

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE**

F981

HISTORY B

Historical Explanation – British History

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY 2010: Morning

DURATION: 1 hour 30 minutes

SUITABLE FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CANDIDATES

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR SUPPLIED MATERIALS:

8 page Answer Booklet

OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED:

None

READ INSTRUCTIONS OVERLEAF

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- This paper contains questions on the following four Options:
 - Lancastrians and Yorkists 1437–85
 - Tudor Finale: The Reign of Elizabeth I 1558–1603
 - Liberal Sunset: The Rise and Fall of ‘New Liberalism’ 1890–1922
 - The End of Consensus: Britain 1945–1990
- Each Option has two questions.
- Answer ONE question. Each question is in two parts. Answer BOTH parts of your chosen question.
- You should write in continuous prose and are reminded of the need for clear and accurate writing, including structure of argument, grammar, punctuation and spelling.
- Every question is marked out of 50.

LANCASTRIANS AND YORKISTS, 1437–85

Answer BOTH parts of your chosen question

Answer EITHER

1 The personal rule of Henry VI to 1450

(a) Why did the English struggle to keep their French possessions under Henry VI? [25]

(b) Why did the religious devotion of Henry VI cause problems for his kingship up to 1450? [25]

OR

2 The Wars of the Roses, 1455–85

(a) How can the important role played by Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick, be best explained? [25]

(b) Why did issues of lordship, affinity and ‘bastard feudalism’ become so important during the period 1455–85? [25]

TUDOR FINALE: THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH I 1558–1603

Answer **BOTH** parts of your chosen question

Answer **EITHER**

3 Catholics and Puritans: the Religious Settlement of 1558–9 and its aftermath

(a) Why did Puritans cause problems for Elizabeth? [25]

(b) How would you best explain the disappearance of the Catholic threat by 1603? [25]

OR

4 The problem of men and marriage

(a) Why did Elizabeth refuse to marry? [25]

(b) How would you best explain the rebellion of the Earl of Essex in 1601? [25]

**LIBERAL SUNSET: THE RISE AND FALL OF
'NEW LIBERALISM', 1890–1922**

Answer **BOTH** parts of your chosen question

Answer **EITHER**

5 The Liberal Reforms: 1906–14

(a) How would you best explain the emergence of New Liberalism by the early twentieth century? [25]

(b) Why was the Parliament Act passed in 1911? [25]

OR

6 The Problem of Ireland 1912–22

(a) Why was Home Rule an idea that no longer satisfied most Irish nationalists after 1914? [25]

(b) How would you best explain the outbreak of civil war in Ireland in 1922? [25]

THE END OF CONSENSUS: BRITAIN 1945–90

Answer BOTH parts of your chosen question

Answer EITHER

7 The Macmillan Years (1957–64): consensus confirmed

(a) How would you best explain the defeat of the Labour Party in the General Election of 1959? [25]

(b) Why did the Profumo Affair damage the Macmillan government? [25]

OR

8 The Thatcher Revolution (1983–90): triumph and fall

(a) Why was the Miners' Strike defeated? [25]

(b) Why did Thatcher resign in 1990? [25]

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