Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Time 2 hours 15 minutes

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History

Advanced

PAPER 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 35.1: Britain: losing and gaining an empire, 1763–1914

Option 35.2: The British experience of warfare, c1790–1918

Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 35.1: Britain: losing and gaining an empire, 1763–1914

Source for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From a confidential letter written by Robert Baldwin, a leading spokesman of the Reform Movement in Upper Canada, to Lord Glenelg, the Colonial Secretary, January 1837. Baldwin, and other campaigners, had been removed from the Executive Council by the Lieutenant Governor and Baldwin had travelled to London to express his views.

Our previous correspondence has made clear that it is the intention of the British government to retain Upper Canada as a colony. I take it for granted that Great Britain has no wish to rule by the sword. It recognises that the only effective policy is to work to develop a system of government reflecting the will of the people of Upper Canada. The government of Upper Canada must work harmoniously to ensure that the Canadian people know that their interests can be expressed effectively and that they influence the making of policy. At present this is not the case, and the Legislative Assembly is subject to the veto of the Lieutenant Governor and the Executive Council. The voice of the common man is muted. My concerns have increased because of the actions of the recently appointed Lieutenant Governor, Sir Francis Bond Head, who has no previous political experience. His actions are hastening a crisis.

The Executive Council is controlled by the Family Compact, an institution regarded with hostility by the majority of the people. The Family Compact represents vested interests and is dominated by members of the Church of England. It does not reflect the majority of religious views in Upper Canada and is reluctant to agree reform.

For the people of Upper Canada, the land is the key to the quality of life. Many indigenous people have been denied land rights. In addition, many American immigrants, who are loyal to the Crown, have been denied the opportunity to own land and to hold political office. In the last two years, crop yields have been lower, which has hit our small farmers and led to higher prices. We are also frustrated by the lack of investment in infrastructure.

It is the wish of we reformers to see a Constitutional Convention established, which will build a system of Responsible Government allowing the people to participate in building up their state. The Executive Council will then be able to make more effective decisions if it works together with the elected representatives of the people of Upper Canada. I am concerned that, if moderate voices are ignored, the support for more radical figures will lead to conflict.

Option 35.2: The British experience of warfare, c1790–1918

Source for use with Question 2.

Source 2: From a confidential memorandum written by Rear-Admiral Nelson to the Earl of St Vincent, commander of the Mediterranean Fleet, 1 August 1798. The memorandum concerned the Battle of the Nile, about to be fought in Aboukir Bay, Egypt.

In May you honoured me with the responsibility of tracking the French force that left Toulon and headed into the Mediterranean. The force was a threat to British military and economic power and prestige. It is vital that we show our resolve to other European states by defeating the French.

We have located the French and they have begun a campaign in Egypt. This is a serious threat to British interests and will open the way for Bonaparte to threaten British trading interests in India. The presence of French ships in the Eastern Mediterranean is a challenge to our authority.

We have conducted a reconnaissance and the French fleet is massed together, in a defensive formation, some distance from the coastline in Aboukir Bay. The Bay is broad with sandbanks on either side that could prove to be a problem to our ships.

I have met with my captains and emphasised that we must strike hard and annihilate the French fleet. We have received intelligence that many of the French soldiers aboard have been ordered ashore to reinforce Bonaparte's forces. We will seize this opportunity. The success of this campaign will cut off Bonaparte's army in Egypt.

We will attack at sunset to take the enemy by surprise. Darkness will make it harder for the French to use their shore batteries. We will string lamps to the masts of our ships to identify them. I have divided my force into three divisions, with a senior captain controlling each. This will enable us to bombard the French ships from both sides. We are aware of the threat of the heavily-armed French flagship, *L'Orient*, and will subject it to extreme pressure.

You have given me total support. We have 13 new, or re-fitted, ships. We have a team of captains with great personal qualities, many of whom I have worked with previously. Their valour, and that of all the men, will be irresistible. Our hours of gunnery training will bring success. I have instructed our captains that, if any enemy ships signal surrender, the masts of these ships will be cut down to disable them. This battle will destroy the enemy's firepower. We have discussed our strategy and, when the engagement gets underway, we will respond aggressively to any situation.

All captains know that the attack will not be reduced in intensity unless there is a signal from me.

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Acknowledgements

Source 1 from: The Rebellion of 1837 in Upper Canada © Carleton

Source 2 from: © National Maritime Museum