

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY

HS4C

Unit 4

Alternative C: Monarchy in the Age of Enlightenment

Wednesday 4 June 2008 9.00 am to 10.30 am

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 HS4C.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.
- 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.
- 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.
- In answering both Question 1(b) in Section A and your choice of question from Section B, you are advised to draw upon an appropriate range of historical knowledge and skills, to demonstrate overall historical understanding for the synoptic assessment requirements for this question paper.

Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

SECTION A: THE CRISIS OF THE FRENCH MONARCHY, 1688–1789

You must answer this question.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.

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

Source A In 1715 Orleans overturned Louis XIV's law so that parlements were again free to remonstrate before registering laws. The result was a renewed period of opposition during which the Parlement denounced, in remonstrances that were often publicly distributed, government financial measures like John Law's *système*.
5 But the root cause of these clashes was the instability of governments during Louis XV's minority. Once Cardinal Fleury was fully in control, government policy again became firm and consistent.

Adapted from W DOYLE, *Origins of the French Revolution*, 1999

Source B Maupeou's ascendancy (1771–1774) is often seen as one in which a real stand was made against the parlements, financial reform was undertaken and the French monarchy was set on a firm path which might have saved it. But more recent interpretations see Maupeou less as a reformer intent on removing obstacles to
5 change, than as an ambitious manipulator whose search for power led him to arrange the fall of Choiseul. Maupeou's policy towards the parlements was unnecessarily aggressive and probably counterproductive.

Adapted from O HUFTON, *Europe: Privilege and Protest 1730–1789*, 1980

Source C

A brief text extract adapted from S WALLER, *France in Revolution, 1776–1830*, 2002, discussing the failure of Louis XVI, and his ministers, to resolve the economic and governmental problems of France. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Source D Objections from the Paris Parlement to the *lit de justice* issued in 1787 that enforced Brienne's loans

The king's will alone is not enough to make a law. To be enforced it must be legally proclaimed; to be legally proclaimed it must be registered. That, Sire, is the French constitution.

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

How fully do these two extracts explain the effectiveness with which ministers served the monarchy in the 1770s and 1780s? (10 marks)

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

'It was the behaviour of the parlements that was the main cause of the crisis in royal authority.
Assess the validity of this view of the years 1688 to 1789. (20 marks)

Turn over for the next question

SECTION B: THE PRACTICE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Answer **one** question from this section.

Option A: Brandenburg-Prussia under Frederick II, 1740–1786

- 2 ‘Frederick II had a genuine commitment to the Enlightenment yet failed to improve the welfare of his people.’
How far do you agree with this statement? *(20 marks)*
- 3 ‘Frederick II’s domestic policies served the interests of the nobility far more than the interests of the state.’
How far do you agree with this statement? *(20 marks)*
- 4 ‘The conquest of Silesia in 1740–1741, rather than the partition of Poland, was a more significant achievement of Frederick II’s foreign policy.’
How far do you agree with this statement? *(20 marks)*

Option B: Russia under Catherine II, 1762–1796

- 5 ‘The partition of Poland was a more significant achievement of Catherine’s foreign policy than gaining territory from Turkey.’
How far do you agree with this statement? *(20 marks)*
- 6 ‘Catherine II sacrificed her enlightened principles in order to preserve the existing society and institutions of Russia.’
How far do you agree with this statement? *(20 marks)*
- 7 ‘Catherine II’s domestic policies served the interests of the privileged far more than the interests of the state.’
How far do you agree with this statement? *(20 marks)*

Option C: Enlightenment in Theory and Practice

- 8** ‘The overwhelming similarity in their key ideas proves that the *Philosophes* can be treated as a single group.’
How far do you agree with this statement? (20 marks)
- 9** ‘The survival of serfdom proves that the Enlightenment had no practical impact on their policies.’
How far is this a valid assessment of **both** Frederick II **and** Catherine II? (20 marks)
- 10** ‘It was their genuine commitment to the ideas of the Enlightenment that explains their desire to reform.’
How far is this a valid assessment of **both** Frederick II **and** Catherine II? (20 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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Source B: O HUFTON, *Europe: Privilege and Protest 1730–1789*, Fontana Paperbacks, 1980

Source C: From *France in Revolution 1776–1830* by Sally Waller. Reprinted by permission of Harcourt Education

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