1. **Obligatory question:**
   Brazil and Mexico underwent significant industrialization and diversification of their economies in the twentieth century. Yet one of the two countries had a social revolution and the other did not. Did the revolution in Mexico have a significant effect on its social, political or economic development in a way that the absence of a revolution in Brazil did not?

2. **Answer one of the following two questions:**
   a) Discuss the evolution of labor systems in Spanish America through the colonial period, up to circa 1810. What drove this evolution? In framing your answer, draw on evidence from at least two mainland regions.

   b) How has the discussion of race and ethnicity in the historiography on colonial Latin America changed over the past 50 years? Cite and discuss at least six key studies (in total) about Meso-America and South America. What was the impact of US “critical race studies” on the debates in Latin American colonialist historiography? What were specific conceptual/methodological contributions by colonialist Latin Americanist historians (especially from the region itself) to the broader debates on the history of race and ethnicity, and how have they stood the test of time?

3. **Answer one of the following two questions:**
   a) “The left has been notably ineffectual in 20th century Latin American history. The reason is its obsession with Marxist theory, which is wholly inappropriate for analyzing Latin American reality.”

      Discuss this claim, giving examples from any three countries. Cite literature in support of your own position.

   b) Compare and contrast the developments – political, social, economic, ideological and cultural – that lead to the abolition of slavery in Cuba (and, if you wish, other territories in the Caribbean) and Brazil, and the early post-emancipation condition of people of African descent in those regions, from about 1850 to 1930. What was similar, what was different in these processes? What accounts for these differences? Be sure to cite key studies on these processes for Cuba and Brazil.