

AS HISTORY

Challenge and transformation: Britain, c1851–1964

Component 1G Victorian and Edwardian Britain, c1851–1914

Wednesday 13 May 2020 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/1G.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

Town growth continued rapidly between 1850 and 1870. Overcrowding was made worse by the demolition of much city-centre accommodation to make way for warehouses, offices and railways. Almost always, the homes of the poor were the ones to be cleared. Pressure on urban space meant that rents increased more than wages and severe overcrowding was the result. Clearances did not destroy slums; they merely moved them a mile or two down the road. Death rates nationally were virtually the same in the late 1860s as in the 1840s. Despite their town halls, municipal libraries, parks and fine railway stations, Victorian cities in 1870 remained, for most of their inhabitants, desperately unhealthy places in which to live. 5

Adapted from EJ Evans, *The Forging of the Modern State*, 1996

Extract B

The 1851 Great Exhibition came at the beginning of two decades of increasing prosperity, often described as the 'great Victorian boom', with an increase in wages. Furthermore, a great deal was done to extend the factory and sanitary laws in the 1850s and 1860s. In fact, by the 1860s a bewildering variety of local health authorities existed. The reports of the time naturally concentrated on the worst aspects of urban life, but it is necessary to maintain a sense of perspective. Only the very worst housing could be called slum property and it is important to remember that 90% of the people did not live in slum conditions. 5

Adapted from E Hopkins, *Industrialisation and Society*, 2000

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of the standard of living of the working classes in the years c1851 to 1870?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2 'There was a Great Depression in the British economy in the years 1873 to 1896.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 'The failure to achieve Home Rule for Ireland, in the years 1886 to 1914, was due to opposition from the Conservative Party.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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