

A-level HISTORY

Component 1J The British Empire, c1857–1967

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 7042/1J.
- 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:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

There have been various explanations of the reasons for British expansion in Africa in the second half of the nineteenth century. One is the strategic explanation, including the need to defend routes to India against potential threats. The disintegration of local power in some areas was crucial for this purpose and in Egypt, the British established a much greater direct political presence than originally intended – even actual rule. 5

However, the most convincing explanation lies in the economic analysis of imperialism. In the first place, there was a direct economic incentive to acquire some African territories, of which Southern Africa is the most obvious. Certainly, the scramble for West Africa and the Congo in the 1870s was primarily economic. Secondly, reference to India as the ‘brightest jewel in the imperial crown’, and that country’s position at the heart of British strategic thinking, was a reflection of the very real importance of India to the British economy. 10

Adapted from EJ Hobsbawm, *The Age of Empire 1875–1914*, 1987

Extract B

Continental Europe’s new interest in colonial expansion brought it into direct competition with Britain. In the 1850s and 1860s, Britain’s supremacy over the wider world had been maintained with relatively little effort. By the 1880s Britain had to take account of foreign rivals: the old traditional one of France, whose expansion was becoming more determined and vigorous and in several places meeting Britain’s own; and the newer rivalry of Germany. Foreigners argued that there was room for them all. From Britain’s point of view, however, it was not so simple. Her national interests were spread much wider than the limits of her colonial empire. Consequently they could be damaged even in ‘neutral territory’, on the east Africa coast, for example, which was theoretically independent and therefore fair game for a greedy imperialist. This was the immediate and obvious challenge. Clearly it had to be met or accommodated in some way. If Britain stood still there was a danger that she might, in effect, lose ground. 5 10

Adapted from B Porter, *The Lion’s Share*, 2004

Extract C

Gladstone was happy to get Britain out of the Sudan and he certainly had no wish to become involved still further south. But tropical Africa had gradually been surveyed; the blanks on the map were filled by pioneers of different kinds. There were explorers such as Mungo Park and John Hanning Speke, who 'discovered' the main source of the Nile in 1858. There were missionaries such as David Livingstone, who traced the course of the Zambezi and crusaded against slavery, which could be healed, he said, by Christianity, commerce and colonisation. So much of British expansion was carried out by private enterprise and led by self-interested empire-builders. Hunters, adventurers, traders, naturalists, prospectors and other forerunners of empire pushed out the frontiers of knowledge and opened up new spheres of British influence in Africa where the gospel could be preached, the market established and the flag raised. Such were the key factors which promoted the development of Empire.

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Adapted from P Brendon, *The British Empire*, 2018

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to British expansion in Africa in the years 1857 to 1890.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 To what extent did imperialism grow in popularity in Britain in the years 1872 to 1906?
[25 marks]

0 3 To what extent did Britain rely on repression to maintain control in India and the Middle East in the years 1919 to 1939?
[25 marks]

0 4 'In the years 1947 to 1967, Britain was forced to leave Africa.'
Assess the validity of this view.
[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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