

AS HISTORY

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

Component 2F The Sun King, 1643–1685

Tuesday 22 May 2018 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/2F.
- 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.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From Charles Perrault, 'Memoirs of My Life', published just before his death in 1703. Perrault was employed by Colbert as Secretary to one of Louis XIV's artistic academies from 1663.

When, in 1662, Colbert anticipated that he would be appointed Superintendent of the Royal Buildings, he began to make his plans. He believed that he needed to expand the role. Colbert wanted to complete the Louvre palace in Paris but also erect numerous grand and magnificent statues and triumphal arches to celebrate Louis' military glory. Colbert also realised that he would need to have countless medals struck to record Louis' great deeds – deeds which Colbert thought were bound to be great and worthy of fame. He planned for celebrations and entertainments fit for a great King. Great artists and writers would need to be employed to describe these monuments and deeds to impress people in other countries as well.

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Source B

From Jean Loret, 'Letter in verse' to his patron, the Duchesse de Nemours, a member of the royal family, published 1663. Subject to censorship, Loret wrote about contemporary events.

The King never ceases to cherish the beautiful arts he made to flourish
In his kingdom of France, he recognised especially the dance
Which gives grace and politeness to both people and nobility
A hundred times more charming than tournaments and combating
Which even as symbols so grand only upset the peace of the land.
In their place, balls and ballets, either serious or diverting
Make the fruits of peace enticing.

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To achieve all this, his majesty, by his supreme authority
Has created the Academy of Dance with the approval of parlement.
Thirteen expert dancers will enforce its Constitution,
And, like the masters of sculpture and of painting, will have privileges
Exemptions, fees, gratuities, concessions and immunities.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining Louis XIV's patronage of art and culture in the early 1660s?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2 'It was involvement in war that made France difficult to govern in 1643.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 'France's international position was greatly strengthened as a result of the War of Devolution in 1667–8.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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