



A-level HISTORY

Component 2H France in Revolution, 1774–1815

Friday 6 June 2025 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 7042/2H.
- 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:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, issued by the National Assembly, July 1790.

Beginning with the day of publication of the present decree, there shall be but one way of choosing bishops and parish priests, namely that of election.

All elections shall be by ballot and shall be decided by the majority of the votes.

Priests, performing as they do the first and most important functions of society and forced to live continuously in the place where they work, shall be paid by the government. 5

No bishop shall absent himself from the area that he controls for more than two weeks consecutively during the year, except in case of real necessity and with the consent of the directory of the department in which his bishopric is situated.

Bishops and parish priests, as active citizens, are allowed to be elected as deputies to the legislative body, or as members of the general council of the communes or of the administrative councils of their districts or departments. 10

Source B

From an article published in the radical newspaper, 'Les Révolutions de Paris', July 1790.

The reign of the priests has passed; and the more efforts they make to shore up the tottering remains of ecclesiastical power, the sooner will they hasten its collapse. The National Assembly, in debating the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, has declared that each department will form a single bishopric. It has established the election of bishops and priests, and committed this election to the same body that nominates the members of the departments and districts. If the clergy were less concerned with their past glory and wealth, if they did not wish to provoke civil war at any possible price, they would no longer resist the lawful will of the nation. We would not see the majority of the bishops of France, together with the priests, crying out that the Catholic religion is lost because they have been denied a display of wealth that is both offensive and absolutely opposed to the principles and spirit of the Gospel. 10

Source C

From a letter to bishops in France, about the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, from Pope Pius VI, 13 April 1791.

We have just learned of the war against the Catholic religion, which has been started by the revolutionary thinkers who, as a group, form a majority in the National Assembly of France. We have wept in God's presence, shared our sorrow with the cardinals, and proclaimed public and private prayers. Then we wrote to King Louis on 9 July 1790 and repeatedly encouraged him not to confirm the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, which would lead his people into error and schism. For it was intolerable that a political assembly should change the universal practice of the Church. It is unacceptable that they disregard the opinions of the Papacy and the decrees of the councils and have overturned the order of the hierarchy and now control the election of bishops and have destroyed the bishoprics. We beseech you all, beloved Catholic children in the kingdom of France, as you recall the religion and faith of your fathers, we urge you lovingly not to abandon it.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the Civil Constitution of the Clergy in the years 1790 to 1791.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'The Vendée and Federalist uprisings in 1793 were primarily caused by a desire to restore the monarchy.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

How important was Napoleon's military leadership to French victory in the years 1799 to 1808?

[25 marks]

0 4

To what extent had Napoleon imposed French rule on the Grand Empire by 1812?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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