

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS6Q

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

Thursday 12 June 2008 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 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 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).

Answer **all** questions.

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

Source A Alarming, from Goldie's point of view, was the threat of competition from two new large French trading companies. Hoping to prevent the creation of a French monopoly on the oil rivers of West Africa, Lord Aberdare accompanied five directors of Goldie's Central Africa Company, including James Hutton, Liberal MP and cotton trader representing Manchester interests, to meet the Foreign Secretary on 18 January 1883.

Adapted from T PAKENHAM, *The Scramble for Africa*, 1991

Source B Adapted from the diary of Lord Derby, the Colonial Secretary, March 1881

5 March

Discussed Transvaal business with Sir Wilfrid Lawson, who wants to increase opposition to the war. We agreed about the war itself, for I have believed the Transvaal business to be a mistake from the beginning into which the Colonial

5 Office was led by the authorities in the Cape.

28 March

The South African business is finally settled and in the only rational way: by the substitution of a protectorate instead of direct administration by the Colonial Office. This leaves us the only thing which we really want, the control of foreign relations. There will be, and indeed there is, some grumbling at the notion of making peace after a defeat: but the defeat was on too small a scale to affect our prestige.

Source C

A brief text extract adapted from A PORTER, *The Oxford History of the British Empire - the Nineteenth Century*, 1999, detailing the Protectorates declared over British East and Southern Africa in 1894-5 in response to Britain's increased concern over the security of Egypt following the advances of France and Germany. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Source D The consular network was a harbour for retired army officers and for failures whose only recommendation for appointment as a British consul was aristocratic, official or personal influence. Most British colonial governors came from the South-East of England or were educated there at public school. The gentlemanly capitalist City was to a large extent dominated by the great merchant banking houses, which had become financiers to British governments. These banks moved in the overlapping world of superior social connexions, becoming bankers to the aristocracy and intimate advisors of the politically powerful.

Adapted from P J CAIN and A G HOPKINS, *British Imperialism 1688–1914*, 1993

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the importance of international rivalry in influencing British expansion in West Africa in the years 1880 to 1895. (10 marks)

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence about British policy in South Africa in the years 1880 to 1885? (10 marks)

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

‘The most important factor in Britain’s involvement in the Scramble for Africa in the years 1880 to 1895 was “The Man on the Spot”.’
Assess the validity of this view. (20 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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