



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2011

History

HIS2S

Unit 2S Liberal Democracies: Power to the People?

Thursday 20 January 2011 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 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.
- 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.

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 Adapted from the statement of the aims of the Birmingham Political Union at its founding meeting on 25 January 1830

- In its present state, Parliament is evidently too far removed in status and wealth from the desires and interests of the lower and middle classes of the people. The great agricultural interests of all kinds are well represented there. The landed interest, the church, the law and the monied interest are in firm control of the House of Commons.
- 5 But the interests of industry and of trade have scarcely any representatives at all! These, the most vital interests of the nation, the sources of all its strength, are comparatively unrepresented.

Source B It was not only the bad harvests of 1829 and 1830 and the consequently high price of bread, but depression in a number of industries which made 1830 a year of exceptional suffering and unrest. By 1831 all the manufacturing districts were affected by the depression, and discontent was general and intense. Parliamentary

5 reform was the focal point of the working-class campaign. The credit for this may belong to the radical organisations and the press, such as Hetherington's *Poor Man's Guardian*. Cobbett's propaganda and news from France filled the working class with hopes of political rights. 1831 saw the formation in London of the National Union of the Working Classes, which demanded manhood suffrage and the ballot.

Adapted from J W HUNT, *Reaction and Reform 1815–1841*, 1991

Source C The Whigs, exclusive and aristocratic though they were in their attitude to the government, were ready to accept political changes. They believed that unless the privileged sections of the community were prepared to adapt and to 'improve', the social order would be seriously threatened. While their opponents in 1830

5 believed that a considerable measure of parliamentary reform would lead to national catastrophe, the Whigs maintained that only a considerable measure could prevent a catastrophe. Pointing to the 'universal feeling' that reform was necessary at that time, Grey told the king that 'because of the expectations of the public with regard to reform it would be worse not to do enough than to do nothing'. Grey was convinced

10 that public opinion was so strongly concerned with this question that to ignore public opinion would be a danger to the government.

Adapted from A BRIGGS, *The Age of Improvement*, 1974

0	1
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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 support for the reform of Parliament before 1832. (12 marks)

0	2
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Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important was agitation outside Parliament as a reason for the drawing up of the First Reform Bill in March 1831? (24 marks)

EITHER**Question 2**

0	3
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 Explain why there was democracy in ancient Athens. *(12 marks)*

0	4
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 'Rousseau's ideas were put into practice in France in the years 1789 to 1791.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR**Question 3**

0	5
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 Explain why the American colonists objected to British rule in 1775. *(12 marks)*

0	6
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 'The threat of economic collapse was the chief concern of those opposed to the Articles of Confederation.'
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 B: J W HUNT, *Reaction and Reform 1815–1841*, Harper Collins, 1991. Reprinted by permission of Harper Collins Publishers Ltd.

Question 1 Source C: A BRIGGS, *The Age of Improvement*, Pearson Education, 1974.

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