



GCE AS/A level

1232/04

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 4

Change and Conflict in Wales, c. 1900-1918

P.M. THURSDAY, 22 May 2014

1 hour 20 minutes

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ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 2**IN-DEPTH STUDY 4****Change and Conflict in Wales, c. 1900-1918**

Answer either question 1 or question 2.

QUESTION 1

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

Tensions and frustrations have become unbearable for the gentlemen of Wales. The proceedings of the police courts are littered with terrifying accounts of vicious assaults and violent behaviour that take place among the commonest sort of people. The Welsh steal, rob, beat and cheat their way through life giving no regard to moral or religious concerns. In the current religious climate one would think their behaviour would improve, but the positive effect is grossly exaggerated by the religious press.

[Lord Critchley, a gentleman farmer and landowner from Carmarthenshire, writing in a private letter to a friend in England (1904)]

Source B

In spite of the protection offered by the police, the terror-stricken suffragettes were hustled and knocked about, and to protect them the police eventually rushed them into one of the rooms behind the building. One of the women shouted "We will go on doing it until we get the vote". A man in the crowd shouted "You are in Wales now, we will show you how we deal with suffragettes!" It is doubtful if these two 'ladies' will ever again try to push their misguided ideas in this part of Wales.

[From an article in the *Carnarvon and Denbigh Herald*, a local newspaper which did not support women's rights (1912)]

Source C

South Wales was a satisfied country before 1914 – content with itself, happy with the new wealth that was enriching its community life as well as its pockets. In this period the people lived relatively happily with their new-found cultural diversity and economic vibrancy.

[K.O. Morgan, an academic historian specialising in Welsh history, writing in his general history book, *Wales 1880-1980* (1980)]

Source D

The deplorable state of life in South Wales can be summed up by one shocking experience when I visited the 'sheds' that pass for houses in Merthyr. In many of the sheds there were dead bodies, laid out in the bedroom to the right of the door. There was not much room for anything else. In one of the huts I visited I saw another dead body in the front room and the widow inside had four siblings and a lodger for whom she had to find space.

[From an article in *Welsh Outlook*, a left wing magazine, sympathetic to Welsh nationalism (1911)]

Source E

It is true that houses in the area are in need of attention, but a closer inspection of the general conditions leaves one with the clear view that the housing issue isn't a problem, it is rather the unhygienic practices of the people themselves. On the whole I found the housing situation to be good and rents affordable and reasonable.

[From an official government report on the medical condition of the people of the Rhondda Valleys (1913)]

Source F

I asked the beggar how he was able to look at people who went past him when the board he was carrying said he had lost his sight. He asked me what the board actually said and I told him. On it being read to him, he said, "Here's a pretty mess. I've taken out some other chap's board because I'm really deaf and dumb."

[From an article in the *Carmarthenshire Weekly Reporter*, a local newspaper, reporting on the problem of begging in Carmarthen town (1907)]

- (a) What does the author of Source A mean by the phrase 'In the current religious climate'? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How significant was public disorder in Wales in this period? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that South Wales was prosperous in this period? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are Sources A, E and F in understanding change in Wales, 1900-1914? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

QUESTION 2

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

Despite numerous strikes and disturbances, the mining towns and villages of South Wales have developed a unique, vibrant culture that is worlds apart from the grim picture presented by the trade unions. Fierce community loyalties hold these mining villages together, their splendid choral singing, their pride in the local boy who 'makes good', their avid demand for education and their deep loyalty to the local rugby team. However, it is also an area where a climate of conflict always threatens this social harmony.

[From an editorial comment entitled *The threat of Unionism*, published in the *Oxford Gazette*, a right wing newspaper (1910)]

Source B

My pride in being in the company of such men could not be put into words. To be seen returning home with all the big miners, stained by dust and toil was a thing that had filled my imagination as an achievement of a lifetime. My wish was granted. I was seen by most of my friends in my black clothes with my black face and pit lamp. My mother smiled at my comical appearance as I went into the house. 'God help us', she said laughing 'He's as proud as a dog with two tails.'

[Joseph Keating, describing his life in the valleys of South Wales in his book of recollections, *My struggle for life* (1946)]

Source C

The immigrants coming into Wales are often not of a very desirable character. They comprise a considerable proportion of more or less irresponsible people of disorderly habits who do not at first make desirable citizens.

[From an official government report, based on evidence given by forty Welsh miners on the effects of immigration on South Wales (1914)]

Source D

The negative results of immigration on Wales have been exaggerated. With immigration, doors opened and many cultural and educational advancements were made possible.

[G.A. Williams, a Marxist historian specialising in the history of Wales, writing in his general survey of Welsh history, *When was Wales?* (1985)]

Source E

Not one of the Liberal politicians offered a word of sympathy to the old mother and father who were crying in their lonely home in Llanelli for the Welsh lads who were shot through the heart. Not one of them! They talked of Welsh nationalism when they wanted votes, but when it came to doing anything for the workers they were not nationalists, they were not even Welshmen. They were simply party politicians intent upon keeping the workers in their places.

[James Keir Hardie, a left wing politician and MP for Merthyr Tydfil, in a speech in the Town Hall in Merthyr (1911)]

Source F

The moving of the spirit among the congregation was extraordinary. Without a word of warning a cry came from one man, who fell into a faint of some kind. Mr Roberts asked the people not to be disturbed, but to pray for the man. That was done and in silent prayer and expectation the congregation awaited the recovery of the man. While this was going on the man's brother became a convert and the man who fainted shouted "God is here, God is here."

[John Davies, a local newspaper reporter from Cardigan, describing his experiences during a revival meeting in his book of recollections, *Revival Spirit* (1908)]

- (a) What does the author of Source A mean by the phrase 'an area where a climate of conflict always threatens this social harmony'? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How important was community identity in Wales in this period? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that immigration had a negative effect on Wales in this period? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are Sources A, E and F in understanding change in Wales, 1900-1914? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

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