



GCE AS/A level

1232/07

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 7

The French Revolution, c. 1774-1795

P.M. THURSDAY, 22 May 2014

1 hour 20 minutes

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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 **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

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 either question 1 or question 2.

QUESTION 1

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

I have personally selected you from the different orders of the state to make you part of my purposes. The plans, particularly those for financial reform, which will be revealed to you are large and important. I will hear any observations you consider to make and trust your advice will show ready agreement with these plans, and that no private interest will oppose what is the general good of France.

[Louis XVI, in a speech to the opening session of the Assembly of Notables
(22 February 1787)]

Source B

Regarding the proposed Land Tax. Such a tax could not be accepted by the *parlements* which would have to register it. Accordingly, only the Estates General could give the necessary consent to such a tax. An Assembly of Notables which gave its blessing to the introduction of such a tax would be vastly exceeding its powers and would be dishonoured in the eyes of the nation.

[From the official record of the debates of the Assembly of Notables (May 1787)]

Source C

Frenchmen! Are you not going to celebrate in commemoration of that night when so many great things were done. An end to the wild boars, rabbits and game devouring our crops. Tithes and fees to the clergy are abolished along with tax exemptions. Seigneurial justice is no more. The corvée and crop-share rents are to be brought to an end. All traces of slavery have been removed from the land of the Franks. Rejoice! Feudalism is no more.

[Camille Desmoulins, a radical writer, celebrating the events of the Night of 4th August, in his pamphlet, *Speech at the Lantern* (August 1789)]

Source D

The resolutions which were passed by a show of hands on the Night of 4th August had to be written up formally. The decree which emerged began: 'The National Assembly destroys the feudal regime in its entirety'. This was far from the case as they retained many key features until the holders of the feudal rights received financial compensation for them. In reality therefore, very little changed for the majority of French peasants.

[Georges Lefebvre, a leading Marxist historian and authority on the French Revolution, writing in his book, *The French Revolution* (1930)]

Source E

Without question, a war which aims at conquest must be hated by free men. But a war waged for liberty is a sacred war, which will purify the soul. It is in the midst of the terrors of a free war that egoism disappears and that common peril unites every soul. This is when liberty becomes a universal passion, purifies society and purges it of that scum which disappears in combat. After these battles the nation is reborn.

[J.P Brissot, a leading Girondin deputy, in a speech to the National Assembly in which he calls for a war (15 December 1791)]

Source F

[A contemporary print by the pro-revolutionary artist Jean Louis Prieur showing the storming of the Tuilleries by the people of Paris on 10th August 1792]

- (a) What does the author of Source E mean by the phrase, ‘a war waged for liberty’? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How important was the Assembly of Notables in bringing about the end of the ancien regime? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that the Night of the 4th August was important in destroying feudalism? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are Sources C, E and F in understanding the development of the French Revolution to 1792? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

QUESTION 2

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

A banquet was held on Saturday where certain provocative incidents occurred which insulted the tricolour cockade. Patriot onlookers at Versailles left to take the news back to Paris. People swarmed on to the streets in search of royal cockades. They took reprisals, tore off the cockades, trampled them underfoot and threatened to lynch anyone who should wear them again. One soldier who tried to recover his cockade was soon persuaded otherwise by a hundred clubs used against him.

[Camille Desmoulins, a journalist sympathetic to the Revolution, writing about the events of 3 - 4 October 1789 in his newspaper, *Histoire des Revolution de France* (1790)]

Source B

The King was brought to Paris yesterday. First to arrive was a large section of the Parisian army and many women. Then came fifty or sixty wagons of guns and flour. The women sang vulgar songs which apparently showed little respect for the queen. Then with one hand pointing to the flour and the other to the royal family they announced: "Friends, we will not lack bread in future we are bringing you the baker, his wife and the baker's boy."

[J.S. Bailly, the first president of the National Assembly and mayor of Paris, describing the October Days in his *Memoirs* (1821-1822)]

Source C

The most striking of the country's troubles was the chaos in its finances, the results of years of extravagance and mismanagement. Among the worst of these problems was the arbitrary system of allocation, the oppressive costs of collection, and the abuses of privilege by the richest section of taxpayers. These problems were intensified by the expense of the American War of Independence, which had cost the state over twelve hundred million livres.

[Marquis de Bouille, a royalist supporter and military commander in 1789, writing in his book, *Memoirs of the French Revolution* (1797)]

Source D

It is possible to speculate that if the Bourbon monarchy had successfully modernised its society and government then it might have sustained the ambitions it had to be a world power in the late eighteenth century. However it did not, and this failure in foreign and domestic policy allied to the accident of poor harvests, helps to explain why the French Revolution broke out in 1789.

[Gwynne Lewis, an academic historian and specialist in the French Revolution, writing in *The French Revolution: Rethinking the Debate* (1993)]

Source E

You will see that a veil of tolerance conceals the plan and provision of an atrocious persecution following this Oath. There you will see priests changed without distinction into sedition-mongers, their worship into mysterious offences and plots. You will realize that far from wanting to set the conscience of the non-juring priests at ease there has been a desire to set a trap for them. Far from trying to end any conflict in religion it has been proposed to revive it.

[From an open letter to the King written by the non-juring priests of the City of Paris (1791)]

Source F

[A contemporary print by the pro-revolutionary artist Jean Louis Prieur showing a Parisian crowd in the Place des Victoires toppling a statue of Louis XVI following his deposition in August 1792 (1792)]

- (a) What does the author of Source E mean by the phrase ‘far from trying to end any conflict in religion it has been proposed to revive it’? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How significant were the October Days for the Monarchy? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that financial mismanagement was responsible for the outbreak of the French Revolution? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are Sources A, E and F in understanding the development of the French Revolution to 1792? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

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