

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS6P

**Alternative P: Politics and Patronage in the Later Years of
George II, 1748–1760**

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 HS6P.
- 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 Alongside the declining Tory party, the only other challenge to the Pelhamite domination after 1746 came from the reversionary interest led by the Prince of Wales. Personally, Frederick was a feeble tool far removed from the ‘Patriot King’-in-waiting image he affected. He did, however, have one abiding advantage in the eyes of opponents of the Old Corps: his father George II was in his late sixties. Consequently, the dissatisfied, disgruntled and displaced of British politics – about 60 MPs and a few peers by 1750 – gravitated towards the Prince’s alternative court.

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

Source B Adapted from the diary of George Bubb Doddington, a Whig politician, 18 July 1749

The Prince of Wales received me most kindly, and told me he desired me to come into his service upon any terms, and by any title I pleased. He meant to put the principal direction of his affairs into my hands, and what he could not do for me in his present situation would be made up to me in the future. He then added that we must settle what was to happen in reversion, and said that he thought a Peerage with the management of the House of Lords, and the seals of Secretary of State, would be a proper position for me.

Source C More dangerous to the administration than the antics of the opposition were its own internal divisions. The Duke of Newcastle was obsessively jealous of his fellow Secretaries of State who, one by one, resigned: Harrington in 1746, Chesterfield in 1748 and Bedford in 1751. Even the normally patient Henry Pelham was infuriated by Newcastle’s behaviour, and it took all of the conciliatory arts of the Earl of Hardwicke to minimise these antagonisms. William Pitt remained in the administration as Paymaster General, where he quietly devoted himself to reforms within that office. On occasion, however, he could rouse himself to oppose his own government, especially on the reduction of the navy.

From F O’GORMAN, *The Long Eighteenth Century, British Political and Social History 1688–1832*, 1997

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the Prince of Wales. *(10 marks)*

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence about the way in which political figures of the time gained advancement? *(10 marks)*

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

‘The main threat to Pelham’s administration came from within the ranks of the government itself.’

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

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A; G HOLMES and D SZECHI, *The Age of Oligarchy, Pre-Industrial Britain 1722–1783*, Longman, 1993.

Source C: F O'GORMAN, *The Long Eighteenth Century, British Political and Social History 1688–1832*, Arnold, 1997. Reproduced by permission of Edward Arnold.

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