



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
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 CENTER FOR DISTANCE & CONTINUING
 EDUCATION
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General Degree Examination in Arts (External) – 2014

(August 2015)

History VII (HG 7)

History of the British Commonwealth

Three Hours Only.

Answer **FOUR** questions only, selecting at least **ONE** from **EACH** part.

Illustrate your answers with sketchmaps where appropriate.

Candidates will be penalized for illegible handwriting.

The total number of Questions in this paper is **Twelve (12)**.

Part I

1. "The foundations of the British empire were laid during the Tudor period." Analyse.
2. Assess the importance of religious factors in the English colonization of the seventeenth century.
3. Discuss the significance of the American Revolution in the history of the British Empire.
4. What were the causes for the decline of the importance of the West Indies in the 19th century?

Part II

5. Explain the circumstances which led to the federation of the British North American Colonies (Canada) in 1867.
6. What were the novel features of the 'New Imperialism' of the last quarter of the 19th century?

7. Discuss the importance of the convicts and the squatters in the growth of Australian colonies.
8. Explain the importance of the Boer wars in the history of South Africa.

Part III

9. Explain the main stages in the development of the concept of Dominion Status.
10. "The Donoughmore Constitution was a main landmark in the history of the British Commonwealth." Explain your views.
11. Discuss the main features of the British foreign policy during the period 1919-1939.
12. Write short historical notes on any two of the following.
 - (a) The Paris Treaty of 1763
 - (b) The Stamp Act
 - (c) Lord Bentinck
 - (d) Sati practice