A-level
HISTORY

Component 2E  The English Revolution, 1625–1660

Wednesday 13 June 2018  Afternoon  Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
• an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions
• Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
• Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The Paper Reference is 7042/2E.
• Answer three questions.
  In Section A answer Question 01.
  In Section B answer two questions.

Information
• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
• You will be marked on your ability to:
  – use good English
  – organise information clearly
  – use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice
• You are advised to spend about:
  – 60 minutes on Question 01
  – 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
Source A

From Algernon Sydney, an eye-witness to Cromwell’s dissolution of the Rump Parliament in 1653. Sydney was a Republican MP and supporter of the Rump who wrote his memoirs later.

Parliament sitting as usual, and being in debate upon the Bill of Representation, which it was thought would have been passed that day, General Cromwell came into the House, clad in plain black clothes, and sat down as he used to in an ordinary place. After a while he rose up and spoke. At the first and for a good while, he spoke in praise of the Parliament, but afterwards he changed his style. He told them of their injustice, delays of justice, self-interest and other faults. Then he walked up and down the floor in the middle of the House and reprimanded them soundly, pointing particularly upon some persons. To Henry Vane he gave some very sharp language. After this he said to Colonel Harrison, ‘call them in’ and troops entered the House. It happened that day that I sat next to the Speaker. Cromwell told Harrison to get me out but I would not move until forced to leave by Harrison.

Source B

From Cromwell’s opening speech to the Nominated Assembly in July 1653, giving his own explanation for his dissolution of the Rump Parliament.

We, the army, did with all sincerity, beseech them, the Rump MPs, that they would be mindful of their duty to God and men in the discharge of the trust placed in them. At last Parliament began to debate the Bill of Representation. But plainly that semblance of giving them a choice was only to recruit to the House, the better to perpetuate themselves. Finding that this spirit was not according to God nor the whole weight of this, our godly Cause, which must needs be very dear unto us who had so often冒险ured our lives for it. There was not here any consideration to assert this Cause and provide security for it, but only to cross the troublesome people of the army. Truly, I say, when we saw all this, having power in our hands, we could not resolve to let such monstrous proceedings go on, and so throw away all our liberties into the hands of those whom we had fought against.
Source C

From the memoirs of Edmund Ludlow, a Republican MP not present at the dissolution of the Rump Parliament. He received an account from Harrison who commanded the troops that removed the MPs.

Parliament, seeing that the frustration of the army was likely to be turned against them, resolved to pass the Act for their own dissolution. Cromwell, having notice of this, made haste to the House, where he sat down and heard the debate for some time. The question for the passing of the Bill being about to be put, Cromwell, suddenly standing up, made a speech. He attacked the Parliament with the vilest reproaches, accusing them of not having the heart to do anything for the public good, to have supported the interests of Presbyterians and lawyers. He accused MPs of an intention to perpetuate themselves in power. He claimed that they never really intended to give up power. Cromwell cried out, ‘You are no Parliament, I say you are no Parliament; I will put an end to your sitting; call them in, call them in’. Whereupon two files of soldiers entered. Then Cromwell spoke to the MPs. ‘It is you that have forced me to this’ he said.

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying Cromwell’s dissolution of the Rump Parliament in April 1653.

[30 marks]
Section B

Answer two questions.

02 ‘Buckingham was the cause of the deterioration in Crown-Parliament relations in the years 1625 to 1629.’

Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

03 ‘In the years 1640 to 1642, developments outside Parliament were more important than those inside it in bringing about the outbreak of civil war in England.’

Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

04 How important was religious radicalism in the New Model Army in bringing about the regicide? [25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS