Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Time 2 hours 15 minutes

Paper reference **9HI0/1C**

History

Advanced

PAPER 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1C: Britain,1625–1701: conflict, revolution and settlement

Extracts Booklet

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From D. L. Smith, *A History of the Modern British Isles, 1603–1707*, published 1998.

The Crown's desperate need for tax revenues transformed parliament from an occasional event into a permanent institution of government. This trend was reinforced by the Triennial Act of 1694, but what guaranteed parliament's continuous existence was the monarch's dependence on taxes. The huge financial demands of war ensured that annual sessions of parliament had become an absolute necessity. Parliament was in a position not only to withhold its consent to taxation, but also to dictate and scrutinise how tax revenue was spent. Without parliament's active participation, public confidence in the legitimacy of the tax system would have collapsed – and with it the readiness to pay such high levels of taxation.

Parliament exploited this opportunity to the full. During the 1690s the principle of 'appropriation' was established, whereby parliamentary grants could only be used for the purpose for which they had been voted. The 'power of the purse' became much greater than ever before, and parliament made increasingly frequent and ferocious use of it, not least by adding clauses to redress constitutional grievances onto revenue bills that the Crown simply could not afford to veto.

Extract 2: From Kenneth O. Morgan (ed.), *The Oxford History of Britain*, published 2001.

When compared with modern revolutions, the 'Glorious Revolution' of 1688–89 seems to resemble a palace coup rather than a genuine shift of social and political power. This impression is reinforced by the relative lack of physical violence. Yet the acceptance of parliamentary monarchy was achieved and the major change of course carried out in 1688–89 can be seen to have been truly revolutionary. The Bill of Rights clearly undermined the hereditary right which formed the basis of the restored constitution of 1660 and replaced it with the will of the nation expressed through Parliament.

William and Mary owed their title to the support of the propertied classes. At a time when absolutism seemed to be dominant in the Western world, the importance of this change should not be underestimated. Fundamentally, the Glorious Revolution can be seen as a historic turning point involving the decisive rejection of an entire form of government.

In essence, by making William and Mary monarchs, the Glorious Revolution introduced the concept of a rightful king who owed his title to a decision of parliament, rather than the theory of divine right.

Acknowledgements

Extract 1 from: A History of the Modern British Isles 1603–1707: The Double Crown By David L. Smith © Wiley-Blackwell (28 Mar. 1998)

Extract 2 from: 'The Oxford History of Britain', Kenneth O. Morgan, Oxford University Press, 2001