

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



HISTORY

Unit 2

Alternative R: Britain, 1895–1918

HS2R

Monday 2 June 2008 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 black ink or black 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 HS2R.
- 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 By 1903, despite its small number of MPs, the LRC* was an important party in its own right, able to draw on the support of an increasing body of voters in the country. Liberal Party leaders, with their eyes on the next general election, were acutely aware of this. Ramsay MacDonald and Keir Hardie, for the Labour
5 leadership, became aware of the gains that might be made by electoral arrangements with the Liberals. Hence the relationship between the LRC* and the Liberal Party was to become of vital importance during the three years that led to the general election of 1906.

Adapted from P ADELMAN, *The Rise of the Labour Party, 1880-1945*, 1986

*LRC = Labour Representation Committee, later the Labour Party

Source B

A brief text extract adapted from H VAN THAL, *The Prime Ministers*, from Lord John Russell to Edward Heath, 1975, detailing the actions of Asquith which allowed the Labour Party representation in the House of Commons, as opposed to those of Lloyd George who had never valued co-operation with the Labour Party. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Source C Adapted from a Labour leaflet produced for the General Election in January 1910

The shameful neglect of social and economic questions by Conservative and Liberal governments in the past made it absolutely necessary for the workers to be directly represented in Parliament by men who would press vigorously for the practical handling of such questions by Parliament. As a result of our efforts,
5 needy school children are fed; a minimum wage has been established in sweated industries; six hundred thousand aged people now receive Old Age Pensions.

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

Explain briefly what is meant by 'electoral arrangements' (lines 5 and 6) between Liberals and Labour in the context of British politics in 1903. *(3 marks)*

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

Explain how useful **Source C** is as evidence of Labour's political influence by 1910. *(7 marks)*

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

'The Liberal governments in the years 1905 to 1914 retained their effectiveness despite the challenge from the Conservative and Labour Parties.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this statement. *(15 marks)*

Turn over for the next question

EITHER

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

A brief text extract adapted from I CAWOOD, *Britain in the Twentieth Century*, 2004, describing the isolation that Britain felt when defending her Empire after the Boer War. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Comment on ‘unfriendly powers’ in the context of the Boer War of 1899 to 1902. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain why Britain sought closer ties with other powers in the years 1902 to 1904. (7 marks)
- (c) Was the threat to the British Empire the most important factor in explaining Britain’s deteriorating relations with Germany in the years 1905 to 1914? Explain your answer. (15 marks)

OR

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

A brief text extract adapted from W SIMPSON, *Twentieth Century British History*, 2005, discussing whether or not the work of women during the war had a positive influence on the suffragette cause. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Comment on ‘suffragists’ in the context of the movement for votes for women. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain why the First World War led to new opportunities for women in the workplace. (7 marks)
- (c) Explain the importance of women’s wartime work, in relation to other factors, in explaining why women gained the vote in parliamentary elections. (15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS**

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Question 2: I CAWOOD, *Britain in the Twentieth Century*, Routledge, 2004

Question 3: W SIMPSON, *Twentieth Century British History*, Routledge, 2005