

General Certificate of Education  
June 2008  
Advanced Level Examination



## **HISTORY**

**HS6S**

### **Unit 6W**

**Alternative S: Public Health: Problems and Policies,  
1830–1914**

Thursday 12 June 2008 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 black ink or black 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 HS6S.
- Answer **all** questions.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

### **Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- 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 part (c).

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Answer **all** questions.

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

**Source A**

A brief text extract adapted from A S WOHL, *Endangered Lives*, 1983, stating that although it was realised that healthy housing was key to improvements in public health, little had been achieved in eliminating the slums due to low private wage levels and poor economic conditions. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

**Source B**

A brief text extract from evidence presented by Dr Duncan of Liverpool in Chadwick's Report on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring Population, 1842. It describes the filthy, unhygienic conditions of one particular court which was still without a drain due to the failure of its two landlords to co-operate in its funding. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

**Source C** The relentless pace of industrialisation and urbanisation in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries had left in its wake considerable problems in the housing stock of this country. These problems (in the eyes of the legislators, at least) were seen principally in terms of sanitation and health, not in the nature of the houses themselves. In 1909, there was a national ban on new back-to-backs, in the wake of a report commissioned by the Local Government Board. Comparative death rates in back-to-backs and terraced housing were studied in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Even where the back-to-backs had water closets, mortality was still 15 to 20 per cent higher, through diseases such as pneumonia, bronchitis and those caused by malnutrition in children. That is, a child was almost twice as likely to die if he or she was raised in a back-to-back, than in a terraced house.

Adapted from C UPTON, *Living Back-to-Back*, 2005

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the impact of the public health movement. *(10 marks)*

- (b) Use **Source B** and your own knowledge.

How useful is **Source B** as evidence about the housing conditions of workers? *(10 marks)*

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

‘Local and national attempts to improve living conditions failed to have a significant impact on public health in the years 1830 to 1914.’  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source A: A S WOHL, *Endangered Lives*, J M Dent, a division of The Orion Publishing Group, 1983

Source C: Reproduced from C UPTON, *Living Back-to-Back*, 2005 by kind permission of the publisher, Phillimore & Co. Ltd., [www.phillimore.co.uk](http://www.phillimore.co.uk)

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