



Cambridge Pre-U

HISTORY

9769/56

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

October/November 2020

2 hours

You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer Question 1.
 - Section B: answer **one** question.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- You will be marked on analysis and critical evaluation in your answers. You should also show an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods, where appropriate.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

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Section A

Nominated topic: Factions and personalities, 1792–1794

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

- A *A discussion in the radical Cordelier Club. The speakers were the Enragés, the most radical of the Revolutionary groups of 1793.*

Jacques Roux complained bitterly that the Convention had rejected his proposal that speculators be put to death. He said that the rich were the leeches who drank the blood of the people. He invited the Cordelier Club to present his petition again to the Convention and urged the people to surround the Convention building. His proposal was adopted, and commissioners were appointed to present the petition to the Convention. One urged a new uprising and the need to arm the people. The second said that there should be a clear line between the profiteering merchants and aristocrats on one hand, and the people on the other. All nobles should be dismissed from employment and jobs given to the *sans-culottes* alone. The new revolution should be written in the annals of history in letters of blood.

Record of session of the Cordelier Club, 22 June 1793.

- B *One of the leading radicals puts forward the ideas of the Enragés to the Convention.*

The constitution is about to be presented to the people. Does it ban speculation? Is there the death penalty for hoarders? Is there a ban on the sale of metal currency? Liberty is meaningless when one class of men can starve the other. Equality is meaningless when the rich exercise the right of life and death over their fellow men through monopolies. The republic is meaningless when three quarters of the people cannot afford to eat. It is only by putting foodstuffs within the reach of the *sans-culottes* that you will attach them to the revolution and rally them to the new constitution. Deputies of the Mountain, if you had climbed to the top of the houses of Paris, where the poor live, you would have been touched by the tears and groans of a vast people without bread and clothes, reduced to this state by the greedy rich.

Jacques Roux, Speech, 25 June 1793.

- C *Robespierre speaks about the Enragés in the Jacobin Club.*

What is one to make of the claims by the *Enragés* that equate all tradespeople, even the most humble carrot sellers, with evil doers? Trading that gives livelihood to members of society should not be destroyed or society itself is endangered. A true *sans-culotte* should struggle against tyranny, not for bread.

There are two men, paid by the enemies of the people, whose methods encourage the enemies of the Republic to think that they can break our defences. They expressed their venomous ideas just at the moment when the Republic was under threat. This demonstrates their cooperation with the enemies of the state. I must name them. Jacques Roux is a priest known for two evil actions: the first is that of urging that merchants should be murdered because, he said, they charged too much; and the other was that he urged the people to reject the constitution [of 1793] on the pretext that it was flawed. The second is a young man, Leclerc, who is a noble, the son of a noble and so our enemy.

Robespierre, Speech, 5 August 1793.

- D** *Danton, speaking in a debate on arbitrary measures and arrests, opposes a motion of the radical Hébert for greater powers of arrest and arbitrary imprisonment of suspects.*

When the Republic wins victories and conquers its enemies a crowd of up and coming freshly-minted patriots emerges. Passions and hatreds emerge. Let us only support measures which genuinely preserve liberty and respect the rights of citizens. The call of Citizen Hébert for 'Revolutionary Justice' in itself is just, but he proposes a decree to enforce it which is unworthy of you. I ask that the Convention consider the means that will allow it to do justice to the victims of arbitrary arrest and punishment without restricting the power of the Revolutionary Government. You will, I hope, act with both justice and humanity.

Danton, Speech, 23 January 1794.

- E** *Robespierre speaks to the Convention about faction and the impact of atheism on society.*

The conspirators have been struck down. Danton would have been the most dangerous of these conspirators, if he had not also been the most cowardly. Now the threat is from those who make war on religion. Who has given these people a mission to announce that God does not exist? They who are so passionate about this empty doctrine are not so passionate about the fatherland. What advantage is there in persuading men that a blind force presides over their destinies and that the soul is nothing more than the gentle breath that is extinguished at the moment of death? Will this selfishness inspire more devotion to the fatherland; more daring in facing the tyrants; more scorn for death in order to achieve revolutionary ideals?

Robespierre, Speech, 7 May 1794.

- (a)** To what extent does Document B support the evidence for the views of the radicals expressed in Document A? [10]
- (b)** How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents that social and economic issues were at the heart of factional struggles in the French Revolution 1793–1794? In making your evaluation you should refer to contextual knowledge, as well as to the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

Section B

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 'The events of 1789 show that it was Louis XVI's incompetence that was mainly responsible for bringing about the collapse of the *Ancien Régime*.' Discuss. [30]
- 3 Assess the importance of civil and foreign wars in the development of the French Revolution in the years 1792 to 1794. [30]
- 4 How important was the role of women in the French Revolution? [30]

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