

General Certificate of Education  
June 2007  
Advanced Level Examination



**HISTORY**  
**Unit 6W**

**HS60**

**Alternative O: Oliver Cromwell: Hero or Villain?**

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 HS60.
- 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** It would be misleading to exaggerate the extent to which the major gentry families accepted Cromwellian rule. By 1653 many of them had voluntarily withdrawn from their traditional role as governors of the provinces and many that remained were forcibly excluded by purges. The mood of many gentry remained dominated by fearful forebodings, not only of the social consequences of moves towards religious liberty, but also of the revolutionary threat they saw in Cromwell's association with the army, and which was emphasised by the presence in some localities of military garrisons and especially by the appointment as JPs of military men. The anxiety that all this posed a major threat to the traditional social and political structure of the country never disappeared in the 1650s. Cromwell's refusal, even in 1657, to cut his links with the army saw to that. Yet in provincial England during the course of the 1650s Cromwell's moderate 'healing and settling' aims did meet with much more success than did his idealistic pursuit of godly reformation.

Adapted from B COWARD, *Oliver Cromwell*, 1991

**Source B** Adapted from a contemporary account of Cromwell's speech of 7 March 1657 to one hundred army officers

The time was, when they boggled not at the word King. The Instrument was presented with the title in it, as some of them present could witness, (pointing at a principal officer, then in his eye) and Cromwell refused to accept the title. But how it comes to pass, that they now startle at that title, they best knew. For his part, he loved the title, a feather in a hat, as little as they did.

Cromwell said 'You have made me your drudge, upon all occasions. You thought it was necessary to have Major-Generals. You did your parts well. You might have gone on. After you exercised this power a while, impatient were you till a Parliament was called. I gave my vote against it; but you were confident, by your own strength and interest, to get men chosen to your heart's desire. Who bid you go to the Houses with a Bill, and there receive a rejection? It is time to come to a settlement, and lay aside arbitrary proceedings, so unacceptable to the nation.'

**Source C**

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about Cromwell's rule as Protector.  
(10 marks)

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence of Cromwell's attitude to the influence of the army in the years 1653 to 1658?  
(10 marks)

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

'Cromwell was little more than a military dictator.'  
Assess the validity of this view of Cromwell's rule as Lord Protector, 1653–58.  
(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: B COWARD, *Oliver Cromwell*, Longman, 1991.

Source B: Taken from T BARNARD, *The English Republic 1649–1660*, Longman, 1997.

Source C: C DURSTON, *Cromwell's Major-Generals*, Manchester University Press, 2001.

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