History
Advanced
Unit 3
Option B: Politics, Protest and Revolution

Friday 9 June 2017 – Morning
Time: 2 hours

You must have:
Sources Insert (enclosed)

Instructions

• Use black ink or ball-point pen.
• Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
• There are two sections in this question paper. Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B on the topic for which you have been prepared.
• Answer the questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.

Information

• The total mark for this paper is 70.
• The marks for each question are shown in brackets – use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.
• The quality of your written communication will be assessed in all your responses – you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.

Advice

• Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
• Check your answers if you have time at the end.
SECTION A

Answer ONE question in Section A on the topic for which you have been prepared.

You should start the answer to your chosen question in Section A on page 3. Section B begins on page 11.

B1 – France, 1786–1830: Revolution, Empire and Restoration

Answer EITHER Question 1 OR Question 2.

EITHER

1 ‘Whilst making significant improvements in government finances, the Directory (1795–99) still failed to provide France with political stability.’

How far do you agree with this view?

(Total for Question 1 = 30 marks)

OR

2 ‘Charles X bears only limited responsibility for the collapse of the Bourbon Monarchy.’

How far do you agree with this view?

(Total for Question 2 = 30 marks)

B2 – Challenging Authority: Protest, Reform and Response in Britain, c1760–1830

Answer EITHER Question 3 OR Question 4.

EITHER

3 ‘Radical activity posed a significant threat to the British political system in the years 1789–1815.’

How far do you agree with this view?

(Total for Question 3 = 30 marks)

OR

4 ‘The Liberal Tory governments (1822–30) resisted, rather than promoted, reform.’

How far do you agree with this view?

(Total for Question 4 = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 30 MARKS
Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☑. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☑.

Chosen question number:  
Question 1 ☐  Question 2 ☐  Question 3 ☐  Question 4 ☐
SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B on the topic for which you have been prepared.

You should start the answer to your chosen question in Section B on page 13.

B1 – France, 1786–1830: Revolution, Empire and Restoration

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer EITHER Question 5 OR Question 6.

EITHER

5 Use Sources 1, 2 and 3 and your own knowledge.

‘Economic problems were primarily responsible for the collapse of constitutional monarchy in France in 1792.’

How far do you agree with this view?

Explain your answer, using Sources 1, 2 and 3 and your own knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(Total for Question 5 = 40 marks)

OR

6 Use Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.

How far do you agree with the view that the French Empire collapsed in 1814 due to ‘remorseless British resistance’? (Source 4 lines 39–40)

Explain your answer, using Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)
B2 – Challenging Authority: Protest, Reform and Response in Britain, c1760–1830

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.
Answer EITHER Question 7 OR Question 8.

EITHER

7 Use Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.

How far do you agree with the view that there was little prospect of revolution in Britain in the years 1815–20?

Explain your answer, using Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(Total for Question 7 = 40 marks)

OR

8 Use Sources 10, 11 and 12 and your own knowledge.

How far do you agree with the view that, in the years c1780–1830, living standards for the labouring classes in Britain ‘undoubtedly deteriorated’? (Source 10, lines 38–39)

Explain your answer, using Sources 10, 11 and 12 and your own knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(Total for Question 8 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 40 MARKS
Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☑. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☑.

Chosen question number:  Question 5 ☐  Question 6 ☐  
Question 7 ☐  Question 8 ☐
Sources for use with Section B. Answer ONE question in Section B on the topic for which you have been prepared.

B1 – France, 1786-1830: Revolution, Empire and Restoration

Sources for use with Question 5

SOURCE 1
(From Colin Jones, The Great Nation: France from Louis XV to Napoleon, published 2002)

The economic trends of the 1790s were discernible by late 1791 and early 1792: decay in the booming sectors of the pre-1789 economy; government shortage of money, which even the sale of church lands could not remedy; a paper currency failing to command public support; and the collapse of business confidence. The growth of popular protest was both a cause and consequence of this sorry economic situation. The signs of discontent included provincial hunger and anti-seigneurial riots, and popular protests within Paris. The voice of extra-parliamentary radicalism in the capital, which was clearly growing, well-organised and articulate, was more significant. Parisian popular pressure had contributed to the King’s sense of being kept a prisoner in the city after October 1789. By early 1792, many deputies were also starting to feel a sense of entrapment.

SOURCE 2
(From D. G. Wright, Revolution and Terror in France 1789–1795, published 1974)

War deepened the gulf between moderates and extremists that had appeared at the time of Varennes. It made the Revolution international, and hence more extreme, as it was now under attack by the crowned heads of Europe. Extreme methods were deemed necessary for survival. It intensified irrational fears and panics: that for example traitors lurked round every corner, ready to deliver the Revolution into the hands of foreign enemies. Such views were characteristic of the sans culottes, whom war pushed further into prominence. The sans culottes were also motivated by economic grievances. The harvest of 1791 had been mediocre and grain prices rose quickly in winter. Civil War in the West Indies created a serious shortage of sugar, a shortage aggravated by speculators.
In newspapers, songs, plays and broadsheets, the period 1789–92 was the great age of savage satire, especially licentious attacks on political opponents, because of the ending of political censorship. Popular literature was already marked by its mix of obscene mockery, anticlericalism and political slander. The King and Queen were the most vulnerable of all targets for revolutionaries. In particular, Marie-Antoinette was relentlessly attacked for her alleged sexual depravities. In such a situation, the military crisis made the King's position impossible. In using his suspensive veto to block critical pieces of legislation (ending pay for non-jurors, ordering émigrés to return, seizing émigré property and calling volunteers to Paris), the King seemed to be acting in the interests of his wife's nephew, the Emperor of Austria. Could not the military defeats since April be seen as proofs of this, as well as his attempted flight in June 1791?
The Napoleonic Empire’s programme of conquest ensured remorseless British resistance. Napoleon resorted to the Continental System in an effort to undermine naval power by economic weapons – undermining British trade and her commercial prosperity. To make the system effective, he had to extend his territorial conquests and gain control of more and more of the continental coastline. But such further aggressions only intensified British resistance and threw more of Europe into active hostility. It was a vicious circle of conquest and resistance, which British trade could survive so long as the other continents of the world were open to it. The Continental System had to be virtually abandoned in 1813 because it was a failure.

The break with Russia was the turning-point in Napoleon’s fortunes. Russia was invaded and Moscow occupied but the Tsar did not make peace. Napoleon now faced either endless further war without a clear prospect of victory, or retreat. Both were equally disastrous. The French army’s methods assumed rapid campaigns in areas sufficiently wealthy and densely peopled for it to live off the land. But what worked in Lombardy or the Rhineland failed utterly in the vast, empty and impoverished spaces of Poland and Russia. Napoleon was defeated by his failure to keep the Grand Army supplied. The retreat from Moscow destroyed the Army. Of the 610,000 men who had crossed the Russian frontier, only 100,000 returned. Under these circumstances, the final coalition against the French was joined by all those anxious to be on what was now clearly going to be the winning side.

Britain was to be Napoleon’s most consistent enemy. Her maritime and colonial supremacy, together with the products of her developing industries and her highly efficient fiscal system, enabled Britain to act as the major paymaster of the five major coalitions, first against Revolutionary France and then against Napoleon’s France. Napoleon’s recognition of the need to prevent British gold from being used to fund continental armies against him led to his blockade. But the blockade, in turn, generated friction with other powers in Europe and contributed significantly to his entanglement in Spain, and to his decision to embark on the disastrous Russian campaign of 1812.
Sources for use with Section B. Answer ONE question in Section B on the topic for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Challenging Authority: Protest, Reform and Response in Britain, c1760–1830

Sources for use with Question 7

SOURCE 7
(From J. Plowright, Regency England: The Age of Lord Liverpool, published 1996)

The prospects for revolution were not good. Some radicals tried to copy the tactics and symbols of their French counterparts. For example, the Spencean revolutionaries at Spa Fields in December 1816 spoke of a Committee of Public Safety and they paraded the tricolour of the future British Republic. But what is more remarkable is the way most radicals preferred to speak in traditional terms of the ‘ancient constitution’ and the rights due to a ‘freeborn Englishman’. They tended not to adopt the abstract philosophical language of the Rights of Man which was more commonly used in France. Moreover, when Britain emerged as the victor against France, this not only enhanced the regime’s prestige (despite the problems brought by peace), but also deprived potential revolutionaries of outside assistance. The threat of revolution in Britain, therefore, was greatly reduced by 1815. Furthermore, although there was much discontent among the demobilised, the armed forces remained loyal.

SOURCE 8
(From Jeremy Black and Donald M. MacRaild, Nineteenth Century Britain, published 2002)

Post-war depression and demobilisation aggravated the situation in 1815. Population growth led to under-employment and unemployment. These, combined with low wages and limited social welfare, contributed to poverty for those without work as well as for many of those who had jobs. Poor harvests and pressure for political reform compounded these difficulties. New machines threatened jobs on the land and in industry. Discontent and disorder were widespread. The Luddites broke machines in Yorkshire, Lancashire and the East Midlands (1811–16) and the threat from John Heathcoat’s bobbin net machines led to the destruction of his factory in 1816. Handloom weavers rioted in Carlisle in 1819. Political awareness was heightened by the growth of the press. Radical papers attacked the government and focused on local issues – by 1817 sales of William Cobbett’s Political Register, a radical weekly, were estimated at 60–70,000.
The post-war years were scarred by distress and discontent. Prices and wages fell in all sectors, while discharged soldiers added to unemployment. To the upper classes it seemed that a lack of all respect for established authority and ancient institutions was leading to revolution. In February 1820, a group of Cato Street conspirators plotted to murder the entire Cabinet. They were foiled by Sidmouth's spies, who deliberately allowed the plot to approach a climax rather than nipping it in the bud. Arthur Thistlewood and four others were executed for high treason.
B2 – Challenging Authority: Protest, Reform and Response in Britain, c1760–1830

Sources for use with Question 8

SOURCE 10
(From E. J. Hobsbawm, *Industry and Empire: An Economic History of Britain since 1750*, published 1968)

There is no dispute about certain classes whose conditions undoubtedly deteriorated. These were the agricultural labourers. There were also the declining industries and occupations displaced by technical progress, of whom the half million handloom weavers are the best known example. They starved progressively in a vain attempt to compete with the new machines by working more and more cheaply. Their number had doubled between 1788 and 1814 and their wages had risen markedly until the middle of the Napoleonic Wars; but between 1805 and 1833, they fell from 23 shillings a week to 6 shillings and 3 pence. There were also the non-industrialised occupations which met the rapidly growing demand for their goods, not by technical revolution, but by sub-division and ‘sweating’ – e.g. the innumerable seamstresses in their attic rooms or cellars.

SOURCE 11

Even if it is accepted, as now seems likely, that there was, on average, a slow improvement in the years to 1830, this will be an average of limited significance because of the variations which it conceals. There can be no simple or uniform answer to questions about the standard of living. We know that there were marked fluctuations in prices, and that temporary depression could hit employment and earnings hard in some parts of the country. Even if we had more reliable indications of movements in wages, earnings, and prices, there are other variables to be taken into account in considering the condition of the people – housing, health, diet, levels of education, and opportunity, for example.
Within the working class, the first group to share in the benefits of industrialisation was not the factory workers who, though they improved themselves, did not have a large surplus above immediate necessities. It was the top ten to fifteen percent of wage earners who came to be called the labour aristocracy. These were chiefly craftsmen. Next, in the scale and speed of improvement, came the factory workers themselves. Textbooks often concentrate on their fight against long hours and bad working conditions. However, they did not consider themselves badly paid except in periods of economic slump. Although cotton operatives’ average wages were consistently amongst the lowest for any industry, this was because only about a quarter of them were adult men and the rest women, youths and children. For men, wages ranged from about 1.3 to 3 times the northern farm labourer’s average.