



GCE A LEVEL

1100U60-1



S25-1100U60-1

FRIDAY, 6 JUNE 2025 – AFTERNOON

HISTORY – A2 unit 4

DEPTH STUDY 6

France in revolution c.1774–1815

Part 2: France: republic and Napoleon c.1792–1815

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **Question 1** and **either Question 2 or Question 3**.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

You are advised to spend 60 minutes on Question 1 and 45 minutes on either Question 2 or Question 3.

The sources used in this examination paper may have been amended, adapted or abridged from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

The sources may include words that are no longer in common use and are now regarded as derogatory terminology. Their inclusion reflects the time and place of the original version of these sources.

In your answers, you should use knowledge and understanding gained from your study of Unit 2 (AS) where appropriate.

Answer **Question 1** and **either Question 2 or Question 3**.

Question 1 (compulsory)

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the role of Robespierre during the Terror. [30]

Source A Maximilien Robespierre, the leading figure on the Committee of Public Safety, delivering a speech to the National Convention outlining the “Principles of the Republic of Virtue” (5 February 1794)

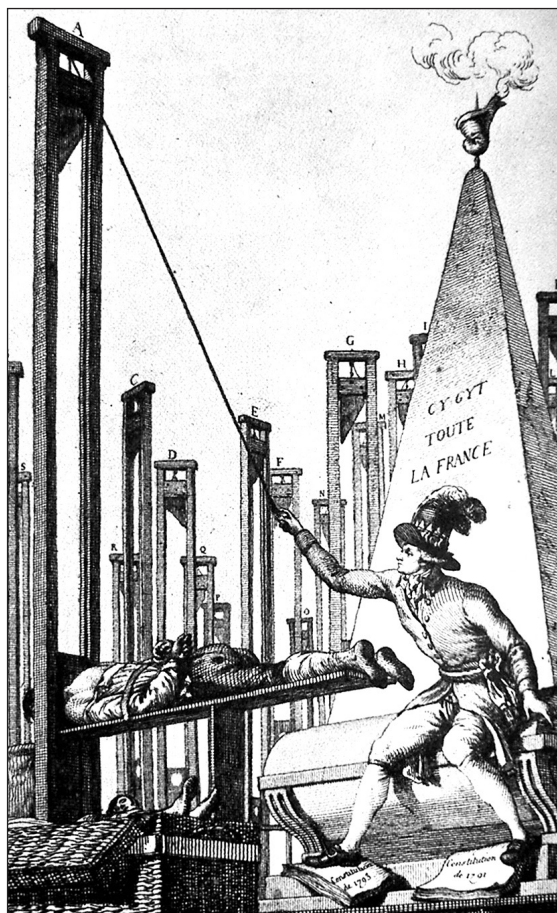
What is our ultimate aim? The peaceful enjoyment of liberty and equality; the reign of eternal justice, whose laws are engraved, not on marble and stone, but in the hearts of men, even in that of the slave who forgets them and of the tyrant who rejects them [there was applause at this point]. We desire to see an order of things where all base and cruel feelings are suppressed and where the law encourages benevolent and generous feelings; where ambition means the desire for glory and the service of the Republic; where social distinctions emerge from conditions of equality; where the citizen is subject to the magistrate, the magistrate to the people, and the people to the principle of justice; where the nation assures the wellbeing of every individual and where every individual proudly enjoys the prosperity and glory of the nation. ... We wish to replace the vices and mistakes of the monarchy by the virtues and miraculous achievements of the Republic [there was again applause at this point]. We wish to fulfil the plan of nature and promote the destiny of humanity, to fulfil the promises of enlightened philosophy. All this in order that France will become a model for all nations to imitate; it will become the scourge of oppressors, the saviour of the oppressed, the bright star of the universe. And whilst we seal our achievements with our blood, we can at least see the stars of universal happiness shining. ... That is our ambition, that is our aim.

Source B Helen Maria Williams, an English writer living in France, writing in a collection of open letters concerning French politics (c. June 1794)

Robespierre has now attained nearly the summit of his hopes; and his ignorance being equal to his vanity, he did not perceive that the few steps he had to climb before he could grasp at absolute power must be trodden with caution, since he had advanced so far that if he was now compelled to descend, it could only be by a descent which would lead to his death. He had destroyed his most powerful rival Danton; but his spies and emissaries, and above all his guilty conscience, told him that more of his colleagues must fall to give him perfect safety. He read in the faces of the deputies, in the silent gloom with which his edicts were sanctioned, that new storms gathered over his head. And he prepared in conjunction with Couthon, the means of putting absolutely in his power the lives of all those who opposed him. In the meantime, he thought fit to amuse the people by a festival in honour of the Supreme Being.

Source C

A contemporary print, *Cy Gyt Toute La France* [Here lies all of France] (c. July 1794). In the image, Robespierre is depicted, with his feet upon the constitutions of 1791 and 1793, guillotining the executioner, having already guillotined all other groups in France – as indicated by the letters above the other guillotines.



Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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“The revolt in the Vendée was the most significant challenge to the First French Republic.” Discuss with reference to the period from 1792 to 1799.

[30]

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To what extent did Napoleon’s rule (1799–1815) undermine the achievements of the Revolution?

[30]

END OF PAPER

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