

## A-level HISTORY

Component 2G The Birth of the USA, 1760–1801

---

Wednesday 3 June 2020    Morning    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 7042/2G.
- 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.

---

**Section A**

 Answer Question 01.
 

---

**Source A**

From 'The Wealth of Nations' by Adam Smith, March 1776. Smith was a Scottish economist who argued for free trade.

There is little disagreement that the colonies should contribute towards the paying of the public debt of Britain. It is to Britain that the colonies owe their present charters and constitution. In addition, all the colonies of America have enjoyed the many benefits of liberty, security, and property. However, excessive regulation of colonial trade and laws by Britain is questionable. It is time that the British recognise that they cannot control their colonies. If Britain is unable to make the colonies contribute towards the support of the Empire, it is surely time that Britain should give up her colonies and free herself from the expense of defending those colonies in time of war and of supporting them in time of peace. Britain needs to alter her views for having an Empire to match the reality of her capabilities under the current conditions. Britain has been living an unrealistic, imperialistic dream.

5

10

**Source B**

From 'The True Interest of America Impartially Stated' by Charles Inglis, published in 1776 in response to Paine's 'Common Sense'. Inglis, a clergyman and loyalist, moved to America in 1755.

I think it not difficult to point out many advantages of compromise and maintaining our connection with Britain:

1. By a reconciliation with Britain, an end would be put to the present disastrous war, by which so many lives have been lost. It is time to lay aside those animosities which have bound Britons to shed the blood of Britons. It is time that those who are connected by the ties of religion, culture and country, should resume their former friendship, and be united in the bond of mutual ties, as their interests are inseparably united. 5
2. By a reconciliation, peace – that fairest offspring and gift of Heaven – would be restored. 10
3. Agriculture, commerce, and industry would regain their usual strength. Presently, they are weak, both here and in Britain and continue to be so, while this unhappy war remains unsettled.
4. By a connection with Britain, our trade would still have the protection of the greatest naval power in the world. 15

**Source C**

From the 'Virginian Declaration of Rights', 12 June 1776. It was adopted unanimously by the Virginia Convention of Delegates.

1. That all men are by nature equally free and independent and have certain inherent natural rights.
2. That government is for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation or community. It exists to produce the greatest degree of happiness and safety and guards against the danger of maladministration. Whenever any government shall be found inadequate or contrary to these purposes, much of the community has a right to reform, alter or abolish it, in such manner as shall be judged most favourable to the Public Will. 5
3. That elections of members to serve as representatives in an assembly ought to be free. That all men, with a permanent common interest and attachment to the community, have the right of democracy. They cannot be taxed or deprived of their property for public uses without their own consent or that of their elected representatives, nor are they bound by any law to which they have not agreed to. 10

- 0 1** With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the relationship between Britain and the American colonies by 1776.

**[30 marks]**

**Turn over for Section B**

---

**Section B**

Answer **two** questions.

---

**0 2** 'There were more similarities than there were differences between the Thirteen Colonies c1760.'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]**

**0 3** 'American victory in the War of Independence was mainly due to assistance from France and Spain.'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]**

**0 4** To what extent was government under the Articles of Confederation ineffective in the years 1783 to 1789?

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**Copyright information**

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk).

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2020 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.



2 0 6 A 7 0 4 2 / 2 G