



GCE AS/A level

1232/07

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 7

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION c. 1774-1795

P.M. MONDAY, 23 January 2012

1½ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **one** question.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 2
IN-DEPTH STUDY 7
THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, c. 1774-1795

Answer one question.

1. *Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.*

Source A

‘We need the co-operation of our loyal subjects in overcoming all our financial difficulties and in establishing, according to our wishes, a constant and invariable order in all branches of government which affect the welfare and prosperity of our kingdom. Such worthy motives have induced us to summon the assembly of all the Estates of the realm to advise us and assist us in whatever is presented to them.’

[From the Royal Letter of Convocation issued by Louis XVI
to summon the Estates-General (24 January 1789)]

Source B

‘With the summoning of the Assembly of Notables in 1788, the French monarchy had entered into the machinery of consultation. A strong government might have found support in that. But a weak and indecisive government was simply hastening its own downfall. The vast opposition facing the monarchy in the summer of 1788 forced Louis to give way to pressure from the privileged orders and agree to summon the Estates-General to meet on 1 May 1789.’

[François Furet, a French academic historian and specialist in the French Revolution,
writing in his book, *The French Revolution 1770-1814* (1996)]

Source C

‘Bishops, archbishops and priests in office shall be required to take an oath, concerning the Civil Constitution of the Clergy. Accordingly they shall swear to watch carefully over the faithful of the diocese and to maintain with all their power the Constitution decreed by the National Assembly. Those who have not, within the set periods, taken the oath prescribed for them shall be deemed to have renounced their office.’

[From the Decree passed by the National Assembly which
required a Clerical Oath (27 November 1790)]

Source D

‘The rain stopped. In less than two hours there were 50,000 people gathered on the Champ de Mars for a peaceful protest. One section of the National Guard entered from the far side where the military school is. Suddenly a salvo of gunfire was heard. Alas the people paid dearly for their courage and their blind trust in the law. Men, women and even a child were massacred there: massacred on the altar to the fatherland.’

[Elisée Loustalot, a pro-Jacobin journalist, writing in an article about the Champ de Mars massacre in a newspaper, *Les Révolutions de Paris* (23rd July 1791)]

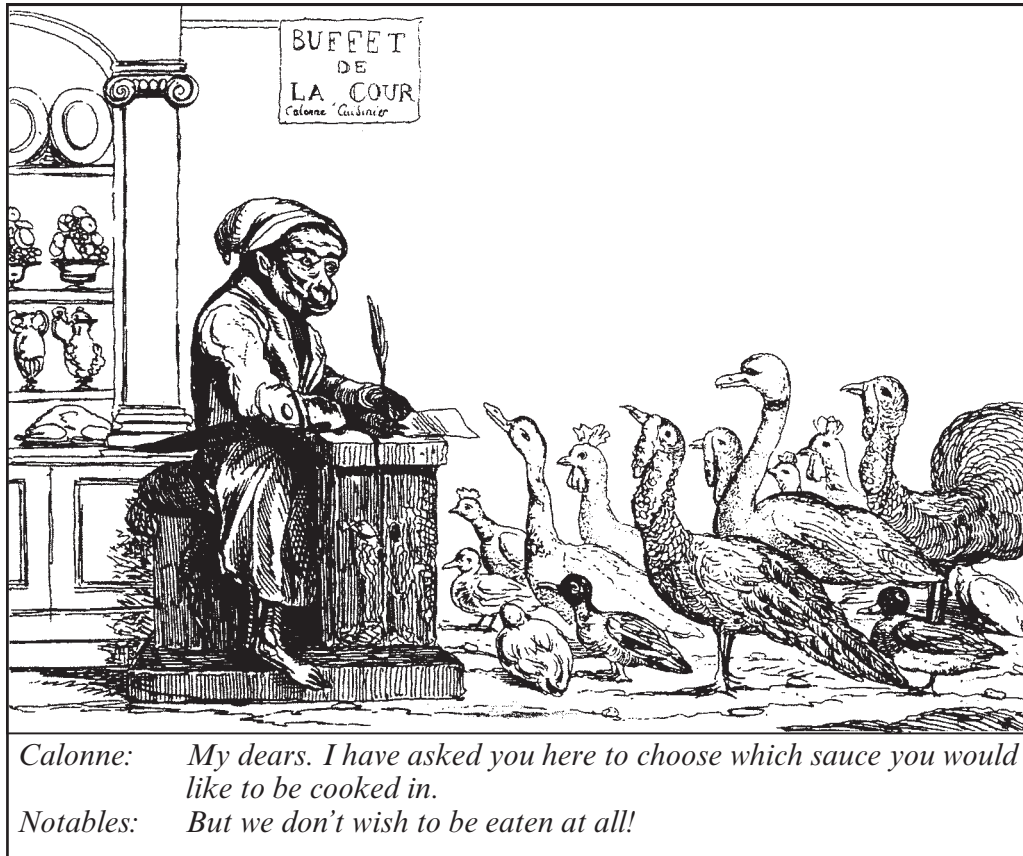
Source E

[A contemporary anti-clerical print showing a clergyman before and after the Revolution (c. 1791)]

- (a) Study Source D. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the term ‘National Guard’. [4]
- (b) Study Sources C and E. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the significance of the impact of the French Revolution on the Church. [8]
- (c) Study Sources B and D. How reliable are Sources B and D in explaining the role of opposition during the French Revolution? [16]
- (d) Study Sources A and B. How far does Source A support or contradict the interpretation of the summoning of the Estates-General given in Source B? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources in understanding the French Revolution to 1792? [32]
(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions.)

2. Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A



[A contemporary anti-royalist print showing Calonne addressing the nobles of the Assembly of Notables which had been summoned to address the problems facing France in 1787.]

Source B

'French citizens gathered beyond the kingdom's frontiers are henceforth declared to be suspect of conspiracy against their native land. If on 1st January next, 1792, they are still mustered together, they will be declared guilty of conspiracy and as such will be prosecuted and punished by death.'

[From the law against emigrés passed by the Legislative Assembly, which was vetoed by Louis XVI (9 November 1791)]

Source C

'The cruel law against the émigrés forced me to make use of the veto. The necessity of this has been recognised by the large part of the nation. The people regard the émigrés who aim at counter-revolution as the greatest enemies, and the surest way of making the king unpopular is to present him as being in league with and favouring the plans of the émigrés. Yet those nobles who have left France are honourable men and need to be protected.'

[Louis XVI, writing in a private letter to his close advisor Breteuil (December 1791)]

Source D

‘Louis has never been a popular monarch but the nation can never give back its confidence to a man who is false to his trust, lies to his oath, conspires a secret escape, obtains a false passport, conceals a King of France under the disguise of a servant, directs his course towards a frontier covered with traitors and deserters and eventually hopes to return to France with a force capable of imposing his own despotic laws on the country and ending the revolution.’

[Tom Paine, an anti-monarchist English radical who was sympathetic to the Jacobins, writing after the flight to Varennes in his book, *The Rights of Man* (July 1791)]

Source E

‘Royalty still carried prestige in France. However, Louis personally had none. He was devoted to hunting and liked to work with his hands; he drank and ate to excess; he did not like fashionable society, gambling or dancing; he was the laughing stock of his courtiers and rumours of the queen’s conduct made him appear ridiculous. Many people considered Louis to be deeply untrustworthy especially given the collapse of the French economy in the 1780s and its desperate attempts to raise income.’

[Georges Lefebvre, a leading Marxist historian and authority on the French Revolution, writing in his text book, *The French Revolution* (1951)]

- (a) Study Source C. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the term ‘veto’. [4]
- (b) Study Sources B and C. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the significance of the émigrés. [8]
- (c) Study Sources A and C. How reliable are Sources A and C in explaining the position of different groups of nobles during the French Revolution? [16]
- (d) Study Sources D and E. How far does Source D support or contradict the interpretation of Louis XVI given in Source E? [20]
- (e) How useful are the sources in understanding the French Revolution to 1792? [32]
(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions.)