



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

AS Level History A

Y140/01 From Pitt to Peel: Britain 1783–1853

Wednesday 16 May 2018 – Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet (OCR12 sent with general stationery)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.
- Do **not** write in the barcodes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **50**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended responses will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

SECTION A

Peel and the Age of Reform 1832–1853

Study these three sources and then answer **both** questions.

- 1 Use your knowledge of Chartism to assess how useful Source B is as evidence for Chartist views about the House of Commons. [10]
- 2 Using these three sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that the principle that all men had the right to vote was the only reason Chartists wanted the vote for working men. [20]

Source A: A journalist summarises the speech of JR Stephens, a Methodist minister, on Kersal Moor, near Manchester on 24 September.

The principle of the Resolution he had risen to speak to was a principle which every man was obliged to acknowledge – the right of every man that breathed God’s free air and trod God’s free earth, to have his home and his hearth. (Cheers.) This question of Universal Suffrage was a knife and fork question. What he meant by Universal Suffrage was that every working man had a right to a good coat, a comfortable home in which to shelter and wages that would allow him all the blessings of life which a reasonable man could desire. (Tremendous cheers.)

The Northern Star, report, 29 September 1838

Source B: In a speech printed in the Chartist paper, *Charter*, Bronterre O’Brien explains why he thought working people should be given the vote.

The present House of Commons does not represent the people, but only those who live by profits and lending money – a rascally crew who have no real interest in the welfare of the country. Pawnbrokers are enfranchised, and 2000 brothel-owners in London all have votes, but honest folk have none. Not a single stockbroker is without a vote, yet there is not a man among them that does not deserve the gallows. Every lawyer in the country can vote yet when did any of this gang add to the wealth of the nation? Parsons and the cotton-lords, who possess all the trickery of the pick-pocket, have votes but not the working people. It is disgusting to see how the franchise is monopolised by one-tenth of the population – and that tenth the worst tenth.

Report in Charter, 14 April 1839

Source C: A supporter of Chartism in the 1830s and 1840s outlines the interests of his fellow Chartists at the time.

What the Chartists wanted was a voice in making the laws they were called upon to obey; they believed that taxation without representation was tyranny, and ought to be resisted. They took a leading part in agitating in favour of the ten-hour question, the repeal of the taxes on knowledge, education, co-operation, civil and religious liberties and the land question. They were the true pioneers in all the great movements of their time.

Benjamin Wilson, The Struggles of an Old Chartist, published in 1887

SECTION B**British Government in the Age of Revolution 1783–1832**

Answer **ONE** question.

3* 'The support of George III explains why Pitt the Younger dominated domestic politics in the period 1783 to 1789.' How far do you agree? **[20]**

4* How successful was British foreign policy in the period from 1815 to 1822? **[20]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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