



GCE AS/A level

1232/07



S15-1232-07

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 7

The French Revolution, c. 1774-1795

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 20 May 2015

1 hour 20 minutes

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ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 2**IN-DEPTH STUDY 7****The French Revolution, c. 1774-1795**

Answer either question 1 or question 2.

QUESTION 1

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

The peasant who works under compulsion and without payment works idly and without interests; he does less work, and his work is badly done. Those who perform the *corvée* are forced to travel often ten miles or more to report to the foreman, and as much again to return to their homes, and so waste a good part of the time demanded from them without any return for it. The work done costs the people and the state, in labour and vehicles twice and often three times as much as what it would cost if it were done for money.

[A.R.J. Turgot, a government minister, writing in the introduction to his planned reforms of the *corvée* (1776)]

Source B

Afflicted by so many misfortunes and suffering from poverty, the people of the countryside have become listless. They have fallen into a state of numbness, a kind of apathy, which is disastrous for the prosperity of the country. The population is suffering. They are afraid to get married, for marriage only holds the prospect of further hardships. They would immediately be taxed, asked for road services, for labour services and contributions of all kinds. They fear a situation where their family would be a burden on them, since they can only expect their children to be poor and wretched.

[From a list of grievances drawn up by the village of Pleurs in their *Cahier* of 1789]

Source C

France wants peace but does not fear war against those who offer comfort to our enemies abroad. War is necessary to France for her honour, external security, internal tranquility, to restore our finances and public credit and to put an end to terror, treason and anarchy. This war is a public benefit.

[Jacques-Pierre Brissot, a leading Girondin deputy, in a speech to the Legislative Assembly (29 December 1791)]

Source D

The war crisis of 1791 and 1792 is often seen by modern historians (many of them not much interested in diplomatic history) as an aberration of the Revolution, something so obviously foolish as to be explained only in terms of Brissotin tactics to capture power from the Feuillants. But this view of the revolutionary war fails to see that this patriotic war was in fact the logical culmination of almost everything the Revolution represented.

[Simon Schama, an academic historian, writing in his specialist book, *Citizens: A Chronicle of the French Revolution* (1989)]

Source E

You cannot consider the work of the National Assembly over the last few months without your blood boiling at the sight of so many decrees coming from it which deviate from the Declaration of the Rights of Man and which are fatal to liberty.

[From a speech by the radical Jacobin deputy Marat in the National Assembly (26 July 1790)]

Source F



[A contemporary pro-revolutionary print published to celebrate the capture of the Bastille in 1789. The print shows four pall-bearers preparing to bury a model of the Bastille]

- (a) What does the author of Source C mean by the phrase 'does not fear war against those who offer comfort to our enemies abroad'? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How significant were concerns regarding the condition of the peasantry before 1789? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that the war of 1792 was justified? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are Sources B, E and F in understanding the development of the French Revolution to 1792? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

QUESTION 2

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

- I Each department shall form a single diocese, and each diocese shall have the same area and the same boundaries as the department.
- IV It is forbidden to every church or parish in France and to all French citizens to recognize in any matter and under any pretext the authority of a bishop whose diocese is established by a foreign power.
- V Appointments to bishoprics are to be made by election only.

[Selected clauses taken from the *Civil Constitution of the Clergy* (12 July 1790)]

Source B

The Civil Constitution of the Clergy – France in Division

Those who condemned:

All good Frenchmen who love their country, their religion and the happiness of their brothers.

Those who approved:

All brigands, who burn chateaux, pillage mansions and put up gallows. Scoundrels who have bathed France in blood.

[An extract from an article published in a royalist paper, *Ami du Roi* (22 March 1791)]

Source C

The discovery of the *armoire de fer*, an iron chest hidden in the Tuileries, which contained a great number of incriminating letters showing Louis' treason, helped hasten the sentencing of Louis and focussed the attention of many deputies on the need for him to be executed. Roland, the Minister of the Interior, made public the contents of the chest.

[Antoine Thibaudeau, a moderate republican deputy in the Convention, writing in his *Memoirs of the Convention and Directory* (1824)]

Source D

What the documents discovered in the *armoire de fer* – and others captured in the sack of the Tuileries – demonstrate is that Louis was involved in supporting the counter-revolution and in spending considerable sums of money to win over public support through subsidising the royalist press. What should have been taken as evidence of Louis' sincerity in trying to rule as a contemporary constitutional monarch was, in the climate of the revolution, seen as conclusive proof of his duplicity and secretiveness. In this climate secrecy was equated with conspiracy to overthrow the revolution.

[John Hardman, an academic historian and authority on Louis XVI, writing in a specialist study, *Reputations: Louis XVI* (2000)]

Source E

So this, my dear, is where the intrigues and the little plots of those reckless and guilty aristocrats have led. They have abused the weakness of the King to advise him to undertake so wicked a deed as flight. For their own selfish interests, the vengeance of their pride, they have not feared to expose the *patrie* (nation) to the horrors of the most murderous civil war. The King, whom they say they love, has been exposed to the loss of his crown and all his family exposed to the most frightful consequences.

[Citizen Ferrières, a former aristocrat, writing in a private letter to his wife (June 1791)]

Source F



[A contemporary anti-royalist print showing the Third Estate bearing the burden of the French state without having any privileges (c. 1786)]

- (a) What does the author of Source E mean by the phrase, 'to undertake so wicked a deed as flight'? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How significant was the Civil Constitution of the Clergy for the Catholic Church in France? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that Louis' support for the counter-revolution was responsible for his execution? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are Sources B, E and F in understanding the development of the French Revolution to 1792? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

END OF PAPER