



A-level HISTORY

Component 1J The British Empire, c1857–1967

Wednesday 6 June 2018 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/1J.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the other questions answered.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

More than any other single individual, Gandhi was responsible for the fall of the British Empire. His conversion to outright opposition to the British was as much religious as political. He had always been a high-minded man seeking to do good. Then in middle life he turned himself into a religious prophet.

Politically, Gandhi solved a dilemma which had agitated Indian nationalists for a generation. Should they adopt constitutional methods of opposition to the British or should they attempt violent rebellion? Both methods appeared futile. Gandhi cut through the knot by proclaiming the principle of unconstitutional but non-violent opposition. Nationalists should be prepared to break the law, to boycott British organisations, to resign posts in the British administration, to hinder the working of government in any way possible, but they should stick to non-violent measures. Tactically it was a brilliant idea. The British had ample troops and weapons to smash any attempt at armed rebellion. But against non-violent resistance the British were powerless.

Adapted from Colin Cross, *The Fall of the British Empire*, 1968

Extract B

The Indian Empire established on 1 January 1877 would last for seventy years. In 1947 Earl Mountbatten, the last Viceroy, handed over power to the Republic of India and the Dominion of Pakistan into which the country had been hastily divided. This swift transformation came about mainly through events in Europe and because British rulers had willed it. In 1917, during the worst crisis of the First World War, a liberalising policy had been defined – ‘the increasing association of Indians in every branch of the administration and the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible government in India as an integral part of the British Empire’. But independence came about more rapidly than intended. Two world wars, the second spreading to the Far East, undermined British power and even the will to rule. Although India was never overrun, the Japanese inflicted such damage on British prestige that they never recovered their political hold.

Adapted from John Bowle, *The Imperial Achievement*, 1974

Extract C

Early nationalist forces had first appeared on the Indian political scene in the late nineteenth century. Elitist in character and moderate in their demands, they had presented little real threat to the British Raj. On the outbreak of the First World War, India had presented an image of impressive loyalty. Politicians and princes were conspicuous in their declarations of support for Britain and in the practical help they provided. However the experience of global war between 1914 and 1918 transformed the nature of the nationalist forces ranged against Britain. More broadly based and demanding, they began to challenge the British for power in India. Britain responded by making a series of constitutional concessions in provincial government while retaining control at the centre. It was to take another world war, and a consequent reassessment of her interests in India, before Britain was prepared to bring her imperial presence to an end.

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Adapted from Simon C Smith, *British Imperialism, 1750–1970*, 1998

- 0 1** Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to political changes in India in the years 1914 to 1947.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

- 0 2** How significant was the pursuit of wealth for Britain's involvement in Africa in the years 1857 to c1890? **[25 marks]**
- 0 3** 'Joseph Chamberlain's attempts to strengthen the British Empire ended in failure.'
Assess the validity of this view with reference to the years 1895 to 1914. **[25 marks]**
- 0 4** 'In the years 1947 to 1967 Britain lost all interest in its empire.'
Assess the validity of this view. **[25 marks]**

END OF QUESTIONS

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