



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Wednesday 15 May 2019 – Afternoon

AS Level History A

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

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.

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 Sir Robert Peel, to assess how useful Source A is as evidence about the favourable personal and political circumstances he enjoyed in 1834. [10]

- 2 Using these three sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that Peel was a respected leader. [20]

Source A: The Clerk to the Privy Council and Whiggish in his political sympathies expresses his views on Sir Robert Peel.

Peel is in the prime of life, with an immense fortune, easily the leader in the House of Commons, universally regarded as the ablest man, and with (on the whole) a very high character, free from the cares of office, able to indulge his own interests. No matter how unruly the House, the moment he rises all is silence, and he is sure of being heard with profound attention. He is free of his old connexions and able to pursue public issues of his choosing. His great merit consists in his judgement, tact, and discretion, his promptitude, thorough knowledge of the Commons and familiarity with the details of all Parliamentary business. He inspires respect and he is the fittest man to be Minister.

The Greville Memoirs, 22 February 1834

Source B: A speech of resignation by Peel, after he had been defeated over a Coercion Bill for Ireland.

I shall be severely censured by those who regret the severance of party ties in the firm conviction that loyalty to party constitutes a powerful instrument of government. I shall be censured by those who adhere to the principle of protection considering it to be essential to the welfare of the country. I shall be hated by every monopolist who clamours for protection because it conduces to his individual benefit. But, it may be that I shall be remembered with good will by those whose lot it is to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow, when they shall recruit their exhausted strength with abundant and untaxed food.

Sir Robert Peel, speech, 29 June 1846

Source C: A Conservative opponent of Peel, and a future Prime Minister, reveals his thoughts on Peel's manner in public and private situations to a Conservative member in the House of Lords.

Peel was by nature very shy, but, forced early in life into eminent positions, he had formed an artificial manner, haughtily stiff or exuberantly bland, of which generally speaking, he could not prevent himself. There were, however, occasions when he did succeed in this, usually when he was alone with an individual whom he wished to please. Then, his manner was not only unaffectedly cordial, but he could even charm.

Benjamin Disraeli, letter, 1852

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

Answer **ONE** question.

- 3*** How successful were the financial, administrative and trading reforms of Pitt the Younger, 1783–1789? **[20]**
- 4*** To what extent was Catholic Emancipation the reason for the weakness of the Tory Party by 1830? **[20]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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