

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS6C

Alternative C: Reform in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1765–1790

Friday 22 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 HS6C.
- 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).

Answer **all** questions.

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

Source A Joseph's imperial decrees regulated preaching, the order of service and decoration. Civil officials would listen to sermons to hear whether the priests criticised the authorities. Denunciations became more frequent and led to penalties and transfers for disobedient clergy. The church was to
5 become an instrument of the state, or more precisely an instrument for the instruction of the people. The state did not need saintly priests but rather enlightened clerics, supplying a morality which appealed to reason rather than the hearts of the faithful.

Adapted from J BERENGER, *A History of the Hapsburg Empire, 1700–1918*, 1997

Source B The eruption of a major peasant revolt in Bohemia in 1775 showed just how little impact reforms during the co-regency had made. Joseph's own response to the crisis was both weak and inconsistent; at one point he ridiculed plans to regulate labour services as absurd but shortly afterwards
5 demanded it as essential. Yet when he took charge as sole ruler in 1780, Joseph set in motion a programme of radical reform designed to revolutionise lord–peasant relations. Beginning in 1781, he issued decrees for each province 'abolishing serfdom'.

Adapted from TCW BLANNING, *Joseph II*, 1994

Source C What is striking about Joseph II's reforms is that he absolutely refused to offer the nobles any compensation for loss of land and workers. One of his motives in introducing the Tax and Agrarian Law was not just to help the peasants, but to break the power and wealth of the nobles, whom he saw as
5 his bitterest enemies. When the nobles complained that he was trying to bankrupt them, they were exactly right.

Adapted from W OPPENHEIM, *Europe and the Enlightened Despots*, 1999

Source D

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

Assess the validity of the view offered in **Source A** about Joseph II's motives for religious toleration and Church reform. *(10 marks)*

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence of the effectiveness of Maria Theresa's and Joseph II's reforms of the peasantry's labour services? *(10 marks)*

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

'Joseph II's failures occurred because he lacked Maria Theresa's ability to compromise with privileged groups.'
Assess the validity of this statement with reference to the years 1765 to 1790. *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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- Question 1 Source A: J BERENGER, *A History of the Hapsburg Empire, 1700–1918*, Longman, 1997
Source B: TCW BLANNING, *The Privileged Orders*, Longman, 1994
Source C: Reproduced in adapted form from W OPPENHEIM, *Europe and the Enlightened Despots*, Hodder & Stoughton, 1999.
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