

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL LANGUAGES TRIPOS Part II

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Paper GE12  
REVOLUTIONS AND DISRUPTIONS IN GERMAN CULTURE, 1830-1945

Answer **three** questions.

Use **separate** booklets for **each** section and hand them in **separately**.

Candidates for this paper may **not** draw substantially on material from their dissertations or material which they have used or intend to use in another scheduled paper. Candidates may **not** draw substantially on the same material in more than **one** question on the same paper.

The term 'German', as used in this paper, should, where the context permits, be understood to include reference to the German-speaking territories in general.

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

8 Page Answer Book x 3  
Rough work pad

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

None

**You may not start to read the  
questions printed on the subsequent  
pages of this question paper until  
instructed that you may do so by the  
Invigilator**

### **Wolle die Wandlung: Poetic Transformations**

1 **Either** (a) 'Although poets become ever more radical in their use of form, poetic tradition never ceases to be important.'

Discuss with reference to works by **two or more** poets from the period 1830-1945.

**Or** (b) 'Abstraction in poetry is not the same as inwardness; it can also engage with the material conditions of the world.'

Discuss with reference to works by **two or more** poets from the period 1830-1945.

### **Emancipation, Antisemitism and the Holocaust: Jewish Voices**

2 **Either** (a) 'Jewish emancipation was a complex, multidirectional and ambiguous process characterized by deflections and reversals, defeats and successes.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** works and in relation to the period 1830-1914.

**Or** (b) 'Jewish representations of antisemitism in German and Austria reveal it to be a deeply rooted historical phenomenon rather than a product of National Socialism.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** works.

### **Modernist (Post-)Colonialisms**

3 **Either** (a) 'In German-language culture of the decades around 1900, people of colour are allocated a marginalised presence, but with a disruptive effect on prevailing socio-cultural structures.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** works.

**Or** (b) 'Colonisation is a defining substructure of German-language culture in and after the *Kaiserreich* and the Habsburg Empire.'

Discuss with reference to **two or more** works.

**Disruptive Narratives, *Novelle* and Case History**

4 **Either** (a) 'The narrative strategies of the *Novelle* genre and psychoanalytic case histories attempt to assert control over experiences which seem incoherent or potentially threatening'.

Discuss with reference to **two or more** works.

**Or** (b) 'It is above all in the domain of gender and sexuality that *Novellen* find the energy for their disruptions of normative structures.

Discuss with reference to **two or more** works.

**From Wagner to Hitler: Politics, Culture and Ideas in the Age of the Masses, 1848-1945**

5 **Either** (a) 'The emergence of mass society created new challenges for artists and politicians alike.'

Discuss with reference to **either** art **or** politics, **or** both.

**Or** (b) 'Popular culture is an instrument of manipulation, rather than liberation.'

Discuss with reference **either** to cultural theory, **or** cultural production, **or** both.

**END OF PAPER**