ÉPREUVE SUR DOSSIER

PREMIÈRE PARTIE

Vous procédez en anglais à la mise en relation des documents suivants, en vous appuyant sur la consigne ci-dessous :

Present and compare the channels of political protest as they are shown to operate in relation to British institutions.

Document A: an extract from Edmund Burke’s 'Speech on Conciliation with America' (1775)


In this Character of the Americans, a love of freedom is the predominating feature, which marks and distinguishes the whole: and as an ardent is always a jealous affection, your Colonies become suspicious, restive, and untractable, whenever they see the least attempt to wrest from them by force, or shuffle from them by chicane, what they think the only advantage worth living for. This fierce spirit of Liberty is stronger in the English Colonies probably than in any other people of the earth; and this from a great variety of powerful causes; which, to understand the true temper of their minds, and the direction which this spirit takes, it will not be amiss to lay open somewhat more largely.

First, the people of the Colonies are descendents of Englishmen. England, Sir, is a nation, which still I hope respects, and formerly adored, her freedom. The Colonists emigrated from you, when this part of your character was most predominant; and they took this bias and direction the moment they parted from your hands. They are therefore not only devoted to Liberty, but to Liberty according to English ideas, and on English principles. [...] It happened, you know, Sir, that the great contests for freedom in this country were from the earliest times chiefly upon the question of Taxing. Most of the contests in the ancient commonwealths turned primarily on the right of election of magistrates; or on the balance among the several orders of the state. The question of money was not with them so immediate. But in England it was otherwise. On this point of Taxes the ablest pens, and most eloquent tongues, have been exercised; the greatest spirits have acted and suffered. In order to give the fullest satisfaction concerning the importance of this point, it was only necessary for those who in argument defended the excellence of the English constitution, to insist on this privilege of granting money as a dry point of fact, and to prove, that the right had been acknowledged in ancient parchments, and blind usages, to reside in a certain body called an House of Commons. They went much further; they attempted to prove, and they succeeded, that in theory it ought to be so, from the particular nature of a House of Commons, as an immediate representative of the people.

Edmund Burke, 'Speech on Conciliation with America', March 22, 1775.


**DOCUMENT C**

**Audio document:** Nick Clegg, “Power to the People” (19 May 2010)

Broadcast on Skynews – Extracted from Youtube.com
From 0’21’’ à 2’47’’.
The barriers were going up. Down George IV Bridge and all along Princes Street, workmen were busy putting them in place. Road repairs and building projects had been put on hold, scaffolding removed so it couldn't be taken apart and used as missiles. Postboxes had been sealed shut and some shops boarded up. [...] Police vans cruised the central streets, metal grilles fixed to their windscreens. More vans were parked out of sight in unlit side roads. The cops on board wore riot gear and laughed among themselves, swapping stories from previous engagements. A few veterans had seen action during the last wave of miners' strikes. Others tried to match these memories with stories of soccer battles, poll tax demos, the Newbury bypass. They exchanged rumours about the expected size of the Italian anarchist contingent.

'Genoa toughened them up.'

'Just the way we like it, eh, lads?'

Bravado and nerves and camaraderie. The talk faltering whenever a radio crackled into life.

The uniformed police working the train station wore bright yellow jackets. Here, too, barriers were being erected. They were blocking exits, so there remained a single route in and out. Some officers carried cameras with which to record the faces of arrivals from the London trains. Special carriages had been laid on for the protesters, which made it easy to identify them. Not that such skills were really needed: they sang songs, carried rucksacks, wore badges and T-shirts and wristbands. They carried flags and banners, were dressed in baggy trousers, camouflage jackets, hiking boots. Intelligence reports said busloads had already left from the south of England. First estimates had stated fifty thousand. The latest guess was north of a hundred thousand. Which, added to the summer tourists, would swell Edinburgh's population nicely.

Somewhere in the city there was a rally signalling the start of G8 Alternatives, a week-long series of marches and meetings. More police would be there. If needed, some of these would be on horseback. Plenty of dog-handlers, too, including four on Waverley Station's concourse. The plan was simple: visible strength. Let any potential troublemakers know what they'd be dealing with. Visors and truncheons and handcuffs; horses and dogs and patrol vans. Force of numbers.

Tools of the trade.

Tactics.