

473/01

HISTORY – HI3

UNIT 3

IN-DEPTH STUDY 1

WALES AND THE TUDOR STATE, c. 1534-1567

A.M. THURSDAY, 12 January 2006

(1 hour 30 minutes)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources or quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 3

IN-DEPTH STUDY 1

WALES AND THE TUDOR STATE, c. 1534-1567

Answer **one** question in Section A and **one** question in Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **one** question.

1. Political Change in Wales to 1543.

Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.

‘I was lately informed that the king wished to make Wales shire ground, and have justices of the peace and gaol delivery as in England. I cannot do less than declare my mind in one point, especially as in trial of felons; for if they may come to their trials at home, where one thief try another, as before the last statute in that party provided they did, then that as we here have begun
5 will be undone. You cannot do the Welshman more pleasure than to break that statute. I would I had an hour to speak my mind to you. I think it not expedient to have justices of the peace and gaol delivery in Wales, for there are very few Welsh in Wales above Brecknock who have 10 pounds land, and their discretion is less than their land. As there is yet some bearing of the thieves by gentlemen, if this statute go forward, you will have no other but bearing and little justice, as you
10 may judge by the demeanour of Merionethshire and Cardiganshire. I trust you will keep the former statute provided for Wales, as for bearing of weapons by which you will be assured of the good rule which is now begun.’

[From Rowland Lee, President of the Council of Wales and the Marches,
in a letter to Thomas Cromwell (1536)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase ‘justices of the peace’ (lines 1-2). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about the relationship between Rowland Lee and Thomas Cromwell? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of political change in Wales to 1543?
(*You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.*) [20]

2. The Government of Wales, 1543-1567.

Study the source below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon it.

‘Much of the political manoeuvring in Tudor Wales was an extension of struggles at the English Court; and the rest was conducted within the local arenas of the shires. In that sense there was no ‘Welsh politics’ nor ‘Welsh politicians’ during the sixteenth century. Within Wales there were several powerful figures building up local and regional influence, but no evidence of major competition covering more than one county. The dominant figure was the royal favourite, Leicester, who had been granted lands in Denbighshire and Snowdonia, and built up a substantial following in north Wales. Through his brother-in-law, Sir Henry Sidney, Lord President of the Council in the Marches from 1560 until 1586, and Sidney’s son-in-law, the Earl of Pembroke, Leicester was well placed to develop a powerful network of patronage. Only two important men remained firmly outside his orbit: Sir Richard Bulkeley of Beaumaris, who opposed Leicester’s ambitions in Snowdonia; and Sir James Croft, a major Herefordshire landowner and Comptroller of the Royal Household. Neither was able to do much to shake Leicester’s pervasive influence.’

[From Penry Williams, an academic historian, writing in an essay in *Tudor Wales* (1988)]

- (a) Explain **briefly** the meaning of the phrase ‘Lord President of the Council’ (lines 7-8). [4]
- (b) What does the source suggest about faction in Tudor Wales? [8]
- (c) How useful is the source to an understanding of the government of Wales in the period 1543-1567? (*You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the source.*) [20]

SECTION B

Answer **one** question.

3. Religious change in Wales, 1534-1567.

Source A

‘We have been turned by the faith of the English, our hearts will never return to their rightful place. Thy temples (monasteries) have all gone into the hands of laymen; and the churches everywhere are nothing but empty corners. Destroying the altars once so privileged and turning them into deprived objects have despoiled God and his house.’

[From Tomas ab Ieuan ap Rhys, a pro-Catholic poet from Glamorgan, writing in a book of poetry *Hen Gwndidau* [Old Complaints] (c. 1538)]

Source B

‘I warned the canons of St. David’s not to set forth false relics to tempt the people into superstition. On St. David’s Day, the people wilfully celebrated the feast and certain relics were set forth which I caused to be confiscated. Furthermore, though I might seem more presumptuous than needeth I call for the see to be moved from St. David’s to Carmarthen.’

[From William Barlow, Protestant bishop of St. David’s, in an official report to Thomas Cromwell (1538)]

Source C

‘It is fitting to translate into Welsh some of the Holy Scriptures since there are many Welsh people who can read Welsh, though they cannot read a single word of English or Latin, especially those matters which every Christian should know at the peril of his soul; namely the chief items of the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer and the Ten Commandments.’

[From Sir John Price, a Protestant gentleman and scholar, written in the preface of his privately printed book, *Yny Lhyvyr Hwnn* (1547)]

Source D

‘As far as is known, the closing of the monasteries in Glamorgan caused no great upheaval or serious protest. There is no surviving record that a voice was raised or a hand lifted on behalf of these once influential houses.’

[From Glanmor Williams, an academic historian, writing in an article entitled *The Dissolution of the Monasteries in Glamorgan* (1967)]

Source E



[From a contemporary woodcut captioned 'The word of God, against the word of the Pope' (c. 1538)]

- (a) Compare Sources A and D. How do Sources A and D show contrasting views of the effects of the dissolution of the monasteries in Glamorgan? [8]
- (b) Study Sources B and C. How reliable are Sources B and C as evidence to an historian studying the Reformation in Wales? [16]
- (c) How useful are these sources to an understanding of religious change in Wales in the period 1534-1567? (You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.) [24]

4. Economic activity and social change in Wales, 1534-1567.

Study the sources below carefully, and then answer the questions based upon them.

Source A

‘A band of ordinary men destroyed the hedges and then, with great and loud voices, they said that they would continue to wreak havoc as long as one hedge or mound was still standing on the commons.’

[From John Price, gentleman and landowner in Neath, in a writ of complaint addressed to the Star Chamber Court (1569)]

Source B

‘This common sort of people I find to be very poor and simple, short of growth, broad and stubby. The cause of this disability is easily to be discerned for they are held in such continual labour in tilling the land, burning the lime, digging of coal and other slaveries and extreme toils, as while they live they have neither strength nor time enough for idleness and unprofitable games.’

[From George Owen, gentleman and scholar, writing in his book, *The Description of Penbrockeshire* (1603)]

Source C

‘After 1550, wasteland and common including lowland marsh, became prey to encroachment and enclosure by all classes in society. The cause was land hunger, whether that of the displaced poor looking for a few acres to settle or that of the rich eager to maximise profits from the cattle trade.’

[From Mathew Griffiths, an academic historian, in an article entitled *Country and Town: Agrarian Change and Urban Fortunes in Tudor Wales* (1988)]

Source D

‘While the elders of the community found it more dignified to play bowls, their sons and grandsons would compete in wrestling, running and jumping. But priority was unquestionably accorded to football which was frowned upon by the authorities because of its violence though they seem to have overlooked the more muscular game of knappan, which was the favourite outdoor sport in Pembrokeshire.’

[From G. D. Owen, an academic historian, writing in a history book, *Elizabethan Wales* (1964)]

Source E



[From a contemporary woodcut showing a Tudor coalmine (c. 1550)]

- (a) Compare Sources B and D. How do Sources B and D show contrasting views on the lifestyles of the poorer classes? [8]
- (b) Study Sources A and C. How reliable are Sources A and C as evidence to an historian studying enclosure in Wales in the sixteenth century? [16]
- (c) How useful are these sources to an understanding of economic activity and social change in Wales in the period 1534-1567? (*You are advised to use in your answer relevant background knowledge as well as information derived from the sources.*) [24]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The extract from *Tudor Wales* is published with kind permission of University of Wales Press.