



# 2006 Sample Exam

	STUDENT NUMBER								LETTER
Figures									
Words									

## HISTORY: Revolutions Written Examination

Reading time: 15 minutes

Writing time: 2 hours

### QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

#### Structure of book

Section	Number of questions	Number of questions to be answered	Number of marks
A Part 1	2	2	20
Part 2	1	1	20
B Part 1	1	1	20
Part 2	1	1	20
			Total 80

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out/liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

#### Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 25 pages.
- A script book is available from the supervisor if required.

#### Instructions

- Write your student number in the space provided above on this page, and on the front cover of any script book used.
- All written responses must be in English.

#### At the end of the examination

- If a script book is used, place it inside the front cover of this question and answer book.

**Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other electronic communication devices into the examination room.**

**Disclaimer notice:** The HTAV takes no responsibility should the examination paper students sit actually differ in layout or design to these sample papers. Nor does the HTAV claim, in any way, that the questions in these sample papers will be those the students actually answer. Please note the number of pages in the sample booklet may differ to the VCAA examination booklet.





**Part 2: Creating a New Society****Question 3**

Choose **one** of the following. Write on the same revolution you used to answer Questions 1 and 2.

**America**

Massachusetts resident, Jonathon Smith, wrote of Shays' Rebellion and the crisis of 1786:

I am a plain man, and get my living by the plough. I have lived in a part of the country where I have known the value of good government because of the lack of it. There was a black cloud that rose in the east last winter, and spread over the west. It brought on a state of anarchy and that led to tyranny. People who used to live peacefully and were good neighbours got distracted and took up arms against government. Our distress was so great that we should have been glad to snatch at anything that looked like a government. Had any person who was able to protect us come and set up his standard, we should all have flocked to it, even if he had been a monarch.

[adapted]

a. What is Smith's occupation and how do you know this?

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2 marks

b. How does Smith describe Shays' Rebellion and its effects?

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2 marks

c. What were the people in Massachusetts in need of, according to Smith?

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2 marks



**France**

From J. M. Thompson, *The French Revolution*, Basil Blackwell Inc. 1943 pp 376 – 377.

J. M. Thompson on the National Convention:

Both in its origin and functions the National Convention was well suited to be the main instrument of a ‘revolutionary’ government. Its members had been freely elected by all Frenchmen of the age of discretion. It embodied, as not even the Constituent Assembly had done, the General Will. It brought into political being and action the Sovereign People. It exercised at one and the same time legislative, executive, and constitution-making powers. The rising of June 2nd had accelerated and eased its working by purging it of the Opposition. The decree of December 4th organised it more efficiently. The Nation in Council remained for the next three years the ultimate authority for everything that was done. It never abdicated its powers. It never shirked its responsibilities. Ministers, committees, commissioners, generals, were all its agents and its nominees. Their acts were its acts. If laws were passed, if victories were won, if traitors were executed, it was equally the work of the Convention, done on the name of the Sovereign People.

- a. Why, according to Thompson, was the National Convention “well suited to be the main instrument of a ‘revolutionary’ government”?

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2 marks

- b. Explain the key manner in which the Constituent Assembly did not embody the “General Will.”

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2 marks

- c. How does Thompson paint the way in which the Convention operated from 1792 – 1795?

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2 marks



**Russia**

From Orlando Figes, *A People's Tragedy*, Pimlico, 1996.

Figes on the Bolsheviks' attitude toward the use of force:

The Red Terror did not come out of the blue. It was implicit in the regime from the start. The Bolsheviks were forced to turn increasingly to terror to silence their critics and subjugate [conquer] a society they could not control by any other means. Lenin had always accepted the need to use terror in order to defend the revolution. It was a weapon in the civil war...Lenin looked upon the use of terror as a means of class war against the bourgeoisie. From the start, he had encouraged the mass terror of the lower classes against the rich and the privileged through the slogan 'Loot the Looters!' ...The Cheka was a state within a state. There was scarcely any issue of soviet life, from the struggle against counter revolution to the issuing of dog licenses, that it did not cover. From the start it worked outside the law. The knock on the door in the middle of the night, interrogations and imprisonment without charge, torture and summary executions – these were the methods of the Cheka...Why has the murder of the Romanovs assumed such significance in the history of the revolution?...It was a declaration of the terror. It was the statement that from now on individuals would count for nothing in the civil war. Trotsky had once said: 'We must put an end once and for all to the papist-Quaker babble about the sanctity [importance and purity] of human life.'...The Bolsheviks justified the terror as a civil war against the counter revolution. But they never made clear who those counter-revolutionaries were. Indeed, the terror was driven by the regime's own paranoiac fear that it was surrounded by hostile enemies working together to overthrow it. In this sense the terror was a war by the regime against the whole of society - a means of terrorising it into submission. 'Terror,' Engels wrote, 'is needless cruelties perpetrated by terrified men.' ...Executions were the final product of this machinery of terror...At night the cities tried to sleep to the sound of people being shot. The Bolsheviks themselves, however, did not lose much sleep.

a. Name two specific links Figes makes between terror and the Bolshevik Party.

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2 marks

b. List two examples used by Figes to convey the Bolshevik's lack of care about human life.

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2 marks

c. What is Figes' suggesting about the Bolsheviks by using Engel's quote?

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2 marks





**China**

From Ross Terrill, *Madame Mao: The White-Boned Demon*, 1995, p. 290.

Terrill on Jiang Qing, Mao Zedong and the Cultural Revolution:

The Cultural Revolution had more than one cause. And what happened was not the same as what the original architects, Mao and Jiang, intended. It went on far longer than intended; its later stages were desperate responses to unforeseen events rather than part of the original vision. Still, without Jiang Qing there may not have been a Cultural Revolution, and probably Mao would not have called it a Cultural Revolution.

It came about when Mao, in a slump, turned to her as co-worker and was mentally influenced by her as never before. Its content – taking ideas and the arts as the keys to China’s problems – reflected her special interest. The theatricality of its modes bore her touch. The sickening cult of personality, which turned Mao from a politician into a near-god, was due in heavy part to Jiang’s pushing Mao to “be a King, George”; the higher Mao was elevated, she felt, the more glory would rub off on her. The Cultural Revolution’s theme of condemning and dismantling much of the Communist Party itself cannot be separated from Jiang’s burning desire to get even for the marriage agreement at Yanan.

a. What elements of the Cultural Revolution does Terrill claim were unintended?

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

2 marks

b. Give two reasons offered by Terrill why Jiang Qing encouraged Mao to launch the Cultural Revolution.

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

2 marks

c. What were two of the outcomes of the Cultural Revolution according to Terrill?

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

2 marks



**SECTION B - Revolution Two****Instructions for Section B**

Answer both questions. The revolution you choose for Section B must not be the same as the revolution you chose for Section A. Use this second revolution to answer both questions in this section.

**Part 1: Revolutionary ideas, leaders, movements and events****Question 4**

Choose one of the following.

**America**

In September 1774 the leaders of Suffolk County, Massachusetts passed the following resolves:

‘-- That his majesty, George the Third, is the rightful successor to the throne of Great-Britain, and justly entitled to the allegiance of the British realm. Therefore, we, the heirs and successors of the first planters of this colony, do cheerfully acknowledge George the Third to be our rightful sovereign...

-- That the acts of the British parliament for blocking up the harbour of Boston, for altering the established form of government in this colony, and for screening violators of its laws from a legal trial, are gross infractions of those rights to which we are justly entitled by the laws of nature and the British constitution...

-- That no obedience is due from this province to either or any part of the acts above-mentioned, but that they be rejected as the attempts of a wicked administration to enslave America...

-- That the late act of parliament for establishing the Roman Catholic religion and the French laws in that extensive country Canada is dangerous in an extreme degree to the Protestant religion and to the civil rights and liberties of all America; and, therefore we are obliged to take all proper measures for our security.’

[adapted]





**France**

From 'Extracts from rural cahiers de doléances, 1788-9' in Philip Dawson (ed.) *The French Revolution*, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1967

**List of the grievances, complaints, and remonstrances\* of the inhabitants of the parish of Pithiviers-le-Vieil. Sunday, March 1, 1789.**

This village is ... 25 miles north east of Orléans. Its seigneur was the bishop of Orleans. ... The minutes of the proceeding state that there are 160 households in the parish and list 67 men present, of whom 10 are identified as cultivators of their own lands.

2. [the deputies present] will ask for the elimination of all useless expenditures in all parts of the administration, after which they will consent to all those for the dignity of the throne, the glory and prosperity of the State.

3. To provide for all these expenses and also succeed in reducing taxes which are crushing the countryside, the deputies will be charged to ask that all taxes generally ... be paid equally by the three orders ... the said inhabitants being certain that if everyone contributes in proportion to his capacity, receipts will exceed expenditures.

9. ... if proceedings are begun to reform the civil and criminal laws, ask that those substituted for the old laws be drawn up in such a way as to place the life, the honour, the liberty, and the property of subjects under the ceaseless protection of these new laws, which will have clarity and simplicity adequate to make them easily understood and executed.

11. It would be of great advantage both for the King and for the people if the collection of taxes was simplified by abolishing the obscure financial code, a labyrinth in which one loses one's way...

12. The right of hunting is devastating our countrysides. We do not ask that it be abolished, but that our grain be protected by law from all the wrongs and damage suffered ... when our grain is on the stalks.

\*remonstrance: protest







**Russia**

Reference: Lenin's 'April Theses' 4 April 1917

**Lenin on the Bolsheviks' attitude toward the events of 1917**

1. 'Our attitude toward the war, which under the new government of Lvov and Co. unquestionably remains on Russia's part a predatory imperialist war owing to the capitalist nature of that government...'
2. 'The present situation in Russia...represents a transition from the first stage of the revolution – which, owing to the insufficient class consciousness and organisation of the proletariat, placed the power in the hands of the bourgeoisie – to the second stage, which must place the power in the hands of the proletariat and the poorest strata of the peasantry...'
3. 'No support for the Provisional Government; the utter falsity of all its promises should be made clear...'
4. 'It must be explained to the masses that the Soviet of Workers' Deputies are the only possible form of the revolutionary government...'
5. 'Not a parliamentary republic – a return to it...would be a step backward – but a republic of Soviets of Worker's, Agricultural Labourers' and Peasants' Deputies throughout the land, from top to bottom.'
6. 'Confiscation of all landed estates...the disposal of the land to be put in charge of the local soviets...'





## China

From Ch'en Yun 'How to be a Communist Party Member' (1939) in Boyd Compton (ed) *Mao's China*:

China is not an advanced capitalist country, but a backward semicolonial and semi feudal country. In such a country, there exist vast masses of poverty stricken, revolutionary peasants. They live in an environment of suffering and suppression of all kinds, and as a result support the Communist Party and fight unflinchingly against imperialism and feudalism under the leadership of the Communist Party. Historical evidence has amply vindicated\* the mighty role of the peasantry in the revolution; the poor peasants must remain, and will remain, the most powerful ally of the proletariat in the further progress of the revolution. Thus it is absolutely essential to absorb the active elements among the peasantry into the Party in great numbers, thus furnishing us with a social base of rural proletarians and poor peasants in rural areas.

Similarly, the petty bourgeois intelligentsia\* in a semicolonial and semi feudal China also may play an important role in the revolutionary movement; it has been proven in the course of our revolutionary movement in the past and in the course of the present anti-Japanese war that many of them have been able to fight heroically for a political cause. Due to their cultural level and political consciousness, they have served as a necessary bridge between the party and the masses. Our Party should also absorb a great number of revolutionary intellectual elements who are capable of dedicating themselves to communism and the proletarian mission. At the same time the experience teaches us that we must emphasize the absorption into the Party of the more revolutionary and poorer elements among the intelligentsia. These revolutionary and poor intellectual elements differ from the intelligentsia in general. Their poor living conditions make it easier for them to approach the Party. Furthermore, they are closer to the lower strata of society and their thinking and manner of life are closely linked to the poor masses. Thus they constitute ideal recruits for the expansion of the party among the intelligentsia.

vindicated: proved

intelligentsia: class of intellectuals









