General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2012

History HIS1E

Unit 1E Absolutist States: The Reign of Louis XIV, 1661–1715

Monday 16 January 2012 1.30 pm to 2.45 pm

For this paper you must have:
- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed
- 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS1E.
- Answer **two** questions.

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  – use good English
  – organise information clearly
  – use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period. In particular you should:
  – refer to relevant historical information
  – show an understanding of change and continuity
  – show a knowledge of historical interpretations.

Answer **two** questions.

Question 1

0 1 Explain why the economy of France was weak at the start of Louis XIV's personal rule in 1661. *(12 marks)*

0 2 How successful was Colbert in strengthening royal finances and the French economy in the years 1661 to 1683? *(24 marks)*

Question 2

0 3 Explain why France became involved in the War of Spanish Succession. *(12 marks)*

0 4 How important was the strength of Louis XIV's enemies in explaining the failure of French foreign policy in the years 1685 to 1715? *(24 marks)*

Question 3

0 5 Why did Louis XIV want to reduce the power of the nobility at the start of his personal rule? *(12 marks)*

0 6 How successful was Louis XIV in maintaining royal authority in the years 1685 to 1715? *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

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