

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS6B

Alternative B: Henry IV of France: A Modern King?

Thursday 12 June 2008 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 black ink or black 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 HS6B.
- 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 will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise relevant information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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 While the towns quickly returned to normality, the countryside continued to experience unrest well into Henry's reign. The Croquant movement extended from Brittany to the south. These uprisings had many features in common. The major motivation was the heavy burden of royal taxation. Hostility to the nobility was not paramount in the peasant movements, but revealed anger that many of the local nobles were not behaving as good seigneurs ought to. In early 1594, armies of peasants armed with pikes, and led by men with extensive military experience, took control of the countryside. The attempt in 1597 to impose the *pancarte* led to riots by the urban poor in a number of towns, which helped to convince the king to abandon the tax. Henry IV became immensely popular among the peasants. One reason was his famous remark, that he would see that there is not a peasant without a chicken in his stewpot. Word spread rapidly and Henry became known as *le roi poule au pot*.

Adapted from F J BAUMGARTNER, *France in the Sixteenth Century*, 1995

Source B Far from creating 'a state within a state', the Edict of Nantes only confirmed the Huguenots' dependence on the monarch. In this respect the Huguenots were fortunate that Henry never withdrew his concessions, but endeavoured instead to set an example of toleration and even-handedness. In his personal appointments, the King took care to show equal favour to Huguenots and Catholics; in the bestowal of patronage he was impartial. As a consequence, disaffected noblemen were never able to rally behind them more than a handful of religious malcontents. In short, therefore, if the Edict of Nantes settled the religious affairs of France, it did so only because the King wished it to be so.

Adapted from M RADY, *France: Renaissance, Religion and Recovery, 1483–1610*, 1996

Source C The legend of Henry IV was constructed in his lifetime pictorially as well as in print. Paintings and engravings showed the first Bourbon king as ancient heroes such as Hercules, Mars, Perseus and Alexander. One depicted him as Perseus rescuing Andromeda (representing France) from the Catholic League. Towards the end of the reign, benign and patriarchal images were substituted which showed Henry in swaggering hat and plume, with satirical glance, eagle nose and turned up moustache. Engravings of a more benevolent Henry IV proliferated after his assassination in 1610, accompanied by a new flood of writings in praise of him as a hero-king.

Adapted from JH SALMON, 'The Afterlife of Henry of Navarre', 1997

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the reasons for unrest in the countryside in France in the early years of Henry IV's reign. *(10 marks)*

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence of religious division in France during the reign of Henry IV? *(10 marks)*

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

'Image was more important than reality in explaining Henry IV's success as King of France from 1589 to 1610.'
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Source B: Adapted from M RADY, *France: Renaissance, Religion and Recovery, 1483–1610*, Hodder & Stoughton, 1996. Reproduced by permission of Hodder & Stoughton Ltd.

Source C: JH SALMON, 'The Afterlife of Henry of Navarre', *History Today Vol. 47(10), October 1997*. Reproduced by kind permission of the copyright holder, *History Today*

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