

**Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE**

**Wednesday 13 May 2020**

Afternoon

Paper Reference **8HI0/1D**

**History**

**Advanced Subsidiary**

**Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations**

**Option 1D: Britain, c1785–c1870: democracy, protest and reform**

**Extracts Booklet**

**Do not return this booklet with the question paper.**

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### Extracts for use with Section C.

**Extract 1:** From Boyd Hilton, *Why Britain Outlawed Her Slave Trade*, published 2010.

Historians who say that the slave trade ended for economic reasons argue that the trade was economically inefficient. The religious and humanitarian language of the abolitionists hid their real economic motives. British elites agreed with Adam Smith\* who proved that free labour was cheaper, more efficient and better motivated than slave labour. 5

British abolitionists were aware of the vast profits that came to Britain from the Caribbean and no doubt this helped to create both envy and hostility. It was after all a Parliament dominated by landowners who were persuaded to curb the profits of the West Indian traders in 1807. However, abolition was about more than the landowners' envy of the slave traders. There was a widespread concern that profits from the slave trade were insecure. For example slave revolts might lead to a financial crash. Also when Britain was at war with France, economic stability was far more important to parliamentarians than the profits from the slave trade. 10

\*Adam Smith was an economist who argued for free trade

**Extract 2:** From James Walvin, *British Abolitionism 1787-1838*, published 2005.

The argument that the abolition of the British slave trade was a response to economic and social changes in Britain and the Caribbean cannot be fully accepted. There is the danger that it undervalues the British abolitionist movement by reducing their principles to the calculation of profit. 15

Thomas Clarkson and William Wilberforce were great publicists and they successfully established in the British mind that abolition was a battle between good (the abolitionists) and evil (the slave owners). What they did quite brilliantly was to capture the moral high ground. Many of the activists were also influential and prominent men whose authority and status were beyond criticism, and could secure respect and win support in their locality. 20

The leaders of the abolitionist movement provided the arguments that led to parliament abolishing the slave trade. Their humanitarian case offered a clear alternative to those who had economic concerns about the slave trade. 25

### Acknowledgements

Extract 1 from: *Why Britain Outlawed Her Slave Trade*, in: *Abolitionism and Imperialism in Britain: Africa and the Atlantic* by Boyd Hilton © Ohio University Press – 2010

Extract 2 from: *British Abolitionism 1787-1838*, in Anthony Tibbles [ed], *TRANSATLANTIC SLAVERY – Against Human Dignity* by James Walvin © National Museums Liverpool – 2005

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