



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2009

History

HIS2S

Unit 2S Liberal Democracies: Power to the People?

Friday 16 January 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 HIS2S.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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

Source A Adapted from a petition from the residents of Greenwich, Massachusetts in 1786, expressing their concerns about the Articles of Confederation

In our opinion, unless something is done quickly, one half of our inhabitants will become bankrupt. We are oppressed by taxation. The constables are daily selling our property, our land is sold for one third of its value and our cattle for about half its value. When we calculate the taxes paid in the last five years, the amount
5 is equal to the income from our farms. In this situation, what have we to live on? What can be asked of us unless a paper currency be provided so that we may pay our taxes and debts? Many of our good inhabitants are now confined to jail for debt and non-payment of taxes. Many have fled.

Source B Those who wanted stronger central government also argued that the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation threatened to cause economic ruin. It is now accepted by historians that the 1780s were not a period of unrelieved economic gloom. The slump did not last long. American merchants, freed from British
5 control, discovered new markets. Agriculture was prospering, manufacturing was developing and banks were set up. The depression of 1784–85 was due to the over-importation of British goods and the departure of troops.

Adapted from M JONES, *The Limits of Liberty*, 1995

Source C This source has been removed for copyright reasons.
The source discussed how Congress could not take effective action to ease economic distress and was incapable of conducting an adequate foreign policy owing to its lack of powers.

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

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the problems of the USA under the Articles of Confederation. *(12 marks)*

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

How important was the desire for stronger central government in the framing of the American constitution at Philadelphia in 1787? *(24 marks)*

EITHER

- 2 (a) Explain why a demand for parliamentary reform dominated British politics in the years 1830 to 1832. *(12 marks)*

- (b) ‘The 1832 Reform Act did not significantly extend democracy in Britain.’
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR

- 3 (a) Explain why Louis XVI called an Estates General in May 1789. *(12 marks)*

- (b) ‘King Louis XVI was executed in January 1793 because he was unwilling to co-operate with constitutional reform.’
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Source B: M JONES, *The Limits of Liberty*, Oxford University Press, 1995. By permission of Oxford University Press.

Source C:

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