

473/07

**HISTORY – HI3**

**UNIT 3**

**IN-DEPTH STUDY 7**

**THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, c. 1774-1795**

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 6 June 2007

(1 hour 30 minutes)

### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in the unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

**You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.**

## UNIT 3

## IN-DEPTH STUDY 7

## THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, c. 1774-1795

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

## SECTION A

Answer **one** question.

**1. The Work of the National Assembly, 1789-1791.**

*Study the source below, and then answer the questions based upon it.*

‘I have one very short observation to make to the Assembly, which appears to be of the highest importance and which demands all its attention. You have regulated, by the Constitution, the qualities considered necessary to become a French citizen, and an active citizen. That was enough, I believe, to deal with questions that could have been raised by the Assembly regarding certain professions or certain persons. But there is another decree that seems to strike a blow at these general rights. Consider the position of the Jews. You need to lift this decree. If you had not passed this decree on the position of the Jews it would not have been necessary to do anything as the Constitution states how all people could become French citizens and how all French citizens could become active citizens. I ask therefore that this decree be cancelled as far as Jews are concerned in order that they can become active citizens. I believe that freedom of worship no longer permits any distinction to be made between the political rights of citizens and their beliefs and I believe that the Jews cannot be the only exceptions to the enjoyment of these rights, when pagans, Muslims and Chinese are admitted to these rights.’

[From a speech by Adrien Duport, a deputy to the National Assembly (September 27<sup>th</sup> 1791)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase ‘active citizen’ (line 3). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about religion in France? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of the work of the National Assembly during the period 1789-1791? [20]

*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)*

## 2. The Terror and the Thermidorians.

*Study the source below, and then answer the questions based upon it.*

‘Let us now consider those miserable provinces whose political gangrene threatens to destroy and devour liberty. We will have peace on the day when there is peace in the interior, when the rebels have surrendered and when the brigands have been exterminated. No more Vendée, no more aristocracy. No more Vendée, no more royalty. No more Vendée and the enemies of the Republic are gone.

5

Give the order for garrisons to be stationed in the forests of the Vendée; the honour of France summons them; the safety of the Republic commands them; and their return will not be without glory, for the Vendée will have been destroyed.

10

But what measures will this new army take? What is its destination to be? Is it going to wage a slow war of tactics or mount a bold invasion? Ah! It isn’t military talent as much as revolutionary daring that this kind of war requires of the defenders of the Fatherland. Victory in this case is for the most courageous and not for those with the most wisdom; it is for the Republican and not for the tactician. Let the soldiers of the Republic remember that they are attacking cowardly brigands and fanatical idiots, let them remember the Republic and victory will be theirs.

15

Now the Committee of Public Safety, with your authorisation, has prepared a number of measures which will lead to the extermination of this race, to the disappearance of their hide-outs, to the burning of their forests, to the cutting down of their crops.’

[From a speech delivered in the National Convention by Bertrand Barère, a member of the Committee of Public Safety (August 1st 1793)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the term ‘the Committee of Public Safety’ (line 15). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about resistance to the Revolution? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of the Terror and the Thermidorians? [20]

*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.)*

## SECTION B

Answer **one** question.

**3. The Ancien Régime and the causes of the French Revolution 1774-1789.**

*Study the sources below and then answer the questions based upon them.*

Source A

‘At its core, the Great Fear was the belief that an army of court-inspired brigands was about to destroy the harvest, ransack property and starve the people into political submission, forcing the self-proclaimed National Assembly to give in to the nobility.’

[Richard Cobb and Colin Jones, academic historians, writing in *The French Revolution: Voices from a momentous epoch 1789-1795* (1988)]

Source B

‘We need no longer be so alarmed over those gangs of thieves which we feared would descend on us. They are simply peasants who are seizing their land deeds from the chateaux, and burning them if they meet with resistance.’

[From an account of the Great Fear written by an unnamed local notary (legal figure) in Savoy (summer 1789)]

Source C

‘The Parlement of Paris, and all the other Parlements of the kingdom, continue to be excited by the same spirit of opposition to the measures of the Court that has expressed itself dramatically since the dissolution of the Assembly of Notables. The protection of the people from the increase of taxes is the ground that has been carefully chosen by the Parlement on which to rest their disobedience.’

[From a report by Daniel Hales, a special government correspondent, writing to the British secretary of state for foreign affairs, the Duke of Dorset (August 1787)]

Source D

‘Conditions in France were ripe for a democratic revolution when the unfortunate Louis XVI ascended the throne. The government’s actions favoured its explosion. The two privileged orders who still retained control of the government were ruined through their taste for luxury and had spoiled themselves by their way of life.’

[From an historical commentary, *Introduction to the French Revolution*, written by Antoine Barnave, a former Jacobin, while awaiting execution in August 1792]

Source E

[A contemporary print showing vegetable sellers in the street market in France. One of the posters on the wall advertises the sale of an estate along with its feudal rights (c.1780)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. In what ways do Sources A and B show differing views of the causes of the Great Fear? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying the origins of the French Revolution? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of the overthrow of the Ancien Régime and the causes of the French Revolution 1774-1789? [24]

*(You are advised to use relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)*

#### 4. The overthrow of the Monarchy and the First Republic, 1789-1792.

*Study the sources below and then answer the questions based upon them.*

##### Source A

‘The situation is becoming so terrible from day to day that it is impossible for the King to bear it any longer, and he has decided to stake his all rather than go on living in the daily degradation to which he is reduced by the seditious rabble. Such a move may persuade the still hesitant foreign powers to decide in his favour.’

[From a letter to the Swedish government, written by Count Axel Von Fersen, the Swedish envoy in Paris, a close confidant and probably the lover of Marie-Antoinette (early summer 1791)]

##### Source B

‘The nation can never give back its confidence to a man who is false to his trust, lies to his oath, conspires a secret escape, obtains a fraudulent passport, conceals a King of France under the disguise of a servant, directs his course towards a frontier covered with traitors and deserters and eventually hopes to return to France with a force capable of imposing his own despotic laws.’

[From the anti-monarchist Tom Paine writing in an updated edition of *The Rights of Man* following the flight to Varennes (July 1791)]

##### Source C

‘I now sit down to write you a full and distinct account of the most tragic event that ever my eyes witnessed. The Palace of the Tuilleries is almost wholly destroyed, all the doors and windows of it being broken to pieces. The mob, not content with having murdered all those within it, afterwards directed cannon against it and several of the walls are thus beaten down.’

[From *The Times* correspondent in Paris. *The Times* newspaper had a wide readership among the upper class in Britain (16 August 1792)]

##### Source D

‘The events of 10<sup>th</sup> August were a second revolution, bringing in universal suffrage and in effect a republic. But it did not have the warm and virtually unanimous support that the nation had offered the first. Events since 1789 had brought differences and divisions. Of those who remained loyal to the Revolution, some criticized August 10<sup>th</sup>, while others stood by, fearing the day’s aftermath.’

[From George Lefebvre, a leading academic and Marxist historian, writing in his book, *The French Revolution* (1957)]

Source E

[A contemporary drawing of the massacre of the petitioners at the Champ de Mars by the National Guard (July 1791)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and B. How do Sources A and B show contrasting views of why Louis intended to leave France in 1791? [8]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. How reliable are Sources C and D as evidence to an historian studying the events of 10<sup>th</sup> August 1792? [16]
- (c) How useful are the sources to an understanding of the overthrow of the monarchy and the First Republic, 1789-1792? [24]

*(You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.)*