



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination  
June 2012

## History

## HIS3E

**Unit 3E France and the Enlightenment: Absolutism Under Threat, 1743–1789**

**Tuesday 12 June 2012 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 HIS3E.
- Answer **two** questions.
- 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 90.
- 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.

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Answer **two** questions.

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**Question 1**

0	1
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 To what extent was involvement in war the most important reason for the worsening finances of France in the years 1743 to 1787? *(45 marks)*

**Question 2**

0	2
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 'It was the ministers of Louis XV and Louis XVI that were mainly responsible for the weakening of Royal authority in the years 1764 to 1787.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(45 marks)*

**Question 3**

0	3
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 'It was the economic and social condition of the people of France which forced Louis XVI to summon an Estates General.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(45 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**