
A-level HISTORY

The Age of the Crusades, c1071–1204

Paper 1A

Specimen 2014

Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is **1A**.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the other questions answered.
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Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

Economic and social problems touched the knightly class as a whole and taught it to look on the crusade as a way out. There was a crisis in the agricultural economy of Southern France and Italy. Recurring famines, due to production failing to keep pace with the rising population, were due to the custom of dividing an inheritance between all the heirs, producing ever smaller holdings. The position began to improve when the custom was discontinued and Northern France developed the system of primogeniture, the right of the eldest son to succeed to the whole inheritance. Younger sons had to look after themselves, whether by going into the Church or by taking up a military career. Obviously, the crusade acted as a safety valve for a knightly class, which was constantly growing in numbers. It is within this context that we must see an individual's love of adventure or hunger for loot.

Adapted from H E Mayer, *The Crusades*, 1990**Extract B**

Reading the charters that have survived, the picture is one of families making sacrifices in disposing of property to provide cash for departing crusaders. There is very little evidence to support the proposition that the crusade was an opportunity for spare sons to relieve their families' burden or for landless knights seeking to make a fortune for themselves overseas. It was also common for several members of a family to go – Baldwin of Guines took his four sons – and frequently it was the senior rather than the junior members who went. The disposal of assets to invest in the fairly remote possibility of settlement after a 2000-mile march to the East would have been a stupid gamble. The odds could have been lessened simply by waiting until after the agricultural depression had passed and the flood of properties on the market had subsided. But this was an age when religion benefited from extravagant generosity and it makes much more sense to suppose that they were moved by idealism.

Adapted from J Riley Smith, *The Crusades*, 1996

Extract C

Many knights relied for their livelihoods on decisions made about war and peace by lords to whom they were tied. Great lords, such as the crusade leaders, had to raise armies, and the only means at their disposal was from among the traditional 'feudal' body of knights to whom they were bound in relationships based on marriage, conditions of land tenure, neighbourliness or simple friendship.

Urban II's recruitment method was to approach the heads of noble houses who, when they took the cross, recruited from among the warriors who were dependent on them. In theory, taking the cross remained voluntary, but it was natural for large numbers of feudal dependants to accompany their lords on crusade. Peer or kinship pressure was also a factor. Joinville, by his own account, took the cross with other lords, among them his cousin, the count of Saarbruck which suggests that taking the cross worked through existing relationships.

Adapted from A Jotischky, *Crusading and the Crusader States*, 2004

0	1
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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to the reasons why knights went on Crusade.

[30 marks]

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0	2
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To what extent was effective leadership responsible for the establishment of the crusader states in the years 1096 to 1154?

[25 marks]

0	3
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To what extent was the rise of Islamic power in the Middle East in the years 1144 to 1187 due to the ideas of Jihad?

[25 marks]

0	4
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‘Attempts to recover from the disaster of 1187 failed because of the disunity of the crusaders.’

Assess the validity of this view with reference to the years 1187 to 1204.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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