

A-level HISTORY

Component 2F The Sun King: Louis XIV, France and Europe, 1643–1715

Friday 7 June 2024

Afternoon

Time allowed: 2 hours 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 7042/2F.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- 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:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a memoir intended for publication to instruct his future heir, by Louis XIV, March 1661. Louis reflects on the lessons he had learned from Cardinal Mazarin.

Source A not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

Source A is written by Louis XIV, giving advice to his future heir. It details his decision to limit the power of the parlements and states that a King needs eyes and ears in the provinces and that he alone should be in a position of power.

Source B

From a private diary entry of a Dutchman at the French court, March 1661. 1661 was a time of peace between France and the Dutch Republic.

Source B not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

Source B is a diary entry written by a Dutchman in France. He writes that Louis XIV entrusted only a small number of advisors at the beginning of the personal reign, that the King has deviated from the government style of Mazarin and that it is clear France is prospering.

Source C

From a private letter written to marquis de Sourdis by a doctor in Blois, 1661.
Marquis de Sourdis was a frequent guest at the court of Louis XIV.

Source C not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

Source C is a private letter written by a doctor in Blois to the marquis de Sourdis. The source details the desolation in Blois following the end of the Franco-Spanish War. The source states that the people of Blois feel desperate and abandoned by those in Paris.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the beginning of Louis XIV's personal reign in 1661.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'In the years 1665 to 1675, Colbert's most significant economic reforms were those promoting trade and commerce.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

'In the years 1685 to 1695, Louis XIV's religious policies strengthened his authority in France.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4

To what extent was the Treaty of Utrecht a disaster for France?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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