



AS HISTORY

The British Empire, c1857–1967

**Component 1J The High Water Mark of the British
Empire, c1857–1914**

7041/1J

Wednesday 15 May 2024

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

MATERIALS

For this paper you must have:

- **an AQA 16-page answer book.**

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INSTRUCTIONS

- **Use black ink or black ball-point pen.**
- **Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The PAPER REFERENCE is 7041/1J.**
- **Answer TWO questions.**
In SECTION A answer Question 01.
In SECTION B answer EITHER Question 02 OR Question 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.**

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO

SECTION A**Answer Question 01.****EXTRACT A**

By 1900, for the first time since 1857, the British government was confronted by widespread discontent from different groups in India. The years 1906 and 1907 witnessed the growth of small terrorist cells which attracted plenty of university graduates. Nationalist newspapers publicised the idea that Indian self-government could only be achieved by violent revolution and what followed was a sequence of strikes, riots and stonings of British officials. Terrorist outrages, an irresponsible and hostile popular press, and the emergence of a body of nationalists who wished to seize power violently from the British, created the impression that, in 1914, the Raj was more unsafe than at any time since 1857.

Adapted from L James, Raj: The Making and Unmaking of British India, 1997

EXTRACT B

From the point of view of imperial security, the British government's policy in India was a great success after 1900. Britain made its colonial control tolerable enough to restrict opposition to its rule. This came mainly through the granting of timely concessions to win the cooperation of moderate nationalists. The Morley–Minto reforms announced in 1909 were welcomed by the moderates in the Congress Party, and extremists were suppressed through deportation. Only very rarely between 1900 and 1914 did opposition break into armed insurrection or violence. There were bombs and assassinations, and the occasional riot in India, but such violent resistance was exceptional.

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Adapted from B Porter, *The Lion's Share: A Short History of British Imperialism 1850–2004*, 2004

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of the strength of British rule in India in the years 1900 to 1914? [25 marks]

[Turn over]

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SECTION B

Answer EITHER Question 02 OR Question 03.

EITHER

02

‘In the years 1872 to 1885, Gladstone’s governments did more to expand and protect the British Empire than Disraeli’s government.’

**Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.
[25 marks]**

OR

03

‘In the years 1867 to 1890, Britain’s involvement in Africa was driven by economic interests.’

**Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.
[25 marks]**

END OF QUESTIONS

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