

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS General Certificate of Secondary Education

HISTORY A (SCHOOLS HISTORY PROJECT)



PAPER 2 (Crime and Punishment Through Time)

Thursday 15 JUNE 2006

Morning

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional material: 8-page answer booklet

TIME 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number on the answer booklet.
- Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, in the answer booklet.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what to do before you start your answer.
- Write the numbers of the questions you answer in the box on the front of the answer booklet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part-question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 50.

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Study the Background Information and the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.

In answering the questions, you will need to use your knowledge of the topic to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.

Answer ALL the questions.

1 Study Source A.

Why do you think the magistrates decided to arrest Hunt? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [6]

2 Study Source B.

Why do you think the artist drew this cartoon? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

3 Study Sources C and D.

How different are these two sources as evidence about Peterloo? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

4 Study Source E.

Are you surprised by what Lord Liverpool says in this source about the actions of the magistrates at Peterloo? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

5 Study Source F.

How useful is this source as evidence about Peterloo? Use the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

6 Study all the sources.

How far do these sources show that it was the actions of the crowd that caused the violence at Peterloo? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. Remember to identify the sources you use. [10]

POPULAR PROTEST IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

Who or What Was to Blame for 'Peterloo'?

Background Information

On 16 August 1819 a large crowd of about 50 000 people assembled at St. Peter's Field, Manchester. The crowd consisted mainly of working-class people who were campaigning for the right to vote. The star speaker at the meeting was Henry 'Orator' Hunt, a well known campaigner for the reform of Parliament.

The local magistrates were worried by the meeting. An economic depression had hit Britain and the government feared that there could be a revolution. The magistrates had arranged for troops to be available in case of trouble. These were the Yeomanry (a part-time amateur force made up mainly of middle-class people) and the Hussars (full-time cavalry from the regular army).

At the start of the meeting, violence broke out. Eleven people in the crowd were killed and hundreds injured by soldiers who had been ordered to arrest Hunt. The incident soon came to be known as 'Peterloo'. This was to mock the soldiers by comparing their actions with the great military victory against the French at Waterloo in 1815.

SOURCE A

I observed the arrival of Hunt. I could see over the whole of the St Peter's area. The number of persons assembled was estimated at 50 000. The meeting seriously alarmed people who lived in the area. My opinion was that the town was in great danger. Manchester is a large place and contains many workshops and warehouses. We the magistrates, looking at all the circumstances, felt it necessary to order Hunt's arrest. However, the constables refused to do this without the help of the troops.

When the Yeomanry advanced towards Hunt, who was on the platform, I saw bricks and stones thrown at them in defiance. I asked the Hussars to advance. Many of the crowd did not flee when the Yeomanry rode amongst them, but the moment the Hussars advanced, a general rush to escape took place.

From evidence given by William Hulton at the trial of Henry Hunt later in 1819. Hulton was Chairman of the Manchester magistrates in charge at Peterloo. SOURCE B



A cartoon about Peterloo drawn in 1819. Its title is 'Manchester Heroes'.

SOURCE C

When we arrived at St. Peter's Field we saw for the first time the Manchester troop of Yeomanry. They were scattered over the greater part of the field, hemmed in by the mob so they were powerless to escape. They were in a hopeless position, and needed to be rescued. We drove the people forward with the flats of our swords. Sometimes, as is almost inevitable in such situations, the blade was used, both by the Hussars and, I have heard, by the Yeomanry also. I still think it shows the restraint of our men that more people were not wounded, when the vast numbers present are taken into consideration. Beyond doubt, the far greater amount of injuries were simply from the pressure of the fleeing crowd.

The account of an officer in the Hussars who was present at Peterloo. This account was based on an interview published in 1847.

SOURCE D

The Yeomanry were greeted with a friendly shout from the crowd, but waving their swords over their heads, they dashed forward and began cutting the people. 'Stand together,' I said, 'they are riding at us.' The Yeomanry were in confusion. They could not, with the weight of man and horse, penetrate the mass of human beings, and their swords were used to cut a way through the defenceless crowd. 'Shame!' the crowd shouted, then 'They are killing them in front and people can't get away.' As the crowd broke apart, the Yeomanry wheeled round, dashing forwards wherever there was an opening. Women and youths were cut down or trampled without mercy.

Accounts of events at Manchester will of course have reached you, and will probably have alarmed you. You will naturally ask whether the actions of the magistrates were really necessary. We are fully satisfied that the type of meeting justified the magistrates in using force, though I do not mean that everything they did was sensible. But whatever judgement one reaches, we have no alternative but to support them.

A letter from Lord Liverpool, the Prime Minister, to another member of the government, 23 September 1819.

SOURCE F



A picture about Peterloo published in 1821.

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