

## AS HISTORY

The Birth of the USA, 1760–1801

Component 2G The origins of the American Revolution, 1760–1776

---

Wednesday 25 May 2016    Afternoon    Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/2G.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

---

**Section A**Answer Question 01.

---

**Source A**

From a letter from New York merchants to the Boston Committee of Correspondence, 23 May 1774. This responded to a request for a ban on trade with Britain after the 1774 Intolerable Acts.

We, the merchants of New York, believe the alarming measures of the British Parliament fill the inhabitants of this city with inexpressible concern. As a sister colony, we consider your punishment as a common cause, and it is both our duty and our interest to contribute to the cancellation of this. But exactly what ought to be done in a situation so truly critical is very hard to determine.

5

We conclude that a congress of deputies from the colonies should be assembled without delay, and some unanimous resolution formed. Therefore, it would be premature to make any decision on the line of action you propose. However, please do us the justice of believing that we shall continue to act with a firm regard for American freedom.

**Source B**

From an anonymous leaflet, entitled 'Join or Die', circulated in late May 1774 in Newport, Rhode Island. Rhode Island was a colony near Boston.

The Act blocking Boston harbour is believed to be infinitely more alarming and dangerous to our common liberties than even that evil monster, the Stamp Act (which was defeated by our firmness and union). This Act must be read with indignation by every real friend of freedom in Europe and America.

Though Boston is the immediate target, the insult and indignity offered to our virtuous brethren there ought to be viewed as a direct, hostile invasion of every province on the continent. The generals of tyranny are now preparing to attack our defences; nothing but unity, resolution, resistance and perseverance can save us from slavery!

5

**0 1**

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the attitude of colonists to the 'Intolerable' Acts of 1774?

**[25 marks]**

---

**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

---

**Either**

**0 2**

'British attitudes towards the American colonies changed as a result of the Seven Years War.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3**

'The American colonists were mainly responsible for the deterioration of Anglo-colonial relations in the years 1765 to 1770.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

---

**There are no questions printed on this page**

**Copyright Information**

For confidentiality purposes, from the November 2015 examination series, acknowledgements of third party copyright material will be published in a separate booklet rather than including them on the examination paper or support materials. This booklet is published after each examination series and is available for free download from [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk) after the live examination series.

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team, AQA, Stag Hill House, Guildford, GU2 7XJ.

Copyright © 2016 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.