



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
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CENTER FOR DISTANCE & CONTINUING
EDUCATION
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General Degree Examination in Arts (External) – 2015

(August 2016)

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 sketch maps where appropriate.

Candidates will be penalized for illegible handwriting.

The total number of questions in this paper is **twelve (12)**.

Part I

1. What were the main objectives of the English overseas expansion in the sixteenth century?
2. Discuss the significance of the role of the Elizabeth I in British colonial activities.
3. How accurate is the statement that the Old Colonial System was one which did not serve the interests of the colonies but was beneficial only to the mother country.
4. Examine the importance of the American Revolution.

Part II

5. Examine the significance of the colonial factor in the relations between Great Britain and France from 1763 up to 1815.
6. Discuss the significance of the Durham Report in the history of Canada.
7. Describe the contribution of Edward Gibbon Wakefield in the colonization of Australia.

8. Discuss the influence of British free trade policy on its empire.

Part III

9. 'The mid-Victorian period marked the zenith of the British Empire.' How far do you agree with the statement?

10. Explain the significance of the Statute of Westminster in British imperial history.

11. Trace the developments in the Indian Nationalist Movement during the period 1900 to 1947.

12. Write short historical notes on any two of the following.

(a) The Navigation Laws

(b) The Anti-Slavery movement

(c) The Peace Agreement of 1919

(d) Winston Churchill