GCE AS/A LEVEL

2100U30-1

S24-2100U30-1

MONDAY, 20 MAY 2024 – AFTERNOON

HISTORY – AS unit 2
DEPTH STUDY 3
Reform and protest in Wales and England c.1783–1848
Part 1: Radicalism and the fight for parliamentary reform c.1783–1832

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **both** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example | **0** | **1** | .

Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

You are advised to spend approximately 50 minutes on each question.

The sources used in this examination paper may have been amended, adapted or abridged from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

The sources may include words that are no longer in common use and are now regarded as derogatory terminology. Their inclusion reflects the time and place of the original version of these sources.

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Answer **both** questions.

0 1 Using your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the reaction of government to the challenge of protest during the period from 1792 to1819. [30]

Source A Extract from *The Treasonable and Seditious Practices Act* (1795)

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, have considered the continued attempts of wicked and evil disposed persons to disturb the tranquillity of this kingdom, particularly by the multitude of seditious pamphlets and speeches daily printed, published and dispersed tending to the overthrow of the law, Government and happy condition of these realms, and have judged that it has become necessary to provide a remedy against all such treasonable and seditious practices and attempts.

Be it enacted if any person shall by writing, printing, preaching or other speaking, express any words or sentences to excite or stir up the people to hatred or contempt of the Government and Constitution of this realm then every such person shall be liable to suffer banishment or transportation for a term not exceeding seven years.

Source B Lord Sidmouth, the Home Secretary, in a speech to the House of Lords (24 February 1817)

In many parts of the country, proceedings of a most dangerous nature were still carrying on, and which could only come to the knowledge of ministers through the medium of persons [spies or informers] who could not be brought into a court of justice … This required the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act to [protect] the peaceable and loyal inhabitants of the country; it is required for the protection of the two Houses of Parliament, for the maintenance of our liberties, and for the security of the blessings of the Constitution. The suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act at the present moment would prevent the most flagrant crimes and check the hands of the sacrilegious despoilers [the unholy and violent plunderers] of the sacred fabric of the Constitution.

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Source C A contemporary coloured engraving, published by the political agitator Richard Carlile, depicting the events at Peterloo. It was dedicated as follows:

"To Henry Hunt, Esq. As chairman of the meeting assembled at St Peter's Fields, Manchester, on the 16th of August 1819. And to the female reformers of Manchester and the adjacent towns who were exposed to and suffered from the wanton and furious attack made on them by that brutal armed force, the Manchester and Cheshire Yeomanry Cavalry."

The inscriptions on the banners from left to right are: "Manchester Female Reform [Society]"; "Universal Suffrage"; "Liberty or Death"; and "Universal Civil and Religious Liberty".

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0 2 Historians have made different interpretations about **the Reform Act crisis**. Analyse and evaluate the two interpretations and use your understanding of the historical debate to answer the following question.

How valid is the view that the Whig government's aim in passing the 1832 Reform Act was to avoid revolutionary change? [30]

Interpretation 1 John Cannon, in this extract from his academic book *Parliamentary Reform 1640–1832* (1973), provides an interpretation that the Act was intended to allow minimal change.

Grey's primary objective was to prevent a revolution … The provisions of the bill indicate how little the ministers intended to eradicate the old system and introduce democratic government … Although the Act destroyed a large number of nomination (pocket) boroughs, many survived. The same element of conservatism may be seen in the proposals for enfranchisement. Despite the addition of eight seats, London was still grossly underrepresented … It has been frequently remarked that one consequence of the Reform Act was to reduce the electorate in a considerable number of towns, and particularly to cut the working-class vote.

Interpretation 2 Antonia Fraser, in this extract from her popular history book *Perilous Question: Reform or Revolution? Britain on the Brink, 1832* (2013), provides an interpretation that the Act was intended to introduce radical change.

Lord John Russell then outlined to the House of Commons the plan for Parliamentary Reform … and as the extraordinarily radical nature of what he was proposing sank in, his audience could hardly believe what they were hearing. His speech was punctuated with cheers: some of enthusiasm, others of disbelieving derision. The colour came and went in Sir Robert Peel's face and he actually put his head in his hands …

[Another Tory MP] Sir Robert Inglis said the object of the bill "is not Reform … but revolution". By using the dreaded word "revolution", Inglis conveyed the sheer shock and horror of what had been outlined.

END OF PAPER

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