



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2015

History

HIS2F

Unit 2F Challenging British Dominance: The Loss of the American Colonies, 1754–1783

Wednesday 20 May 2015 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

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 **Paper Reference** is HIS2F.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.
- 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.

Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A The winter of 1781 was a difficult time for Washington and his army. For most of 1780, the American army stood at 4 000 men and was suffering from a lack of supplies. Connecticut troops were only prevented from seizing stores in New Jersey by troops from other colonies. Discipline was an increasing problem as the war in the north became increasingly a stalemate. The issue of delayed pay was made worse by the fact that the money issued by the Continental Congress was rapidly being devalued. Yet Washington maintained authority, benefitting at this stage by the arrival of a French force under Rochambeau. 5

Adapted from Daniel Marston, *The American Revolution, 1774–1783*, 2002

Source B The later years of the War of American Independence required all the patience that Washington could summon. The quality of his soldiers remained high in the later stages of the war, and numbers at times rose over 10 000. However, supplies and pay remained meagre, with the result that even officers were being forced into poverty in order to pay for food and uniforms. Living conditions in winter quarters during 1778–1780 were even more wretched than at Valley Forge. The Continental Congress could not be blamed, because real power in finance lay with individual colonies. Taxes to provide for the money printed by Congress had to come from individual colonies, and they were reluctant to authorise any. The arrival of French forces made little real difference. 10

Adapted from Mark Lardas, *George Washington*, 2011

Source C Washington's recruits did not take orders without discussion. The militia consisted of summer foot-soldiers on leave from the plough, supported at times by frontiersmen with tomahawks. Yet they were inspired by George Washington who, though by no means a military genius, was a great leader. Tall and stately, he looked the part. Strikingly sure of himself, ruthlessly single-minded, he made small gains and avoided large losses, staving off defeat until he could achieve victory. 5

Adapted from Piers Brendon, *The Decline and Fall of the British Empire, 1781–1997*, 2007

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 of **Source A** in relation to the American war effort in the later years of the War of American Independence.

[12 marks]

and

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

How far was American victory in the War of American Independence due to the abilities of George Washington?

[24 marks]

Either

Question 2

0	3
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Explain why British forces were able to capture Quebec in 1759.

[12 marks]

and

0	4
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‘The Treaty of Paris of 1763 damaged British interests in North America.’
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[24 marks]

or

Question 3

0	5
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Explain why there was opposition in America to the Stamp Act.

[12 marks]

and

0	6
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‘War with the American colonies broke out in 1775 because of the failures of Lord North’s government in the years 1770 to 1775.’
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 A: Daniel Marston, *The American Revolution, 1774-1783*, © Osprey Publishing, 2002

Question 1 Source B: Mark Lardas, *George Washington*, © Osprey Publishing, 2011

Question 1 Source C: *From The Decline and Fall of the British Empire* by Piers Brendon. Published by Vintage. Reprinted by permission of The Random House Group Ltd.

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