

2009 Sample Exam

STUDENT NUMBER								LETTER
Figures								
Words								

HISTORY: Revolutions Written Examination

Reading time: 15 minutes

Writing time: 2 hours

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	2	2	20
B	1	1	20
C	1	1	20
D	1	1	20
			Total 80

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out/liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 41 pages.
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

Instructions

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page, and on the front cover of any script book used.
- All written responses must be in English.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other electronic communication devices into the examination room.



HISTORY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA

Disclaimer notice: The HTAV takes no responsibility should the examination paper students sit actually differ in layout or design to these sample papers. Nor does the HTAV claim, in any way, that the questions in these sample papers will be those the students will actually answer in the final examination. Please note the number of pages in the sample booklet may differ to the VCAA examination booklet.

SECTION A- Revolution One

Instructions for Section A

Indicate on the front cover of this book the revolution you have chosen for Section A.
Answer all questions (Part 1 and Part 2) for this revolution in this section.
You must **not** choose the same revolution for Section A and Section B.

Parts 1 and 2

Revolution	Page
America	3
France	8
Russia	13
China	18

Part 2 - Creating a new society

Question 3

America [1776 - 1789 Inauguration of George Washington]

‘It came time to ratify the Constitution, to submit to a vote in state conventions, with approval of nine of the thirteen required to ratify it ... The Constitution became even more acceptable to the public at large after the first Congress, responding to criticism, passed a series of amendments known as the Bill of Rights. These amendments seemed to make the new government a guardian of the people’s liberties: to speak, to publish, to worship, to petition, to assemble, to be tried fairly, to be secure at home against official intrusion. It was therefore, perfectly designed to build popular backing for the new government. What was not made clear - it was a time when the language of freedom was new and its reality untested - was the shakiness of anyone’s liberty when entrusted to a government of the rich and powerful.’

Howard Zinn, *A People’s History of the United States 1492-Present* (London: Harper Perennial Modern Classics, 2005), 98-101.

a. What form of approval was needed to ratify the Constitution?

2 marks

b. Provide two examples of amendments which seemed to make the new government a ‘guardian of the people’s liberties.’

- i. _____
- ii. _____

2 marks

Part 2 - Creating a new society

Question 3

France [5 August 1789–1795 Dissolution of the convention]



British satire on the French Revolution, 1792.

a. Identify two social groups depicted in the representation.

i. _____

ii. _____

2 marks

b. Identify two features of this representation that illustrate the satirist’s disapproval of the nature of the new society.

i. _____

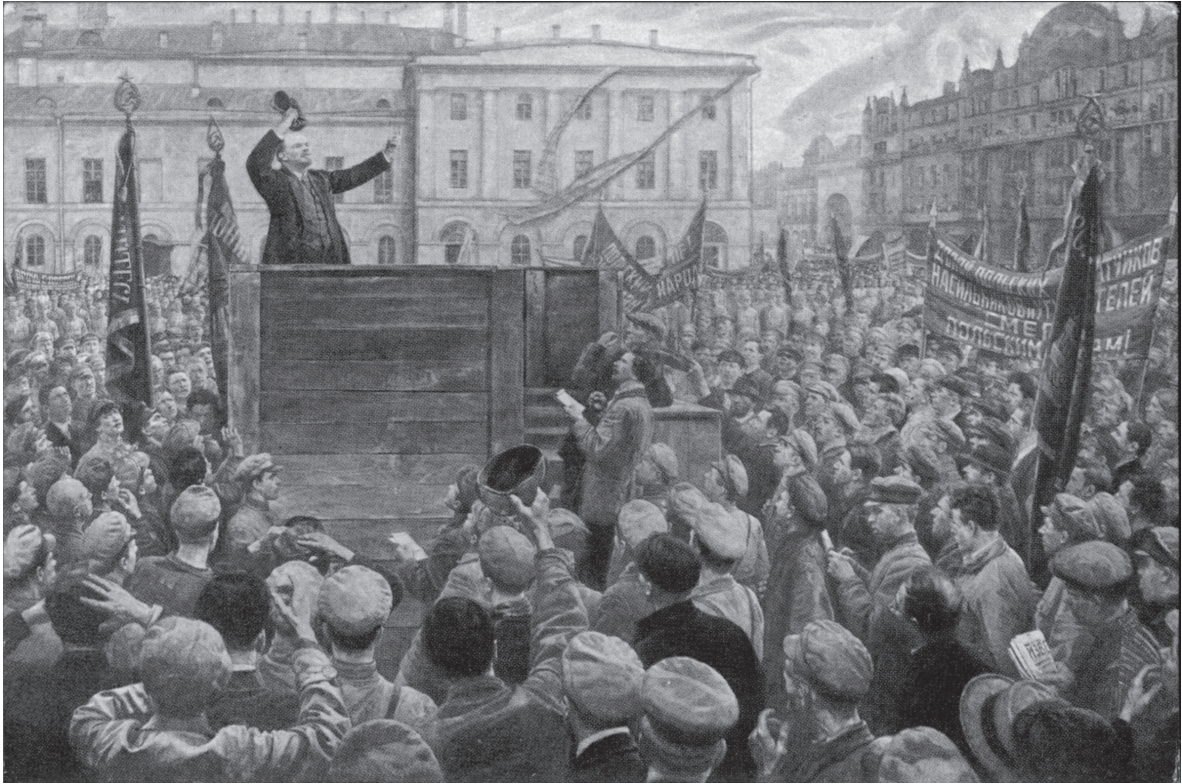
ii. _____

2 marks

Part 2 - Creating a new society

Question 3

Russia [November 1917–1924 death of Lenin]



Lenin speaks, 1920.

a. What attitude or impression is the artist trying to convey about the character of Lenin?

2 marks

b. Identify two features of the crowd's behaviour that indicate support for what Lenin is speaking about.

i. _____

ii. _____

2 marks

Part 2 - Creating a new society

Question 3

China [1949–1976 death of Mao]



Poster from Great Leap Forward campaign, 1958. (The Chinese text reads: 'put organisations on a military footing, put actions on a war footing, put life on a collective footing'.)

a. Identify two groups of people portrayed in the poster.

i. _____

ii. _____

2 marks

b. According to the text on the poster, what type of organisational structure was suggested for the Great Leap Forward?

2 marks

SECTION B- Revolution two

Instructions for Section B

Indicate on the front cover of this book the revolution you have chosen for Section B.
Answer the questions (Part 1 and Part 2) for this section.
You must **not** choose the same revolution for Section A and Section B.

Part 1

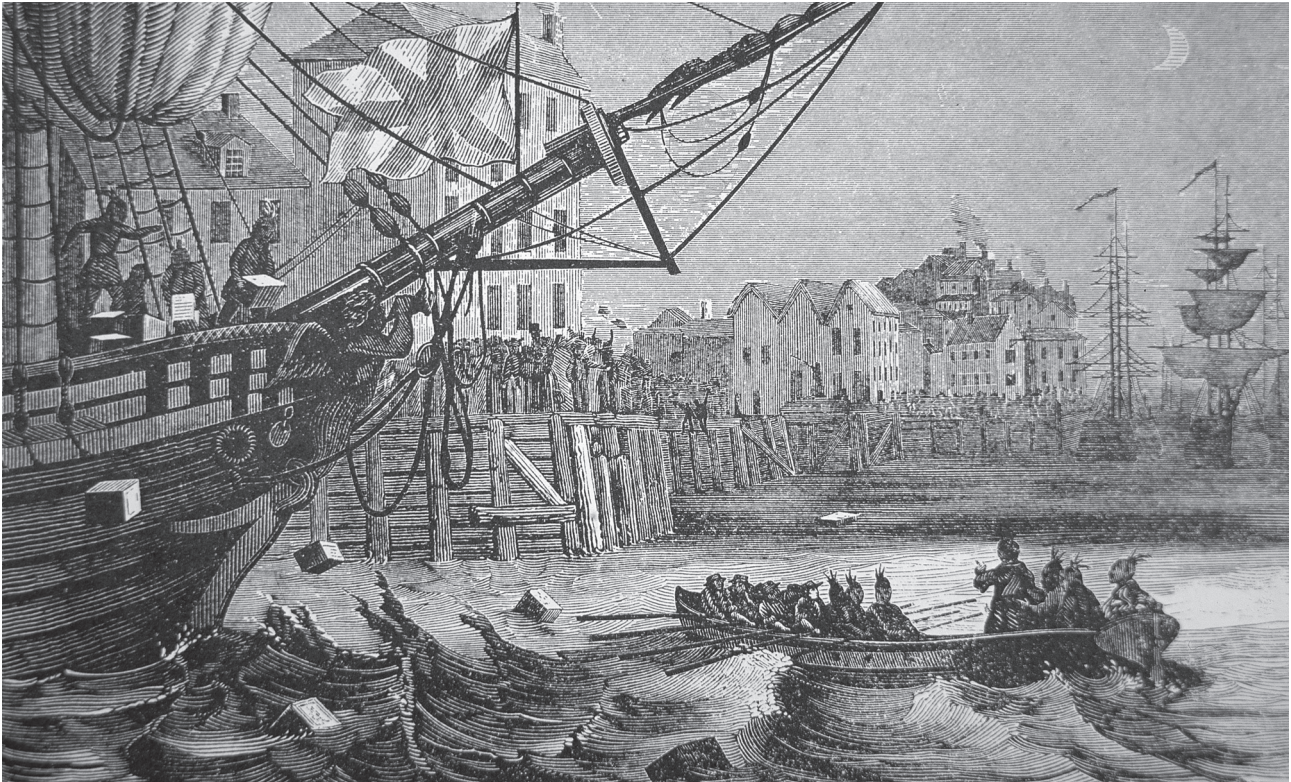
Revolution	Page
America	24
France	27
Russia	30
China	33
Part 2	36

America

Part 1 – Revolutionary ideas, leaders, movements and events

Question 1

America [1763-1776]



'The Boston Tea Party', 16 December 1773.

a. Identify the setting and the type of people shown in the painting.

2 marks

b. Describe the action being taken by the group on the larger ship.

2 marks

France

Part 1 – Revolutionary ideas, leaders, movements and events

Question 1

France [1781–4 August 1789]

From ‘The Tennis Court Oath’

The Assembly quickly decrees the following:

The National Assembly, considering that it has been called to establish the constitution of the realm, to bring about the regeneration of public order, and to maintain the true principles of monarchy; nothing may prevent it from continuing its deliberations in any place it is forced to establish itself; and, finally, the National Assembly exists wherever its members are gathered.

Decrees that all members of this assembly immediately take a solemn oath never to separate, and to reassemble wherever circumstances require, until the constitution of the realm is established and fixed upon solid foundations; and that said oath having been sworn, all members and each one individually confirm this unwavering resolution with his signature.

Bailly: I demand that the secretaries and I swear the oath first; which they do immediately according to the following formula:

We swear never to separate ourselves from the National Assembly, and to reassemble wherever circumstances require, until the constitution of the realm is drawn up and fixed upon solid foundations.

All the members swear the same oath between the hands of the president.

Gazette Nationale, ou Le Monituer universel, trans. Laura Mason in Laura Mason and Tracey Rizzo, eds., *The French Revolution: A Document Collection* (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1999). 60-61.

a. What, according to the extract, had the National Assembly been originally called to establish?

2 marks

b. What did the Oath require assembly members to do?

2 marks

Russia

Part 1 – Revolutionary ideas, leaders, movements and events

Question 1

Russia [1905–October 1917]

Lenin’s Call to Power

...

With all my might I urge comrades to realise that everything now hangs by a thread; that we are confronted by problems which are not to be solved by conferences or congresses (even congresses of Soviets), but exclusively by peoples, by the masses, by the struggle of the armed people.

The bourgeois onslaught of the Kornilovites show that we must not wait. We must at all costs, this very evening, this very night, arrest the government, having first disarmed the officer cadets, and so on.

We must not wait! We may lose everything!
Who must take power?

That is not important at present. Let the Revolutionary Military Committee do it, or “some other institution” which will declare that it will relinquish power only to the true representatives of the interests of the people, the interests of the army, the interests of the peasants, the interests of the starving.

All districts, all regiments, all forces must be mobilized at once and must immediately send their delegations to the Revolutionary Military Committee and to the Central Committee of the Bolsheviki with the insistent demand that under no circumstances should power be left in the hands of Kerensky and Co.... not under any circumstances; the matter must be decided without fail this very evening, or this very night.

...

The seizure of power is the business of the uprising; its political purpose will become clear after the seizure....

...It would be an infinite crime on the part of the revolutionaries were they to let the chance slip, knowing that the salvation of the revolution, the offer of peace, the salvation of Petrograd, salvation from famine, the transfer of the land to the peasants depend upon them.

The government is tottering. It must be given the death-blow at all costs.

relinquish = give up

a. What actions does Lenin call for?

2 marks

China

Part 1 – Revolutionary ideas, leaders, movements and events

Question 1

China [1898-1949]

The present upsurge of the peasant movement is a colossal event. In a very short time, in China’s central, southern and northern provinces, several hundred million peasants will rise like a mighty storm, like a hurricane, a force so swift and violent that no power, however great, will be able to hold it back. They will smash all the trammels that bind them and rush forward along the road to liberation. They will sweep all the imperialists, warlords, corrupt officials, local tyrants and evil gentry into their graves. Every revolutionary party and every revolutionary comrade will be put to the test, to be accepted or rejected as they decide. There are three alternatives. To march at their head and lead them? To trail behind them, gesticulating and criticizing? Or to stand in their way and oppose them? Every Chinese is free to choose, but events will force you to make the choice quickly.

Mao Zedong, ‘Report on an Investigation of the Peasant Movement in Hunan’ (March 1927), *Selected Works*, Vol. I, 23-24.

colossal = huge

trammels = restraints

gesticulating = making movements with your hands

a. What actions did Mao Zedong claim the peasants would take?

2 marks

b. According to Mao, what alternatives confronted the rest of the population as a consequence of the peasant movement?

2 marks

Part 2 – Creating a new society

Question 2

Write a short essay in the space provided on the essay topic for the revolution you have chosen for Section B. You must write on the revolution you have chosen for Section B.

America [1776-1789]

Gordon Wood claims that by 1789 the Americans had become the ‘most liberal, the most democratic, the most commercially minded and the most modern people in the world.’

Do you agree with this view? Use evidence to support your answer.

20 marks

France [5 August 1789-1795 Dissolution of the convention]

‘The actions and character of the Jacobin government prove that revolutionaries always compromise their ideals in the hope of maintaining power.’

Do you agree with this view of the French revolutionaries? Use evidence to support your answer.

20 marks

Russia [November 1917-1924 death of Lenin]

‘The New Economic Policy was an absolute compromise of Bolshevik ideals and illustrated Lenin’s desire to maintain power, for power’s sake.’

Do you agree with this view of the Bolshevik revolutionaries? Use evidence to support your answer.

20 marks

China [1949-1976 Death of Mao]

‘After his death, even the Chinese Communist Party was critical of Mao, claiming his personal political power had led to violence and chaos.’

Do you agree with the assessment that Mao’s personal political power led to violence and chaos in China?

20 marks

