



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2010

History

HIS2F

**Unit 2F Challenging British Dominance: the Loss of the American Colonies,
1754–1783**

Thursday 10 June 2010 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 HIS2F.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- 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.

HIS2F

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

Question 1

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

Source A Britain's struggle against America was not a piece of ill-considered folly. It has been argued that Britain should have made concessions to the American colonists rather than using force against them, thus remaining free to face the French threat. However, this would be to misunderstand the significance of the American revolution for Britain. If the colonies would not obey Parliament in paying taxes, there was no guarantee they would obey the various regulations and restrictions that were considered vital for the survival of British trade. Britain needed to establish control over her colonies before the next contest between Britain and her European rivals.

Adapted from P LANGFORD, *The Eighteenth Century, 1688–1815*, 1976

Source B From a report by Viscount Stormont, British envoy to Paris, December 1774

It is thought by the French that a spirit of independence has been generated throughout the American colonies, a spirit which will result in the colonists shaking off all dependence on Britain and forming an empire of their own. It seems that British conduct has been the opposite of what it should have been. British governments have encouraged discussion, thus raising in the colonies a spirit of opposition. By trying to subdue this now, Britain will merely spread the flames of unrest.

Source C

Source C, a passage by I R Christie concerning the differing positions of the British government and the American colonists on the issue of American independence, is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

The full copy of this paper can be obtained from AQA Publications. Tel. 0161 953 1170

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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 British policy in North America before the War of American Independence. (12 marks)

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Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How far was the outbreak of the War of American Independence due to the lack of willingness of the American colonies to compromise in the years 1770 to 1775?

(24 marks)

EITHER**Question 2**

0 3 Explain why conflict between Britain and France occurred in the Ohio Valley in 1754. *(12 marks)*

0 4 'The triumph at Quebec in 1759 was the most important reason for British victory in the French and Indian Wars.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR**Question 3**

0 5 Explain why British forces were defeated at Yorktown in 1781. *(12 marks)*

0 6 'The leadership of George Washington was the main reason for the victory of the American colonists in the War of American Independence.'
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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Question 1 Source A: P LANGFORD, *The Eighteenth Century, 1688–1815*, A & C Black, 1976

Question 1 Source C: I R CHRISTIE, *Crisis of Empire: Great Britain and the American Colonies 1754-1783*, W W Norton, 1966. Reprinted by permission of Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd.

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