

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

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

Sample assessment materials for first teaching
September 2015

Extracts Booklet

Paper Reference

8HI0/1D

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From Zerbano Gifford, *Thomas Clarkson and the Campaign Against Slavery*, published 1996.

It was, and is, widely believed that Clarkson's arguments were decisive.

To his contemporaries, Thomas Clarkson was the driving force behind the campaign to end the horrors of slavery. It took Clarkson's vision and persistence to turn the fight against slavery into the leading political issue of the day.

Through the efforts of this man, the abolition campaign was on everyone's mind from 1785 until after the end of the slave trade in the British Empire in 1807. His researches unmasked the violence inherent in the whole operation of the slave trade to a horrified public. His great personal effort was instrumental in ensuring that the compassion of the majority of people in Britain outweighed the self-interest of a few people.

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Extract 2: From Richard S Reddie, *Abolition!: The Struggle to Abolish Slavery in the Colonies*, published 2007.

No matter how far Clarkson travelled, how many people he interviewed and how many hearts he managed to change, only parliament at the end of the day had the ability to ban the slave trade, and this was where Wilberforce's influence became critical. By late 1787, Wilberforce had begun his anti-slavery activities in parliament in earnest. He had contacted and received support from sympathetic MPs about his intention to introduce a motion on the subject of the abolition of the slave trade in the next session of parliament. In a letter to a colleague around the time, he wrote: 'The cause of our poor Africans goes on most prosperously. I trust there is little reason to doubt that the motion for the abolition of this horrid traffic will be carried in parliament.'

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In 1784, Wilberforce's good friend William Pitt had become prime minister, and Wilberforce spent his time persuading him to outlaw Britain's involvement in the trade.

Acknowledgements

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