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91438



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## Level 3 History, 2019

### 91438 Analyse the causes and consequences of a significant historical event

2.00 p.m. Thursday 21 November 2019

Credits: Six

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse the causes and consequences of a significant historical event.	Analyse, in depth, the causes and consequences of a significant historical event.	Comprehensively analyse the 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.

**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 2–12 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.**

High Excellence

TOTAL

8

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**INSTRUCTIONS**

Write an essay on ONE significant historical event that you have studied, using the essay task below. Your essay should be concise and well argued.

Write your chosen historical event in the box below.

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

**ESSAY TASK**

**Doug Cooper, an American writer of literary fiction, once wrote: “Cause and effect are rarely directly related.”**

**Analyse the causes of a historical event you have studied. Then analyse the consequences and the extent to which you agree or disagree with Cooper that the consequences are not often linked to the causes.**

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

**PLANNING**ASSESSOR'S  
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Introduction/description of event:

Causes:

Consequences and the extent to which they are not often linked to the causes:

Begin your essay here:

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In the mid-nineteenth century thousands of Chinese men were invited to New Zealand to join the Gold rush as a solution to overcome the shortage of miners in central Otago. They were never made to feel welcome facing judgement and discrimination from European settlers. In 1881, parliamentary acts were passed to restrict Chinese immigration constituting the thinking of a "White New Zealand." The Chinese Immigrants' Act was the first restriction on immigration in New Zealand. It targeted solely Chinese people immigrating to New Zealand by introducing a poll tax of 10 pounds. The taxes were a means of controlling Chinese immigration by placing a significant financial barrier that few immigrants would be able to pay. The poll tax was waived in 1938, officially repealed in 1944 and an apology was delivered to the Chinese in 2002. The Poll Tax is a significant part of New Zealand's history socially, economically and politically. It was the beginning of the way in which New Zealanders began to view immigrants from other countries. In this respect it institutionalised racism in New Zealand. It legitimised it and has contributed to it still being prevalent today. The two most significant causes of the event were the economic competition the Chinese represented and the idea of the Yellow Peril. The resulting consequences of the immigration act were the Chinese not being able to call NZ their home and most importantly the way it has shaped the mindsets of many New Zealanders towards other cultures. This idea that the "Cause and effect are rarely directly related" <sup>doesn't</sup> ~~some to some extent~~ apply to the Chinese Poll Tax.

The fear of economic competition and the Yellow Peril which ultimately lead to <sup>consequence of the</sup> racism relates to the Chinese not being able to call New Zealand their home, <sup>additionally</sup> ~~however~~ <sup>both of</sup> ~~many~~ these causes have ~~shaped~~ <sup>sharply</sup> related to the way the Poll Tax has shaped the mindset of New Zealanders towards other ~~immigrants~~ <sup>immigrants</sup> Chinese.

// Economic competition and the fear of losing wealth <sup>has</sup> often led to prejudice. The <sup>Europeans</sup> Chinese felt threatened by the economic competition that the Chinese



represented which was a key cause leading to the passing of the Poll Tax. The Chinese were invited to <sup>New Zealand</sup> NZ by the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce to work in the goldmines as they were considered cheap and hardworking therefore undercutting the European miners. This led the European miners to fear for their jobs and financial security as they were not prepared to work for less than promised. They voiced their opposition against the Chinese seeing them as "undeserving workers" and proclaiming New Zealand was not their home. It was widely believed the Chinese were saving their money to return to China rather than settle in NZ. "The Chinese are eating up an inheritance that we should leave for our race in the future." In 1878 New Zealand was heading into a severe economic depression which would last 10 years. By 1880, a year before the Poll Tax, effects of the depression were felt throughout the country especially by the working class. This depression led to an increase in anti-Chinese sentiment which has been a recurring theme for British colonies to blame the Chinese when times are tough and continues to happen to this day. An increase in public protests against the Chinese led to discriminatory legislation with a meeting in 1881 to discuss the Chinese Immigrants bill where the Europeans explicitly voiced their concerns, "It is because they want to keep cheap labour." The Chinese represented economic competition to <sup>New Zealanders</sup> ~~themselves~~ at a time when they were facing an economic depression. This was a direct cause for the introduction of Poll Tax to stop the flow of Chinese immigrants and <sup>save</sup> ~~secure~~ the working persons job.

The Yellow Peril was an immediate cause that made the Poll Tax imminent because the Poll Tax was a means to protect the racial purity of New Zealand. The Chinese were labelled the yellow peril, they threatened the racial purity of New Zealand a country which aspired to be a better Britain. Not only did ~~many~~ fear the Chinese in terms of the safety of their financial security but also for the purity of the New Zealand race. The Chinese undermined original plans for the settler population to be of British or <sup>at</sup> ~~at least~~ white descent. When the Chinese continued to settle in New Zealand



after the gold rush it was seen that the Chinese would be a permanent problem and a "threat" to the "Pure race." In the 1880s many Chinese began migrating to the North Island in search of work outside the Otago minefields. This migration increased their visibility and fuelled the stereotypes, racism, preconceptions and <sup>prejudice</sup> ~~racism~~. The former governor of New Zealand Sir George Grey was behind the notion or fear of a "yellow peril." He said, "The presence in this country of a large population of Chinese ~~inhabitants~~ would exercise a deteriorating effect upon civilisation." The yellow peril was a misconceived vision that China was just waiting to send millions of Chinese to new countries like Australia and New Zealand to expand their empire. As Nigel Murphy explains, "The image of the yellow peril was the zenith of European racial hatred." Other politicians shared these sentiments, namely R.J. Seddon who promoted legislation to prevent any further Chinese migration to New Zealand. This idea of racial purity and social superiority gave power to the anti-Chinese groups and the growing voice of the Poll Tax to stop the flow of Chinese immigrants.

~~The~~ Economic competition and the yellow peril both contain the underlying threads of fear, dominance and racism. Which cause is more significant I would argue is the economic competition. In simple terms it all comes back down to money and the distribution of wealth. Throughout history when times are good people are accepting and when times are tough we look for others to blame. This fear of losing something we have as New Zealanders has recently been repeated as many have blamed the Chinese for the New Zealand housing crisis.

A significant consequence of the Poll Tax was that the Chinese could not call New Zealand their home. The Poll Tax was a public declaration to the Chinese that they were not the same as other New Zealanders and



that they would be treated differently. The Poll Tax prevented the Chinese from fully assimilating into New Zealand life. Chinese men were unable to bring their wives and children due to the financial burden of Poll Tax. They were therefore seen as aliens who had come to New Zealand to make money and great jobs. They were not seen as men <sup>with</sup> ~~was~~ families who needed to provide for them. The social discrimination caused by the poll tax led the Chinese to stick with their own community. This fear meant they were reserved on speaking out publicly. Rather than make a fuss about the racism and loss of identity, they endured, the Chinese suffered in silence and their story remained untold. With very little evidence about how the Chinese felt during this time it is difficult to know whether sticking to themselves was a means of adapting to a harsh social environment or if it was their preference not to assimilate into western ~~the~~ culture. It could be argued that sticking together preserved their language and culture in what was a hostile environment that was looking to dominate and stamp it out. ~~Notably before that~~ Contradictory of Cooper I believe that this consequence is related to the causes of economic competition and the Yellow Peril. The racism experienced <sup>by the Chinese</sup> because of New Zealanders' fear of losing their job and damaging the racial purity of the country would certainly have made the Chinese feel that they were not accepted in New Zealand.

The most significant longterm consequence of 1881 Poll Tax was how it shaped New Zealanders' views and attitudes towards the Chinese. When the Poll Tax was ~~instated~~ passed into law it <sup>legitimised</sup> ~~institutionalised~~ treating the Chinese differently. ~~As a result~~ Institutionalised and ingrained a racism against the Chinese in New Zealand culture. It was a severely negative consequence because although today many



people living in New Zealand would like to believe they have high cultural diversity acceptance, the fact is many European New Zealanders have been raised with the idea that the Chinese only came to New Zealand to steal jobs and now today to take their homes. The damage however has been done<sup>in</sup>. The unfounded stereotypes preconceptions and prejudice spoken off in 1881 are still felt by many Chinese today, even those who were born in New Zealand. Jern Toshioke a Kiwi Asian faces racism every day, "As a person descended from colonists and immigrants it is my job to fight this oppression everyday." In 1997 and 2015 the Poll Tax reared its head with the Asian Innovation and housing market. Karen Tays wrote, "Kiw challenge: Lets not have a despicably racist Immigration debate this time" and in 2015 Phil Twyford accused foreign investors, those with Chinese names of "depriving Kiwis of their housing buying dreams." This argument seems very similar to the accusations made against the Chinese when they first arrived in New Zealand. Racial discrimination towards the Chinese is not and will not be over for a while yet, it is a process, it will require a change in mindset that may take many years. This consequence can also be related to causes of this event. The racism that resulted from the Economic competition and the yellow peril has been passed on through generations to ultimately affect the way New Zealanders view the Chinese. If New Zealanders had of shown acceptance and compassion we would not be facing this issue today.

Doug Coopers quote "Cause and effect are rarely directly related" does not apply to the 1881 Chinese Immigration Tax. The causes of economic competition and yellow peril both relate to the resulting consequences because of the



racism kiwis have inflicted on the Chinese. When I consider the significance of this event I define it by the importance of the event to the people alive at the time, how many people were affected, for how long and <sup>the</sup> extent to which it continues to affect people today. The 1881 Poll Tax up until its repeal in 1944 was a significant event in New Zealand. I believe that it was significant because <sup>it affected</sup> everyone in New Zealand at the time and everyone had their own opinions on it, and people fought hard for their opinions in ways such as petitions and protests up until its repeal nearly 60 years after the tax was introduced. 70 years after the repeal racism is still prevalent in the news, ~~on~~ the politics and people's everyday actions. A lot is still needed to be done and acknowledged for the Chinese to feel that they too are New Zealanders.

Despite this it would be interesting to analyse another historical event to see whether this event's causes are linked to the consequences.





Extra space if required.  
Write the question number(s) if applicable.

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QUESTION  
NUMBER

91438

## Excellence Exemplar 2019

Subject	L3 History		Standard	91438	Overall grade	E8
Q	Grade	Annotation				
1	E8	<p><b>The Chinese Poll Tax 1881</b></p> <p>A well-defined event with carefully considered causes and consequences that allowed for a concise response to the question. The candidate successfully established the significance of this event for New Zealanders early on.</p> <p>The quote has been clearly addressed and interwoven. The candidate has formed an argument rather than addressed the quote at the end of each paragraph.</p> <p>The candidate addresses the quote and question in the introduction and outlines their position whether the quote applies to this particular event. The candidate has understood the quote correctly. The introduction indicates that the candidate is going to construct an argument.</p> <p>The candidate sets out the event with clarity and sets out the motivation for the implementation of the poll tax.</p> <p>Significant causes are chosen and are convincingly argued as such.</p> <p>Important consequences are discussed and the candidate is able to argue that a direct relationship is established between the event and their chosen consequences.</p> <p>Well-chosen quotes are presented as strong supporting evidence, indicating comprehensive understanding of consequences</p> <p>There is a clear paragraph on prioritisation on page 6.</p> <p>Insightful commentary is given about the continued “untold” perspective of the Chinese.</p> <p>Overall, the candidate has engaged with the question with confidence and a strong personal voice is present. They have not prepared their response in advance and have selected causes and consequences that support their overall argument that they do not agree with Cooper’s quote.</p>				