

Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2019

Pearson Edexcel GCE In History (8HI0) Paper 2B

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Introduction

AS paper 2B, which covers the options of the German Reformation (2B.1) and the Dutch Revolt (2B.2) again saw responses from across the ability range. The paper is divided into two sections. Section A contains a compulsory two-part question each based around one source and assesses analysis and evaluation skills (AO2). Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth (AO1) by targeting five second-order concepts – cause, consequence, change/continuity, similarity/difference and significance.

In general, candidates again found Section A, the compulsory two-part source question, the more challenging largely because many were not clear what was meant by 'value' and 'weight' in the context of source analysis and evaluation (AO2). In question (a), some candidates still waste time by attempting to address how the source is not valuable to the enquiry which is not relevant to this question. More generally, the detailed knowledge that is required to add contextual material to support and/or challenge points derived from the sources was often absent. Also, some candidates continue to make generic comments on the provenance of the sources though more, taking their nature, origin and purpose into consideration, were able to evaluate the use of the sources to the enquiry in each question.

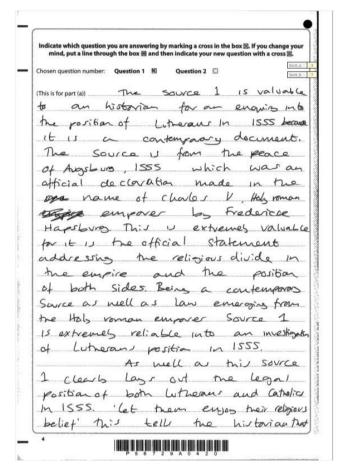
Section B, the section in which candidates were given a choice of three essays in order to assess understanding of the period in depth (AO1), still tends to be done better. There were few wholly descriptive answers with most candidates attempting to engage analytically with the demands of the questions. The majority of answers were soundly structured and clearly expressed. They also made some effort to come to a judgement. Lack of detailed knowledge of the material continues to be an issue for some as is a tendency not to engage fully enough with the specific focus of the question. Also, there is still a significant number of answers which lack balance in their response to the questions – candidates are reminded that, at this level, there is a requirement that as well as developing the stated factor in essay questions, they also require some development of a counter-case.

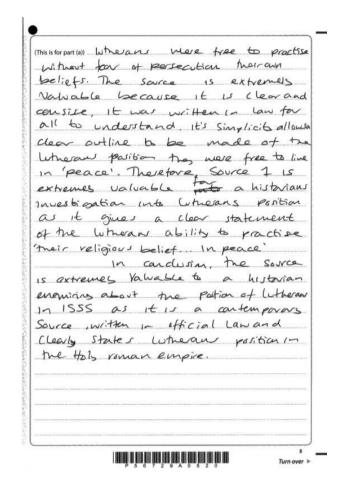
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Most candidates were able to identify from the source that the position of Lutherans in Germany in 1555 was significantly better than it had been thanks to the Peace of Augsburg. There were some good responses which were able to develop the source's establishment of

the principle of 'cuius region, eius religio'. Weaker responses, though aware of the historical context, often paraphrased the source. Also, a number clearly mixed up the Peace of Augsburg with the Augsburg Confessions could not be rewarded for that part of their answer as it is not the focus of part a responses.

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8HI0 2B Q01 b

There were some very good responses to this question. These were able to place the source in its historical context following the Diets of Worms and Speyer and in the light of Charles' renewed concentration on Luther following his problems elsewhere in his Empire. Many also considered the both the Cardinal's position as a Legate and his tone in addressing the Emperor at this vital time in addressing the source's value to the enquiry. Weaker candidates were able to identify the hostility of the Church towards Lutheranism in its content but were largely unable to provide any knowledge of its context. Comments on the source's reliability tended to be generic and/or based on questionable assumptions.

(This is for part (b)) Source Z holds a lot of weight for an investigation into the attitude of towards the capualic Church towards lumeranism. The provenance of the Source shows the letter is contemporary within the 1530's. It also reupals that coordinal campeogoio the witer was the popes envoy. This is hugel important as the pope, as the head of the catholic church, influenced and encouraged the attitudes of the catholic church throughout the world. This means that, the source contains the opinions and the orders of Pope Leo X at the time, \$ 1530. me provenance also tells us that the source was written before the Diet of Augsburg in April 1530 where Luther and Zwindi present their views to charles V. The pope is influencies the unpower before the Diet creating a predudice in advance ensuring Lithers destruction, or so he hopes. Therefore the provenance of the source remeals it has a lot of meight for an enquire into catholic attitudes

7 Turn over

(This is for part (b)) The coordinal goes on to Tweater Comeranism as a whole with a variety of purishments. This gives the source neight in that it proves me catholic churches attitude was so strans they wanted to eradicate Lutheranism. He states he will excommunicate them if I have to' This u intrestins for two resons. Firstly to excommunicate is to condemn and he theatens all to ho preach letheranism with it, martia luther had been examination on Januars 3rd 1521 but the hadrit worked in preventis the movement That the church 15 willing to excommunicate so many shows their attitudes have broned to panic and anger as two threaten, what thes believe, their souls. Seconds, 'If I have to' this implies that perhaps the camplic attitude was flippant or no cholant, Campeggio believes that he want have to excommunicate them as the will return to the catholic church at the move typeat of excommunication. Therefore, the source from meight because it

7um over >

(This is for part (b)) to lutreranism in the 1530's as it is written by the paper representation at the brue and is contemporars. The source steelf continues to give useful insight into catrolic attitudes to lutheranism giving the source more weight in the enquires coordinal Campegoio callo lutherans 'scounted immediates revealing the catholic attitude to the wheavirm is one of disdain and disgret. Their is no according of wheravim and the catholic shurch is struckly against luther teachings. He also states that they are 'all herebics', the catholic Church had alreads denounced luther as a herebic in 1521, before that he had been accused by John Eck in 1917 of the Hussite hores but here is the first time me catholic Church announces lutheranismas a group religion not a small group of heretics. This addressing of lutherans as 'Scondels' and 'heretics' gives the source weight in the anguin as it shows clear that catholic attituder are horsh and disdainful.

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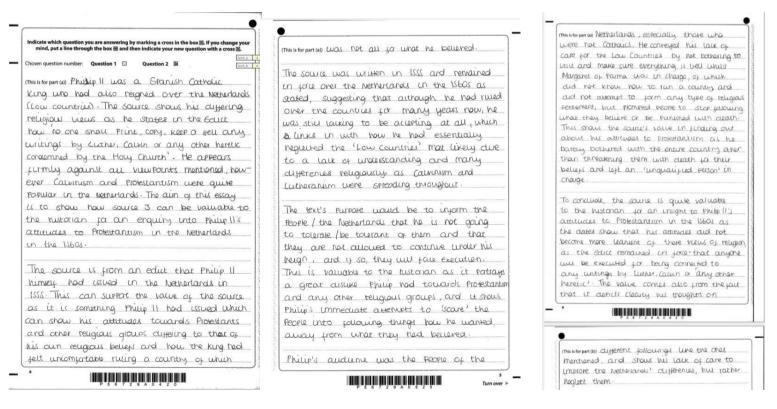
Examiner Comment

In Question (a), the candidate does make an attempt to engage with the content of the source and to make comments with regard to its utility. However, it has little with regard to own knowledge and was awarded a low L2 mark. In Question (b), inferences are made from the source with regard to the Catholic Church's attitude to Lutheranism and supported from the content. Some knowledge is appended with regards to the context of the letter and attempts made to consider the provenance with regard to Campeggio's position and intent. It was awarded a mid L3 mark.

8HI0_2B_Q02a

Most candidates were able to identify Philip II's hostility towards Protestantism in this source from his language and the severity of the punishments he outlined for dealing with heresy. Stronger candidates tended to have more detailed understanding of the historical context and were able to place it against the background Philip's more stern approach to combatting religious disobedience when compared to his father. Weaker answers tended to develop only lightly the content of the source without attempting to analyse its value. A significant number merely described the growth of Calvinism in the 1560s.

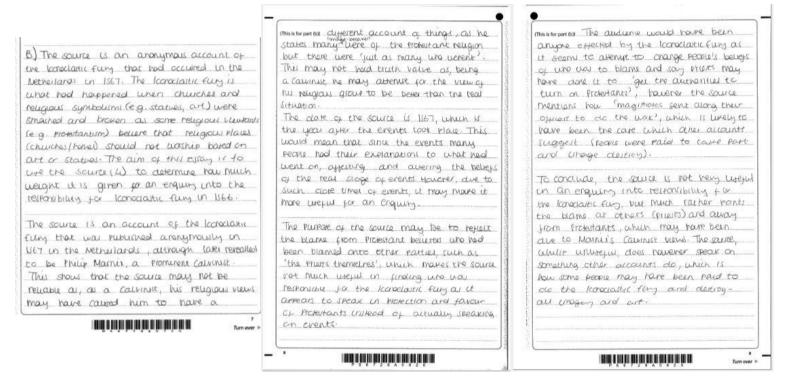
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8HI0_2B_Q02b

Good answers to this question clearly identified Marnix's Calvinism as a factor in assessing the weight of this source, using it to make valid inferences about his intentions. They were able to make inferences from the source's content about the likely responsibility for the Iconoclastic Fury, and use their contextual knowledge to develop this. Weaker candidates tended to take the source at face value. There was also a tendency to write quite a lot about the course of the Iconoclastic Fury which was not the focus of this question.

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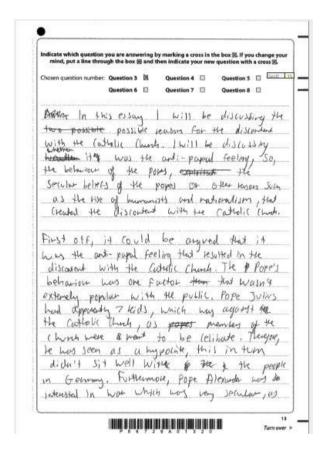
Examiner Comment

In Question (a), the candidate does make an inference from the source and supports this with a quote from the source content. There is some general background knowledge included and an attempt to consider the utility of the source. It was given a L2 mark. In Question (b), there is an attempt to consider the point of view of the author and, again, some knowledge of the background of the Iconoclastic Fury but the candidate does not engage convincingly with the source's content. It too was awarded a L2 mark.

8HI0_2B_Q03

This was a popular question and elicited some very good responses. Candidates generally knew a lot about anti-papalism in early sixteenth-century Germany though some were weaker in linking this directly to the growth of anti-clerical feeling. There were also a range of alternatives considered in the growth of discontent with the Catholic Church, some citing political and economic factors and others concentrating on the abuses of the Church more generally.

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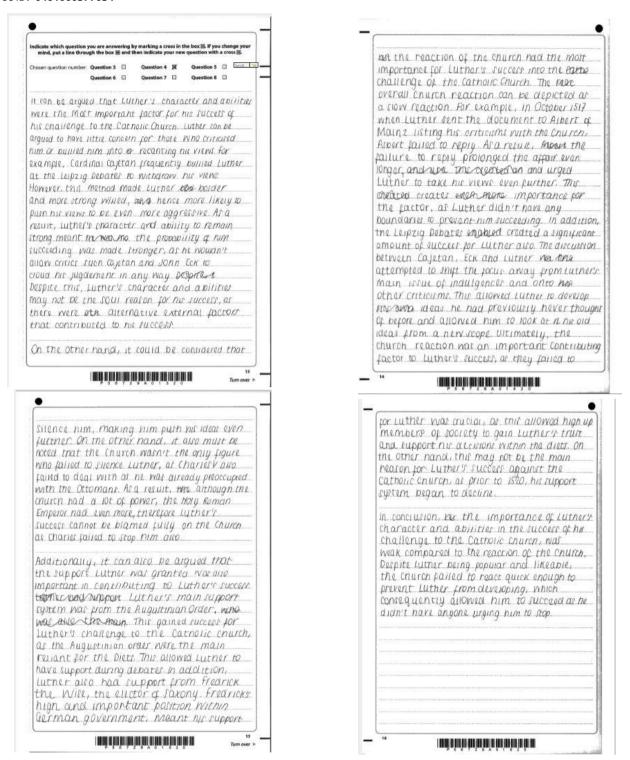
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Examiner Comment

This response includes evidence of anti-papal attitudes in Germany and of other relevant factors like the influence of humanism. Where it is less convincing is in its ability to link these more directly to the growth of anti-clericalism. It was awarded a high L3 mark.

8HI0_2B_Q04

The best answers to this question provided evidence of both Luther's character and his abilities in addressing the success of his challenge to the Catholic Church during this period. Some cited his debate with Eck to support his bravery and stubbornness for example, while also referencing his background as a scholar and/or his debating prowess to support his abilities. This was balanced by a range of alternative explanation for Luther's success, notably the printing press. Some candidates tended to gloss over the requirement to address Luther's character and abilities and scored less well. Some were imprecise of the dates in the question and described the Diet of Worms for example.



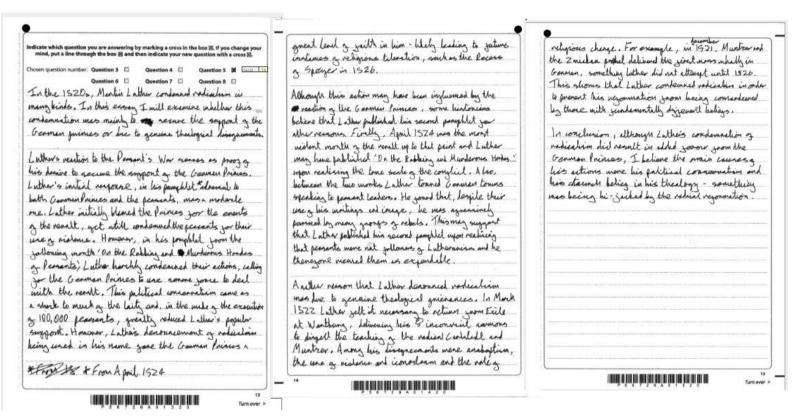
Examiner Comment

This response includes evidence of anti-papal attitudes in Germany and of other relevant factors like the influence of humanism. Where it is less convincing is in its ability to link these more directly to the growth of anti-clericalism. It was awarded a high L3 mark.

8HI0 2B Q05

There were fewer answers to this question but some good responses which clearly understood Luther's reasons for condemning radicalism and were able to evidence his clear need for princely support but also his genuine desire for a peaceful and gradual reformation, avoiding the theological radicalism of the Zwickau Prophets or Carlstadt for example.

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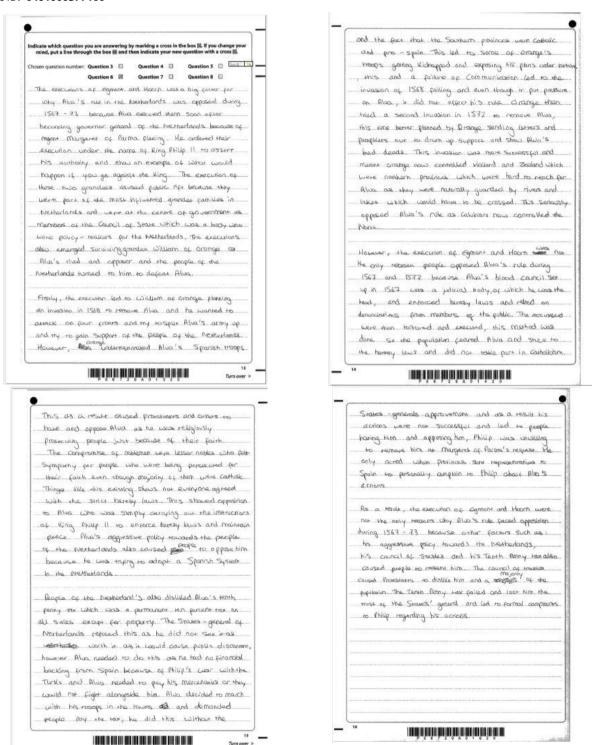
Examiner Comment

This mid L4 response addresses, in some detail, the differing reasons for Luther's condemnation of radicalism in the early 1520s, including consideration of his need for princely support. Though it does come to a judgement which is supported by the essay, this is more weakly substantiated.

8HI0_2B_Q06

This was a popular question and there were some good responses which confidently analysed the ways in which the executions of Egmont and Hoorn contributed to the growth of opposition to Alva's rule. Against this, many candidates argued that other actions taken by Alva were equally or more responsible, for example the Council of Troubles or the institution of the Tenth Penny. Weaker answers lacked precise knowledge of the period, particularly the executions of Egmont and Hoorn, and ranged beyond the dates specified in the question.

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Examiner Comment

This candidate does attempt to link the executions of Egmont and Hoorn to the growth in opposition to Alva's rule in the Netherlands before looking at alternative factors including the roles of the Council of Troubles and the Tenth Penny. However, a slight lack of conviction regarding the stated factor kept it at the bottom of L4.

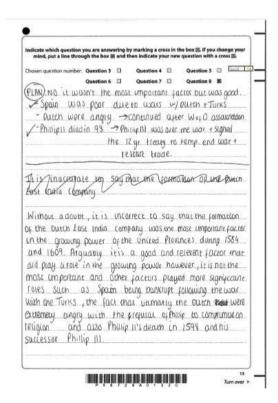
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There were few responses to this question and generally, candidates struggled to evidence the change or continuity in Spanish policy during this period with any degree of confidence. Many described the policy of Alva rather than that, for example, of Parma in the late 1570s and few scored beyond Level 2.

8HI0_2B_Q08

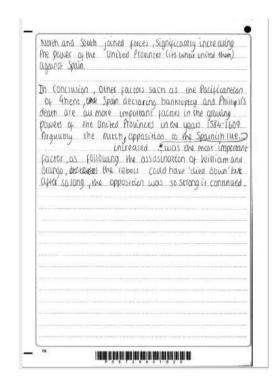
Though many candidates were able to discuss reasons the growing power of the United Provinces during this period in terms of Maurice's military successes or Spanish weaknesses, fewer were able to evidence the contribution of the main factor in the question, the establishment of the Dutch East India Company. That said, the better answers did, noting for example, not just the financial contribution made by the company's profits but also the manner in which it boosted the international status of the Republic.

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(one of the tichest civies in Europe) they had money and also forces and were able to keep depending than selves and also retake land that had been previously objection invaded by Spanish Hoops and therefore regain control over numerous of the law counsities without any major or significant threat from the Spanish. The United Provinces were camp to regain control of a majority of the law countries although were unsuccessful with Hohand or Leeland It can also be debated that the outch's anger towards base Spain was a more important factor in the growing power of the United Aguinces as after the 1580s, a large majority of people in the wetherlands apposed Spanish Rule. The opposition was so strongly held that even after the assassination of Nilliam of Glange, the Putch continued to lebel and demand for Phillip to compainise. The Spanish Rule had become so highly opposed due to me Tonth Penny Tax and events such as the Sackang of Antwerp-that the Northern and Southern plainces Living hadn't really seen eye to eye) Signed the Pacification of Gurhene Which saw them juin up in the sole aim or dealing with the Spanish Rule without the province , they also agreed to temporally put religious clisogreements on hold to achieve this. It also mean Spain had less support with the prosunces than they aid before as both the



Examiner Comment

The obvious weakness of this response is any real consideration of the role of the Dutch East India Company in the growing power of the Untied Provinces during the years 1584-1609. The candidate also drifts from the period in question on occasions. That said, it does have sufficient focus by looking at other significant factors, for a mid L3 mark

Paper Summary

Based on the performance on this paper therefore, candidates are offered this advice:

Section A – Question (a)

- Read the sources carefully with regard to the specific demands of the questions
- Prioritise making valid inferences relevant to the question using brief quotes to highlight your reasoning
- Back up these inferences by adding relevant contextual knowledge from beyond the source to explain or expand
- Move beyond generic or stereotypical comments on the nature, origin or purpose of the sources look at the specific stance and/or purpose of the writer
- Avoid writing about the deficiencies of the source when assessing its value –
 concentrate instead on what it adds to the enquiry

Section A - Question (b)

- Read the sources carefully with regard to the specific demands of the questions
- Prioritise making valid inferences relevant to the question using brief quotes to highlight your reasoning
- Back up these inferences by adding relevant contextual knowledge from beyond the source to explain, expand upon or challenge its evidence
- Be aware that the author is addressing a specific audience and purpose
- Try to distinguish between fact and opinion by using your contextual knowledge of the period
- In coming to a judgement, take account of the weight you may be able to give the author's evidence in the light of their position or purpose

• In assessing weight, it is perfectly permissible to consider what has been, perhaps, deliberately omitted from the source – however, simply stating that a source is limited because it does not cover other events or developments does not establish weight as no source can be comprehensive.

Section B

- Questions can be asked on any element of the Key Topics in the specification
- This is a Study in Depth so it is vital to have precise and detailed knowledge of the issues to score well you are required to have both range and depth in your answer to access the higher levels
- Questions can be asked by targeting any of the five second order concepts cause, consequence, continuity and change, similarity and difference, significance
- Pay full attention to the stated focus of the question aim to explain this fully before considering alternatives to give the answer balance and enable you to come to a judgement
- Be sure to respect the time frame in a question make sure that the material you use is both relevant and covers the chronology as fully as possible
- Try and show links between the issues raised in your answer, especially in coming to a judgement