnam and surrendered. While in 1945 France was also liberated from Nazi Germany, and fearing the French might come back to Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh Proclaimed the independence of Vietnam on 2 September 1945, where he mentions "all men are created equal" in an attempt to ~~keep~~ attract American's attention for their independence, as they viewed Americans as liberators. However, the Americans did not help him, as they wanted to keep France an ally against the Soviet Union, and furthermore didn't trust him because of his communist belief. This

meant that France would return to Vietnam after World War 2 in March 1946. This is ~~because~~ <sup>because</sup> the centuries of invasion by foreign power ~~it~~ played an important factor as it ~~even~~ had brought a sense of nationalism (love for one's country) in Vietnam and had raised a spirit of resistance at all cost, which would ~~later~~ later on proved by to have a cause on Dien Bien Phu battle.

After the French's return to Vietnam in 1946 the two sides immediately clashed, where in an attempt to cut the Viet Minh's supply ~~the~~ from the Soviet Union and China, the French navy and air force bombed the <sup>Port</sup> ~~city~~ of Haiphong, where 6000 civilians died and brought more troops to the 10000 Guerrilla army of Ho Chi Minh which was commanded by Giap. This would start the First Indochina War, and a short term cause of Dien Bien Phu. The French and Viet Minh's fight continued on, where the French conducted many operations to capture Ho Chi Minh which they didn't manage to. The French sought means of negotiation where the Elysee Agreement was signed between the two in 1948, where it was agreed that French would reduce troops to 25000 and grant independence. However, Bao Dai was chosen as a puppet emperor by the French, and the foreign and financial affairs of Vietnam were to be controlled by France, which wasn't convincing for the Vietnamese. As a result the Elysee agreement was violated as the two sides kept fighting. In an attempt to stop the spread of Communism in Southeast Asia, 87% of the French resources were paid by the Americans, where they also authorized the use of napalm bombs, which had biological effects on

the people. This caused resistance from the French Public and in 1953 it was agreed to return to the negotiating table as the French Public called it a "dirty war". Therefore it was chosen that on 26 April the Geneva Conference would be ~~held~~ <sup>held</sup> ~~there~~. To have the upper hand in the Geneva Conference, Navarre the 7th Commander of the French introduced foreign Legion forces where they chose and paratroopers landed on a valley called Dien Bien Phu on 20 November 1953. Henri Navarre believed that French tanks and planes could be used to destroy the Viet Minh. And when the intelligence was received that Viet Minh were closing in on Dien Bien Phu on 3 December 1953, Navarre accepted the battle. The Viet Minh carried their artillery from the Chinese border to Dien Bien Phu by human force, where Dien Bien Phu was 10 km away from Laos border and 500 km from Hanoi. The First Indochina War was significant cause, as it set the stage for Dien Bien Phu as a means of negotiation.

On 13 March Giap, the Viet Minh commander, order an attack on Dien Bien Phu's runway by 6 artillery regiments, cutting their only link to supply. The French were 13000 troops, half of whom were inexperienced in combat, and the Viet Minh had 50,000 troops, 6 Artillery regiments and 1 Air engineer regiment. The battle lasted from 13 March to 7 May 1954, where Navarre finally surrendered at 5:30 pm after 55 days of battle. The French casualty reached 7000 dead, and 5600 wounded, while Paratroopers were still volunteering to land. The Viet Minh casualty reached 7900 dead and 15000 wounded. The battle was over on 7 May 1954.

New Paragraph

One important impact of Dien Bien Phu was the Geneva Conference. On 23 April 1954, the Viet Minh were at a stronger negotiating hand. When the Geneva Conference started on 26 April 1954, the countries of USSR, USA, Britain, France, Cambodia, North Vietnam, South Vietnam and Laos were present, with finally reaching to an agreement on 21 July 1954. The Geneva had an important impact on Vietnam, as the terms of agreement included, division of Vietnam to North and South at the 17th Parallel instead of 13th Parallel, 3 month legal period of migration between North and South, a Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) which separated both countries and a referendum was postponed from late 1954 to 1956 for reunification of Vietnam. The reason the referendum was delayed is because the non-communists wanted South Vietnam to flourish and prosper. Immediate withdrawal was also part of the agreement where the French were to be withdrawn from North Vietnam, which was now a communist country, while South Vietnam was a democratic country. This was an important impact as it divided Vietnam, while the North managed to get its independence and the South would be controlled by Diem while North by Ho Chi Minh. North Vietnam was slightly struggling after the war, which France's ~~prisoners~~ <sup>prisoners</sup> wanted to help in the of Independence grantor, which they accepted, ~~as~~ as the war had an impact on the economy of North Vietnam.

One other important impact of Dien Bien Phu is the ~~next~~ civil war in Vietnam. ~~The~~ From 1954 onward the ~~decision~~ <sup>referendum</sup> of 1956 never took place as the Americans saw it as giving too much chance to North Vietnam, while the Americans were supporting the South. South Vietnam was unbalanced

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in ~~the~~ under Diem, as he feared of communism and passed laws that prosecuted any suspected communist. This in turn alienated ~~the population~~ saw opposition by the South, as the Nation Liberation Front was formed on 20 November 1960 to fight the South government by South Vietnamese. The Buddhist self-immolation also caused a huge protests against South Vietnamese government, further having an impact on stability of South Vietnam. The USS Maddox and Turner was believed to have been attacked by North Vietnamese torpedos on 2 and 4 August 1964, where it caused Lyndon Baines Johnson to grant him full authority ~~due~~ for taking necessary action in Vietnam. Which the first Marines landed in Vietnam in March 1965, in support of the South. North Vietnam suffered bombing campaigns in its cities by the United States, and this caused a public protests in America, which increased tension between the North and South Vietnam. The Khe Sanh and Tet offensive <sup>were</sup> also conducted to crumble the South by North Vietnam. Increasing public protest in Vietnam pushed the US government to seek means of negotiation between the South and the North, and as a result the Paris Peace agreement was signed by ~~South~~ ~~and~~ the North and America, on 27 January 1973, since Diem was assassinated on 1 December 1963 by a coup. However North Vietnam violated the agreement of Paris Peace, which included the withdrawal of US of from Vietnam, and only leaving the Army of Republic of Vietnam to defend the South. As a result the South surrendered to North when they attacked Saigon in 1975, and the

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South collapsed on 27 August 1975 to North Vietnam and as a result Vietnam was reunified. Dien Bien Phu played and had an important impact which as a result ~~seen~~ Vietnam was independent. 9

In conclusion, the long history of invasion of Vietnam by foreign powers, the First Indochina War war causes at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. While the great and important impacts it had include the Geneva Conference and a Civil War. Perhaps Vietnam wouldn't had been an independent and unified country, if it wasn't for the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. 9

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## Excellence Exemplar 2020

Subject	L2 History	Standard	91233	Total score	07
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
1	E7	<p><b>The Battle of Dien Bien Phu (1954)</b></p> <p>The candidate demonstrates comprehensive examination of a significant historical event, with some insight, by using sufficiently accurate and valid detailed supporting evidence in the presentation of two causes and two important impacts.</p> <p>On pages 5 and 6, the first cause covering Vietnam's history of foreign invasion provides a chronological series of dates from 111 BCE through to 1946; figures including Vietnamese deaths in French rubber plantations; proper names throughout such as Indochinese Union, President Wilson, Viet Nam Quan Dan Lang, Indochinese Communist Party, Viet Minh, Nagasaki and Hiroshima, and the Soviet Union; subject / context specific language such as ideology, expansion, natural and labour resources, exploitation, resistance, suppression, colonialism, liberation, guerrilla tactics, proclamation, and nationalism; quotes on pages 4 and 5 such as "God, gold, and glory", "white man's burden", and "all men are created equal".</p> <p>Also on pages 5 and 6, the evidence is presented in a chronological and causal series beginning with the Chinese occupation in 111 BCE and concluding with the French return to Vietnam in 1946. Throughout this series, the candidate takes care to establish causal links such as the French economic motive and sense of racial superiority leading to the exploitation of the Vietnamese, to which the Vietnamese resistance is linked, followed by the opportunity provided by the end of World War II for Ho Chi Minh to proclaim independence before the French could return. Some insight is demonstrated by explaining the impact of wider global events on Vietnam, e.g. the impact of the French defeat in Europe in 1940 and the explanation for the US support of France rather than the newly proclaimed and independent Vietnam.</p> <p>Sufficient insight is further demonstrated in the essay on page 6 where the independence granted by the French in the Elysée Agreement is succinctly proven to be 'unconvincing'.</p> <p>On page 8, the delay of the unification referendum is not explained by the popularity of Ho Chi Minh (as is more frequently encountered), but by the delay giving the capitalist SVN time to 'flourish and prosper' – a somewhat insightful explanation given the economic context of the capitalist / communist divide.</p>			