

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



HISTORY

HS1K

Unit 1

Alternative K: Social and Economic History, 1914–1939

Wednesday 6 June 2007 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS1K.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 25 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to 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.

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

Source A There was no doubt that the problem of the slums was very large. Even by 1935, after the new building of the post-war period, it was estimated that over 3 million houses in Britain (more than one-quarter of the total stock) were at least eighty years old. ED Simon, one of the most active anti-slum
5 campaigners, estimated that there were 4 million slums in total of which 1.75 million were ‘really bad’.

Adapted from P DEWEY, *War and Progress*, 1997

Source B

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Source C When I left school in 1930 and began to look for work, half the workers in Blackburn were unemployed. The entire output of the Lancashire textile industry had been halved since 1914. The number of textile workers in Blackburn by 1930 was 10% of what it had been in 1914 because our town
5 depended upon the export trade. The poor were not only going hungry but selling their bedding for food – some ended up sleeping on straw and old sacks. A diet of fish-head soup and haddock was all that kept them going. The medical journal, *The Lancet*, reported that people in the depressed areas of Blackburn were dying of starvation. The birth-rate declined and
10 the infant mortality rate was higher in Lancashire than in the rest of the country. Throughout the spring and summer of 1932 there were pitched battles between unemployed workers and police in London, Manchester, Birkenhead and Glasgow. In Belfast, demonstrators were shot and killed and the army had been called out in Rochdale. In October 1932, I watched
15 unemployed men from Blackburn set off on a march to London to make a direct appeal for help to Parliament and the King.

Adapted from W WOODRUFF, *The Road to Nab End*, 2002

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- (a) Use **Source C** and your own knowledge.

Explain briefly the importance of ‘depressed areas’ (lines 8–9) in the context of Britain in the years 1919 to 1939. *(3 marks)*

- (b) Use **Sources B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

Explain how **Source C** challenges the view put forward in **Source B** regarding the effectiveness of the Government’s response to the problems of poverty facing Britain in the years 1919 to 1935. *(7 marks)*

- (c) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

Explain the importance of the failure of government policies on welfare, health and housing, in relation to other factors, in explaining poverty in Britain in the 1930s. *(15 marks)*

Turn over for the next question

EITHER 2 Read the following source and then answer the questions which follow.

‘At the bottom for industrial performance after 1918 was a group of large-scale declining industries.’

Adapted from P DEWEY, *War and Progress*, 1997

- (a) Explain briefly what is meant by ‘declining industries’ in the context of Britain in the years 1918 to 1939. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain why the level of unemployment in Britain increased in the years 1929 to 1931. (7 marks)
- (c) ‘Leaving the Gold Standard in 1931 was the most important reason for the recovery in the British economy in the years 1931 to 1939.’ Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (15 marks)

OR 3 Read the following source and then answer the questions which follow.

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- (a) Explain briefly what is meant by ‘the mothers continued to work’ (lines 4–5) in the context of Britain in 1918. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain why the First World War led to social change in the years 1914 to 1919. (7 marks)
- (c) ‘In the years 1919 to 1939 Britain experienced only limited social change.’ Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 1 Source A: P DEWEY, *War and Progress*, Longman, 1997.

Source C: Reproduced from *The Road to Nab End* by WILLIAM WOODRUFF with kind permission of Abacus Books, a division of Little Brown Book Group, 2002.

Question 2: P DEWEY, *War and Progress*, Longman, 1997.

Question 3: P HORN, *Women in the 1920s*, Sutton, 1995.

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