

Exercise walk-through

Causes of World War II ■ 7.6

eXercise

You must be able to

- name the four causes the CED lists
- state which cause the CED emphasises and how
- explain what 'unsustainable' claims about the peace
- connect each cause to an earlier subtopic

Method — Four causes

The unsustainable peace settlement after World War I; the global economic crisis engendered by the Great Depression; continued imperialist aspirations; and especially the rise to power of fascist and totalitarian regimes that resulted in the aggressive militarism of Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler.

Method — The emphasis

“**Epecially**” ranks one cause above the others. The CED rarely does this, so reproducing the ranking is reproducing the source’s own argument.

Method — 'Unsustainable'

Not merely unpopular or unfair: a settlement that could not hold. The claim is about the arrangement's viability, not about anyone's feelings.

Method — Earlier sources

The peace settlement follows 7.2's war; the economic crisis follows 7.4's Depression; imperialist aspirations follow 7.5's maintained empires. Each cause has a subtopic behind it.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

Name the four causes.

Solution 2.1

Method: Four causes

Worked steps

the unsustainable peace settlement; the global economic crisis from the Depression; continued imperialist aspirations; the rise to power of fascist and totalitarian regimes

B2 .

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

State which cause the CED emphasises and the word it uses.

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

the rise of fascist and totalitarian regimes **B1**, marked by “especially” **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

Each cause has an earlier source.

- (a) Match two causes to their subtopics.
- (b) Explain what “unsustainable” claims.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) the peace settlement follows 7.2; the economic crisis follows 7.4 **B2**. (b) that the arrangement could not hold, whatever anyone felt about it **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

The CED's emphasis falls on

- A** the peace settlement
- B** the rise to power of fascist and totalitarian regimes
- C** the Depression
- D** imperialist aspirations

Solution 3.1

- A the peace settlement
- B the rise to power of fascist and totalitarian regimes** 
- C the Depression
- D imperialist aspirations

Worked steps

- B. “especially” names it.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

“Unsustainable” describes a settlement that

- A** was unpopular
- B** could not hold
- C** was never signed
- D** was too generous

Solution 3.2

A was unpopular

B could not hold 

C was never signed

D was too generous

Worked steps

B. viability, not popularity.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A student lists the four causes without ranking them.

- (a) State what has been lost.
- (b) Explain why the ranking is part of the CED's claim.

Solution 3.3

Method: Four causes

Worked steps

(a) the CED's own weighting **B1**. (b) "especially" is an argument about relative significance **B1**, which is exactly what unit 7's final subtopic asks for **B1**.