

General Certificate of Education  
June 2007  
Advanced Level Examination



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

**HS6Q**

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

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 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 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** Britain's overriding purpose in Africa was security in Egypt, the Mediterranean and the Near East. The achievement of this security became at the same time vital and more difficult, once the occupation of Egypt had increased the tension between the Powers and dragged Africa into their

5 rivalry. In this way the crisis in Egypt in 1882 set off the Scramble and sustained it until the end.

Adapted from R ROBINSON and J GALLAGHER with A DENNY, *Africa and the Victorians*, 1961

**Source B** Adapted from a letter from Lord Aberdare to Lord Granville, the Foreign Secretary, 24 April 1885

The country around and beyond Mount Kilimanjaro as far as Lake Victoria Nyanza is the most fertile, healthy and beautiful in Africa. It abounds with produce of great importance to our commerce. Some years ago Mr Mackinnon proposed to form an association for developing the

5 wealth of the continental portions of the Kingdom of Zanzibar. At that time the negotiations came to nothing. Mr Mackinnon suggests that they be revived in the new competitive situation given German interest in the area; it has recently been visited by Herr Fischer who is known to be pressing the German government to take over the area.

**Source C** Treaty-making by de Brazza on the Congo in September 1880 indicated an expansion of French Gabon in competition with King Leopold II. Britain responded with diplomacy. Treaties were renewed in the interior of Sierra Leone and the Upper Gambia to keep trade routes open. Thought was given

5 to using the newly formed National Africa Company as a political agent on the Lower Niger to counter French companies. French claims to the navigable Congo, north of Stanley Pool in November 1882, aroused further misgivings in the British Foreign Office's Africa department. Accordingly, negotiations to flatter Portugal's pretensions to territory north of Angola, in

10 return for reform of discriminatory tariffs in East and Central Africa, were revived and completed in the Anglo-Portuguese Treaty, 1884, to block both France and Leopold at the mouth of the Congo.

Adapted from A PORTER (ed), *The Oxford History of the British Empire – the Nineteenth Century*, 2001

**Source D** Britain granted a royal charter to Cecil Rhodes's British South Africa Company in 1889. In securing this privilege, Rhodes was greatly assisted by Sir Hercules Robinson, the Governor of the Cape, who had sizeable investments in Rhodes's companies. Rhodes had been greatly helped in his

5 business ventures by the London branch of Rothschild's Bank.

Adapted from PJ CAIN and AG HOPKINS, *British Imperialism: Innovation and Expansion, 1688–1914*, 1993

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the importance of strategic security in influencing British expansion in Egypt 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 East Africa in the years 1880 to 1895?

*(10 marks)*

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

‘British expansion in Africa in the years 1880 to 1895 was driven by “Gentlemanly Capitalism”.’

How valid is 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: R ROBINSON and J GALLAGHER with A DENNY, *Africa and the Victorians*, Macmillan, 1961. Reproduced by permission of Palgrave Macmillan.

Source C: From *Oxford History of the British Empire – the Nineteenth Century* by PORTER, A (2001). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Source D: PJ CAIN and AG HOPKINS, *British Imperialism: Innovation and Expansion, 1688–1914*, Longman, 1993.

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