



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2014

History

HIS2F

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

Thursday 22 May 2014 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 At the Second Continental Congress in May 1775, only a minority of the colonial delegates favoured independence from Britain. In July 1775, Congress sent the Olive Branch Petition appealing for an end to the bloodshed and for reconciliation, with the repeal of those Acts of Parliament which the colonies found impossible to accept. The petition was seen in London as an attempt to divide and was immediately rejected, while the growing bitterness of the fighting in America led to a hardening of attitudes on each side. 5

Adapted from G Williams and J Ramsden, *Ruling Britannia: Political History of Britain, 1688–1988*, 1990

Source B The Second Continental Congress met in the shadow of Lexington and Concord, and was hardly in the mood to accept any offers of conciliation from Lord North. Its July Declaration, although accompanied by the Olive Branch Petition to the King, left almost no room for negotiation. The denial of any desire for independence implied that the colonists were actually considering such a step. In Britain, the response of MPs to Chatham's resolutions for the withdrawal of coercive measures against the colonists showed the unpopularity of concessions to the colonists. Too many MPs believed that power should not be shared with the colonies. 5

Adapted from Keith Perry, *British Politics and the American Revolution*, 1990

Source C As early as 1765, some of the leading inhabitants of different American colonies were beginning to unite in response to British policy. Americans resented helping to pay for the consequences of a war that had been fought by Britain for her own imperial interests. They also felt that current economic policy was being framed for the benefit of British merchants. No fewer than nine colonies sent representatives to a Stamp Act Congress in New York, and others would have done so, had their governors not refused to sanction the appointment of representatives. By this time, all over the continent secret organisations were springing up known as 'Sons of Liberty' and it became unsafe in some places for men to speak in favour of the King. 5
10

Adapted from Christopher Hibbert, *Redcoats and Rebels: The War for America, 1770–1781*, 1991

0 1 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the Second Continental Congress.

[12 marks]

and

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

How far was the outbreak of the War of American Independence due to colonial resentment of British policy in North America in the years 1765 to 1775?

[24 marks]

Either

Question 2

0 3 Explain why hostilities broke out between Britain and France in North America in 1754.

[12 marks]

and

0 4 'Naval supremacy was the main reason for British success in the French and Indian Wars.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[24 marks]

Or

Question 3

0 5 Explain why American forces were able to defeat the British at Yorktown in 1781.

[12 marks]

and

0 6 'Washington's leadership was the main reason the American colonies were able to achieve independence.'

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 B: Keith Perry, *British Politics and the American Revolution*, 1990, Palgrave Macmillan, reproduced by permission of Palgrave Macmillan

Question 1 Source C: Christopher Hibbert, *Redcoats and Rebels: The War for America, 1770–1781*, Paladin, 1991

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