



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY

9769/56

Paper 5f Special Subject: The French Revolution, 1774–1794

May/June 2014

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

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

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Answer the following question.**Nominated topic: The Revolution of 1789**

- 1 Study all the following documents and answer the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting upon the documents, it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

- A** *Two extracts from the diaries of an aristocratic courtier who observes Louis XVI's responses to political developments.*

May 1789

The King was then numbered among the revolutionaries. The King was deceived by Necker and paid no attention to the Queen's fears. He said to her: 'Look, when all is said and done, are not the Third Estate also my children – and more numerous? Even when the nobility lose a portion of their privileges and the clergy a few scraps of their income, will I be any less their king?'

20 June 1789

We are overjoyed here. The Queen and the King's brother asked the King what he was planning to do: he seemed as usual very uncertain and said that the Third Estate could be left to organise their own affairs. Then the Queen depicted the throne being overturned by the men of faction. A secret deputation from the *parlement* came to beg the King to dissolve the Estates General whose existence threatened the monarchy. The Keeper of the Seals (Barentin) warned the King that it was dangerous to appease the Third Estate. The Archbishop of Paris urged the King to defend religion, cruelly attacked by the *philosophes* who were so admired by the Third Estate. The King, touched by so many pleas, gave way: a council was held on the spot without summoning the Controller General (Necker). The King will issue a declaration and urge the deputies to work in their respective chambers, and will punish the intriguers.

Countess d'Adhémar, *Memoirs*, 1836.

- B** *In a meeting of the three Estates summoned by order of the King, Louis XVI addresses the representatives of the Estates General and asserts his authority.*

His majesty, having summoned the Estates General to join him in discussing great matters of public welfare and everything capable of contributing to the good of the people, declares most expressly that he wishes to claim all authority over the troops which the French King has always exercised.

'Reflect, gentlemen, that none of your projects and none of your arrangements can have the force of law without my explicit approval: that I am the natural guarantor of your rights. I order you, gentlemen, to disperse immediately and each of you to proceed tomorrow morning to the chamber assigned to his order to resume your deliberations.'

Louis XVI, Address, 23 June 1789.

- C** *A leading US statesman, who was visiting Paris, records his concerns about the situation following the King's dismissal of Necker.*

Dined with the Maréchal de Castries* who informs me that M. Necker is no longer in office. He is much worried by this news, and indeed so am I. I urge him to go immediately to Versailles. He will not, as it is too late. The King's danger is infinitely greater than he imagines. His army will not fight against the nation. If the King listens to violent advice, the nation will undoubtedly be against him. The sword has fallen imperceptibly from his hand, and the sovereignty of this nation now lies with the National Assembly. Paris begins to be in commotion, and a few of the Nobility take a drum and call the troops to arms. M. de Narbonne, the friend of Mme de Staël (Necker's daughter), considers a civil war as inevitable.

Gouverneur Morris, *Diary*, 12 July 1789.

*A former naval minister and commandant of police. The King asked him to join the government on 13 July but he refused.

- D** *An English visitor describes the crisis of 14 July and the King's reaction.*

The Bastille made some resistance but was taken yesterday evening. The governor and the sub-governor had their heads cut off which were carried in triumph through the city. The King was at first very resolute. The thoughts, however, of the danger he was in induced him to take back all his former words and to submit to everything. Deputies from Versailles arrived with this news and it is reported that the King will be here in Paris himself tomorrow, yet I confess that I very much doubt it. The fear in Paris for the last two days is beyond all powers of description. Few people have gone out of doors.

Robert Banks Jenkinson, Letter, 15 July 1789.

- E** *The newly appointed Mayor of Paris records the enthusiasm for the King who had returned to Paris on 17 July 1789. Here the King enters the Paris town hall.*

I offered the King the three-coloured cockade which the Parisians had adopted since the Revolution. The King took it in good humour and fastened it on to his hat. There was a hubbub of voices and cries of joy. I would not have been surprised if the King had felt somewhat alarmed. But, thronged by the crowd, he marched along with the assurance of a good King in the midst of friendly people. He said, 'They love me well'. As he entered there was applause and cries of *Vive le Roi!* The people with tears in their eyes stretched out their hands towards him. When he took his seat on a throne prepared for him, a voice cried 'Our King! Our Father!' at which applause increased. It was proposed that a statue should be erected to Louis XVI, the restorer of public liberty and Father of the Nation, on the site of the Bastille.

Jean Sylvain Bailly, *Memoirs*, published in 1821.

- (a) To what extent are the fears expressed for the King in Document C challenged by the evidence in Document E? [10]
- (b) How convincing is the evidence provided in this set of documents that it was the King's indecision that caused royal authority to crumble between May and July 1789?

In making your evaluation, you should refer to contextual knowledge as well as to all the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

Answer one of the following questions. *Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied as well as contextual knowledge.*

- 2 'An experiment with little chance of success.' Assess this view of the Constitution of 1791. [30]
- 3 How important was the role of Danton in the French Revolution? [30]
- 4 To what extent was Robespierre responsible for his own downfall? [30]

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