

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS60

Alternative O: Oliver Cromwell: Hero or Villain?

Friday 23 June 2006 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS60.
- Answer **all** questions.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part (c).

Answer **all** questions.

1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Cromwell worked to achieve two goals, labelled by historians ‘conservative’ and ‘radical’. The conservative goal was to heal the breach of 1648–1649, not by restoring the monarchy, but by conserving or restoring as much as possible of what remained of the traditional political structure. The desire
5 was to push ahead with the radical goal of a godly reformation. The nation was to be reformed to extinguish sin and encourage godliness by means of legislation and spiritual leadership. In pursuing this goal, Cromwell looked for support from the godly minority who had already received God’s message and had modified their own lives accordingly. He
10 saw the army as a reservoir of support for this programme. In pursuing this second, more radical goal, Cromwell believed that he was doing the work of God.

Adapted from P GAUNT, *Oliver Cromwell*, 1996

Source B Adapted from Cromwell’s speech to the Second Protectorate Parliament, 17 September 1656.

When we found that the Cavaliers would not be quiet there was a little thing invented, which was the Major-Generals, to have a little inspection upon the people. Even though some men are angry about the Major-Generals I would use them again if they were needed. It hath been more
5 effective in reducing vice and the settling of religion than anything done these fifty years. I will remain faithful to the Major-Generals, notwithstanding the envy and slander of foolish men. I say it hath been a justifiable design.

Source C Whereas before Cromwell had tried to return very quickly to policies of conciliation and constitutional respectability, in January 1655 he did not do so, and indeed it was to be a long time before he recovered his appetite for ‘healing and settling’. From 1655 Cromwell’s authoritarianism became
5 more dominant than at any other time in his life. The explanation for this is fairly straightforward in that it was now more difficult than ever for him to get wide political support for the godly cause.

Adapted from B COWARD, *Oliver Cromwell*, 1991

- (a) Use **Source A** and your own knowledge.

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about Cromwell's approach to settlement in the years 1653 to 1658. *(10 marks)*

- (b) Use **Source B** and your own knowledge.

How useful is **Source B** as evidence of Cromwell's attitude to the rule of the Major-Generals? *(10 marks)*

- (c) Use **Sources A, B and C** and your own knowledge.

'The most important reason for Cromwell's failure to heal and settle was his desire for a godly reformation.'

Assess the validity of this view with reference to the years 1653 to 1658. *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: P GAUNT, *Oliver Cromwell*, Blackwell Publishing Ltd., 1996

Question 1 Source C: B COWARD, *Oliver Cromwell*, Pearson Education Limited, 1991

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