

A-level HISTORY

Component 2H France in Revolution, 1774–1815

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 7042/2H.
- 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.

Source A

From a private letter to a friend by Francis Blagdon, an English journalist in Paris, 7 November 1801.

Yesterday was the day of the Grand Parade, which now takes place every month in the courtyard of the Tuileries. There are such crowds, I had to arrive three hours early. I was rewarded by seeing the Consular Guard and other corps, numbering around 15 000, enter the parade ground. No one is allowed inside, but multitudes thronged the boundary railings and some bought tickets to view the spectacle from the Tuileries. 5

The sun shone in full splendour, so that the gold and silver lace and embroidery on the officers' uniforms, their horses' trappings, and their naked sabres, glittered brilliantly. The guards' horses formed a striking contrast to the beautiful white charger that Bonaparte mounted at the steps of the Palace. He wore consular dress, scarlet velvet embroidered with gold, and a hat with a cockade. The crowds looked on in awe as he rode with great agility. They sighed when the spectacle was over and he returned to the Palace to hold his levée. 10

Source B

From a report to the Minister of War, Louis-Alexandre Berthier, from the Gendarmerie in Pamiers, southwestern France, 21 July 1805.

Today, my corporal, five gendarmes and I went to arrest some who were evading imperial conscription. We arrived at the end of Mass and arrested two outside the church door, but as the service ended and people came out, it became clear that they intended to impede our action. We entered the church to search for further evaders and found three more. 5

We asked the mayor for the men's birth certificates but he would not show us. The mayor and parish priest seemed totally opposed to us. We were resigned to leaving with the conscript-evaders that we had arrested and bound with cords. But, at twenty paces from the church, we heard shouts of 'Get the wolves', and we were attacked with stones. At least 200 people assailed us. They cut the cords binding two of the conscripts who then escaped. 10

We showed firmness, however, and, despite the disorder, we were able to escort the remaining conscript-evaders to Pamiers without striking anyone.

Source C

From a Parisian civilian police bulletin at the time of the establishment of the Imperial nobility, sent to Napoleon by the Minister of Police, Joseph Fouché, 14 March 1808.

Today all minds are occupied with titles. The old noble families in the Faubourg Saint-Germain and Faubourg Saint-Honoré, who joked much about the institution of the Légion d'honneur, are not laughing today about the creation of titles. They begin to perceive that the creation of an imperial dynasty will be their own tomb; that they can do no better than try to link themselves with the new titles. Poorer nobles are even more discontented; they fear being left out and branded 'bourgeois'.

5

The bourgeoisie is afraid that the old nobility will re-establish itself and that the new nobles, who have insufficient fortune to perpetuate themselves, will be extinguished little by little. Parisian shopkeepers fear being scorned by the new nobility as they were by the old.

10

People need to be enlightened about these new titles to understand the intentions behind them. Some have been heard to say that the new decrees show more and more the power of the Emperor.

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 reaction of the French people to life under Napoleon in the years 1801 to 1808.

[30 marks]**Turn over for Section B**

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 'In the months of May to September 1792, it was the sans-culottes, rather than the deputies in the Assembly and Convention, that brought an end to monarchy in France.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3 To what extent was Robespierre's fall from power in July 1794 due to his decision to execute Danton and Desmoulins in April 1794?

[25 marks]

0 4 'Napoleon's attempt to re-establish himself as ruler of France in the 'Hundred Days' shows his total misunderstanding of the situation in 1814/15.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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