

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY

Unit 5

Alternative P: Britain, 1748–1802

HS5P

Monday 18 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS5P.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2 and **one** other question.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.
- In answering both Questions 1(b) and 2(b) in Section A and your choice of question from Section B, you are advised to draw on an appropriate range of historical knowledge and skills, to demonstrate overall historical understanding for the synoptic assessment requirements for this question paper.

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2 and **one** other question.

SECTION A

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

EITHER 1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A By November 1755, the diplomatic situation was rapidly deteriorating. Both in India and North America, hostilities between France and Britain were breaking out. The government seemed incapable of defending British interests with the force and energy
5 which the situation demanded, while Newcastle spent precious time trying to construct alliances with which to defend Hanover. Uncertainty in diplomacy was matched by hesitation and disagreement within the government. Gradually the government's massive majorities began to melt away. When it became clear
10 that Austria had neither the will nor the intention to defend Hanover, Newcastle was forced to reverse the traditional Austrian alliance in favour of an alliance with Prussia; this drove Austria into the arms of France.

Adapted from F O'GORMAN, *The Long Eighteenth Century, British Political and Social History 1688–1832*, 1997

Source B The Seven Years' War had two main causes. On the one hand, two years of unofficial warfare in North America and on the seas led to a series of mounting provocations which by May 1756 had made a formal, major struggle between Britain and France utterly
5 unavoidable. On the other hand, a 'Diplomatic Revolution' on the Continent in 1755–6, in which the Duke of Newcastle (then chief minister) involuntarily played the initiating role, took such a succession of unexpected turns that by the autumn of 1756 another war had broken out between Austria and Prussia. By 1757 this
10 was to involve all the Great Powers except Spain.

Adapted from G HOLMES and D SZECHI, *The Age of Oligarchy, Pre-Industrial Britain 1722–1783*, 1993

Source C The settlement of 1763 was a complex and controversial one. To Pitt, it obscured all the glories of war, surrendered the dearest interests of the nation, and sacrificed public faith by an abandonment of our allies. Pitt argued that important conquests
5 had been surrendered without adequate compensation. France received back Guadeloupe and Martinique, and also kept vital fishing rights off Newfoundland. Even so, Britain's gains were unprecedented; in North America, for example, the cession of Canada and Louisiana by France, and of Florida by Spain, gave
10 Britain possession of the whole continent east of the Mississippi. Bute and Pitt considered the negotiations from different viewpoints. Bute was alarmed at the prospect of an over-mighty Britain, an imperial giant that would draw the hostility of a fearful and united Europe.

Adapted from G WILLIAMS and J RAMSDEN, *Ruling Britannia, A Political History of Britain 1688–1988*, 1990

- (a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

To what extent do these two sources agree on the role of the Duke of Newcastle in the outbreak of the Seven Years' War? (10 marks)

- (b) Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

'The Treaty of Paris was an excellent treaty for Britain, which strengthened Britain's position in Europe and the colonies.'
Assess the validity of this view. (20 marks)

Turn over for the next question

OR **2** Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Adapted from the summing-up by Lord Braxfield in the trial of Thomas Muir, a prominent radical, 1793

Do you think Muir guilty of sedition or not? Now in examining this question there are two things you should attend to. The first is that the British Constitution is the best in the world. Is not every man secure in his life, liberty and property? Does not every man
5 enjoy unmolested the benefits of his labour? The other circumstance, gentlemen, which you have to attend to, is the state of this country during last winter. There was a spirit of sedition and revolt going abroad which made every good subject seriously uneasy.

Source B Adapted from the summing-up of Lord Chief Justice Eyre in the trial of Thomas Hardy, a prominent radical, November 1794

Gentlemen, I shall not now state to you that associations of men, for the purpose of obtaining a reform in the constitution of the British parliament, are simply unlawful. These associations may degenerate and become unlawful in the highest degree, even to the
5 enormous extent of the crime of high treason. Bad men may find their way into such assemblies, and use the innocent purpose of their association as a means to very different purposes. How easy for such men to take advantage of the innocence and enthusiasm of honest men, lovers of their country, loyal to their prince, but
10 perhaps eagerly bent on some idealistic improvement of the law.

Source C A committee of secrecy including Pitt and other leading ministers was investigating in late 1793 the strength and seditious intent of radical societies. Some evidence of illegal manufacture of pikes and armed drilling on remote West Riding and Perthshire moors was
5 dredged up and given disproportionate prominence in the committee's report. Enough evidence was forthcoming to persuade Parliament of the desirability of suspending Habeas Corpus in April 1794. Pitt's speech on the issue was uncharacteristically violent. He claimed to believe that the radical societies threatened a 'whole
10 system of insurrection'.

Radicalism was silenced in 1795 expertly and with some ease. Radicalism after 1795 was driven underground, but its significance in this later phase should not be underestimated. The new generation of radical leaders were plotters; revolutionary plotting
15 naturally took the place of open organisation and argument.

Adapted from EJ EVANS, *The Forging of the Modern State, Early Industrial Britain 1783–1870*, 1983

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- (a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

To what extent do these two sources agree on the reasons for their condemnation of radical activities? *(10 marks)*

- (b) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

‘The response of the authorities to the radical threat of the 1790s was harsh but effective.’

Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

Turn over for the next question

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section.

- 3 'Lack of ministerial talent, rather than the actions of George III, account for the political instability of the 1760s.'
How valid is this view? *(20 marks)*
- 4 To what extent were economic issues, rather than political principles, responsible for the outbreak of war between Britain and her American colonies? *(20 marks)*
- 5 'Motivated more by self-interest than by principle.'
How valid is this comment on the career of John Wilkes? *(20 marks)*
- 6 'Developments in transport, rather than technological advances within industry, stimulated industrial progress in the latter half of the eighteenth century.'
Assess the validity of this statement. *(20 marks)*
- 7 To what extent did intervention by other European powers, rather than British military limitations, bring about the outcome of the War of American Independence? *(20 marks)*
- 8 'A failure at home and abroad.'
How valid is this assessment of the career of Lord North? *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 1 Source A: F O'GORMAN, *The Long Eighteenth Century, British Political and Social History 1688–1832*, Arnold, 1997.
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Source B: G HOLMES and D SZECHI, *The Age of Oligarchy, Pre-Industrial Britain 1722–1783*, Longman, 1993.

Source C: G WILLIAMS and J RAMSDEN, *Ruling Britannia, A Political History of Britain 1688–1988*, Longman, 1990.

Question 2 Source C: EJ EVANS, *The Forging of the Modern State, Early Industrial Britain 1783–1870*, Longman, 1983.