

GCE
AS and A Level

History

AS exams 2009 onwards
A2 exams 2010 onwards

Unit 1E

Specimen question paper

Version 1.1



HISTORY
Unit 1

HIS1E

Absolutist States: The Reign of Louis XIV, 1661–1715

<DAY> <TIME>

For this paper you must have:

- A 12-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 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 HIS1E.
- Answer **two** questions.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period, in particular you should:
 - refer to relevant historical information
 - show an understanding of change and continuity
 - show a knowledge of historical interpretations

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

HIS1E

Answer **two** questions.

1

- (a) Explain why the French financial system was so inefficient at the start of Louis XIV's personal rule in 1661. *(12 marks)*
- (b) How successful was Colbert in strengthening the finances and economy of France in the years 1661 to 1683? *(24 marks)*

2

- (a) Why did France declare war on the Dutch in 1672? *(12 marks)*
- (b) How important was the pursuit of defensible frontiers in explaining Louis XIV's foreign policy in the years 1679 to 1715? *(24 marks)*

3

- (a) Explain why Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes in 1685. *(12 marks)*
- (b) How successful was Louis XIV in achieving the objectives of his religious policies in the years 1661 to 1715? *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS