

A-level HISTORY

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

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 7042/2G.
- 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 Revenue Act, 29 June 1767, introduced by Townshend, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Revenue should be raised, in your Majesty's dominions in America, for making a more certain and adequate provision for discharging the administration of justice, the support of civil government in such provinces, and towards further financing the defending, protecting, and securing of the American colonies. We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, have therefore resolved to give and grant unto your Majesty the several rates hereinafter mentioned; and do most humbly beseech your Majesty that it may be enacted. These shall be raised, levied, collected, and paid, unto his Majesty, his heirs and successors, on goods which shall be imported from Great Britain into any colony or plantation in America which now is, or hereafter may be, under the dominion of his Majesty, his heirs or successors. Rates and duties will be charged on glass, lead, painters' colours, as well as three pence a pound on tea, and on many varieties of paper.

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Source B

From a 'Massachusetts Circular Letter to the Colonial Legislatures' urging them to defy the Revenue Act of 1767, 11 February 1768.

Massachusetts has humbly represented their own sentiments, that his Majesty's high court of Parliament is the supreme legislative power over the whole empire. The supreme legislative derives its power and authority from the Constitution. As the Parliament derives its power from the Constitution, it cannot go beyond the limits of the Constitution without destroying its own foundation. The Constitution defines and limits both sovereignty and allegiance and therefore, his Majesty's American subjects, who acknowledge themselves bound by the ties of allegiance, have an equal claim to the full enjoyment of the fundamental rules of the British Constitution. A fundamental law, ever held sacred and irrevocable, is that what a man has honestly acquired is absolutely his own, which he can freely give away, but cannot be taken from him without his consent. American subjects may, therefore, with a decent firmness, adapted to the character of free men and subjects, assert this natural and constitutional right not to comply with the Revenue Act of 1767.

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Source C

From a statement by merchant and shopkeeper, Theophilus Lillie, to the royalist 'Boston Chronicle', 11 January 1770. Lillie had been publicly condemned for his opposition to Boston's non-importation agreement.

Although I have never entered far into the mysteries of Government, having applied myself to my shop and my business, it always seemed strange to me that People who contend so much for civil and religious Liberty should be so ready to deprive others of their natural Liberty. That men, who are guarding against being subject to laws to which they never gave their consent in person or by their representative, should at the same time make laws, and in the most effectual manner execute them upon me and others. I am sure I never gave my consent either in person or by my representative to these laws. If one set of private subjects may, at any time, take upon themselves to punish another set of private subjects just when they please, it's such a sort of Government as I never heard of before, and according to my poor notion of Government, this is one of the principal things which Government is designed to prevent.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the Townshend Acts.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

- 0 2** 'The Declaration of Independence was based on colonial beliefs about the rights of Englishmen.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

- 0 3** 'In 1776, Britain had reason to be fully confident of military success against the American colonies.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

- 0 4** How important were differences over the role of the federal government in the formation of political parties in the years 1789 to 1801?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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