

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS6Q

**Alternative Q: Britain and the Scramble for Africa,
1880–1895**

Friday 23 June 2006 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 HS6Q.
- 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 are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part (c).

Answer **all** questions.

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

Source A In 1881 independence was restored to the Transvaal as Carnarvon's plan had failed. The plan foreshadowed later attempts to solve the Cape's problems by a major push inland. It was a conscious expansionist scheme directed from the metropole (London), with support from business interests
5 in South Africa and not just a reaction to chance events occurring spontaneously on the periphery. Even after the discovery of gold on the Rand in 1886 and the inflow of French and German capital during the subsequent gold rush, the British were responsible for 70% of the capital invested in the gold mines and supplied two-thirds of the goods imported
10 by South Africa.

Adapted from PJ CAIN and T HOPKINS, *British Imperialism 1688–1914*, 1993

Source B Adapted from the diary of Britain's Colonial Secretary, Lord Derby, 16 November 1883.

A meeting of ministers in my office, including Granville and Chamberlain. The subject was how to deal with the French encroachments in West Africa: they are sending gunboats in all directions, making treaties with native chiefs and trying to monopolise the trade of the coast. Our
5 merchants are getting alarmed, with some reason. The French are trying to build a railroad from Senegal to the Upper Niger. In the end we decided to recommend to the cabinet the sending of an expedition up the Niger, where our main trade is, to make treaties with the various chiefs along the river, not to gain a monopoly for ourselves but to prevent anyone else
10 establishing a monopoly.

Source C Adapted from *Against Imperial War*, written by Lenin in 1916.

All European countries have already reached an equal stage in the development of capitalism; all of them have already yielded everything that capitalism can yield. Capitalism has already attained its highest form, and is no longer exporting commodities but capital. It was beginning to find its
5 national framework was too small for it, and so the struggle began for the last free scraps of earth.

Source D Many European powers looked beyond Europe. The prizes for Great Britain were in India and Africa, whilst France looked to North Africa and later Italy imitated France. Germany's strength was partly due to her freedom from such distractions but as Germany became greater, she too
5 wanted to be a world power. In May 1885 Bismarck trumped up a new dispute with the British in order to please the French, this time in East Africa. This was a sensitive spot for the British since East Africa might open a back door to the valley of the Upper Nile.

Adapted from AJP TAYLOR, *The Struggle for Mastery in Europe*, 1954

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the importance of commercial investment in influencing British policy in South Africa in the years 1880 to 1895.
(10 marks)

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence about the motives for the expansion of British interests in West Africa in the years 1880 to 1885?
(10 marks)

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

‘British expansion had little to do with economic interests; it was merely the extension into Africa of international rivalries in Europe.’
How valid is this view in explaining British expansion in Africa between 1883 and 1895?
(20 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: PJ CAIN and T HOPKINS, *British Imperialism 1688–1914*, Pearson Education, 1993.

Question 1 Source D: AJP TAYLOR, *The Struggle for Mastery in Europe*, Oxford University Press, 1954, Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press.

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