



GCE AS/A level

1232/01

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 1

WALES AND THE TUDOR STATE, c. 1529-1588

A.M. THURSDAY, 20 January 2011

1½ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or ball-point pen.

Answer **one** question.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

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

The sources and 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 assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 1

WALES AND THE TUDOR STATE, c. 1529-1588

Answer one question.

1. *Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.*

Source A

‘The gentlemen of Wales stand in poor health, being for the most part, uncultured, unruly and unwilling to serve their Majesty in any office unless it be for their own profit. Englishmen dare not trust Welshmen.’

[John Skelton, a poet and former tutor of King Henry VIII, writing in a private letter to his friend, the lawyer Thomas Englefield (1529)]

Source B

‘Sir Henry Sidney may have served longer than any other Lord President of Wales but his twenty six years in power (1560-1586) may fairly be described as something approaching disaster. Levels of crime had risen and there was evidence of increasing disaffection and disorder. In truth, he was the least productive and least effective governor of Wales in the Council’s two hundred year history.’

[Whitney Jones, an academic historian, writing in his specialist textbook, *The Mid-Tudor Crisis, 1539-1563* (1973)]

Source C

‘Although there was a settled Council before the 20th year of King Henry VIII’s reign [1529] yet there followed no reform of the Welshry’s disobedience to the laws of England until the appointment of Bishop Lee and Mr. Englefield. But with their deaths the Welsh, both of the common sort and gentlemen, returned to that state of lawlessness that is their true condition.’

[Sir William Gerard, vice-president of the Council of Wales, writing an official report on the state of Wales for the Queen and Privy Council entitled *First Discourse on Government* (1575)]

Source D

‘This Council, at the beginning, brought Wales to that civility and quietness that you now see it. And although some think it an unnecessary court, considering the obedience that Wales is now in, and fitter to be dissolved than continued, they will be the first to miss it with no place erected to seek justice.’

[George Owen, a member of the landowning gentry and a scholar, writing a review of the history of the Council of Wales in his *Dialogue of the Government of Wales* (1594)]

Source E

‘Gracious brother, I hear from those about the Court that you stand in good health with her Majesty. She has impressed upon her Privy ministers how well you govern the Principality of Wales. I have heard it said that since your methods of curbing crime and lawlessness in the Marches have proved so effective she does think of you for the post of Lord Deputy of Ireland.’

[Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick, a courtier and member of the Queen’s government, writing in a private letter to his brother-in-law, Sir Henry Sidney (1564)]

- (a) Study Source B. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the phrase ‘Lord President’. [4]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of the Council of Wales. [8]
- (c) Study Sources A and C. How reliable are Sources A and C in explaining the condition of the Welsh gentry? [16]
- (d) Study Sources B and E. How far does Source E support or contradict the interpretation of Sir Henry Sidney’s presidency of Wales given in Source B? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources to an understanding of Wales and the Tudor state between 1529 and 1588? [32]
(*In your answer you are advised to evaluate the sources for their utility and provide appropriate background knowledge.*)

2. Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

‘The Acts of Union transformed Wales. For the first time the gentry were allowed to represent their fellow countrymen in Parliament but they did so reluctantly and without enthusiasm. They were more interested in local power than travelling to serve in a distant institution they did not fully understand.’

[W. P. M. Kennedy, an academic historian and specialist in early modern political history, writing in a general history book, *Studies in Tudor History* (1998)]

Source B

‘My countrymen welcomed the opportunity to serve in his late Majesty’s Parliament. The prospect of becoming a Member of Parliament was embraced willingly and joyfully. Praise be to the King who liberated his Welsh subjects.’

[Thomas Price, a landowner and author from Denbighshire, writing in a private letter to the Vice-President of the Council of Wales, Bishop John Whitgift (1579)]

Source C

‘Wales is far out of order and there have been many murders in Oswestry and Powys. No punishment has followed because the chief of the Council is a spiritual man and cannot administer punishment of death for felony and murder. We, the King’s good subjects in the March, do beg the King to reform the said people and land of Wales, and to do so by use of English law.’

[Sir Edward Croft, a landowner and member of the Council of Wales, writing in a private letter to the King’s chief minister Thomas Cromwell (1533)]

Source D

‘It is to be affirmed that the Welsh are a civil people and obedient to the laws of England. Throughout Wales in every respect justice is embraced as in England and except for three or four petty coiners, no treason is heard of and very seldom murder. In six years together scarcely one robbery has been heard of.’

[Sir William Gerard, Vice-President of the Council in Wales, writing in an official report to the Queen’s Secretary of State, Sir Francis Walsingham (1576)]

Source E

‘By the early 1530s Wales was still composed of Marcher lordships, separate units of government each with its own courts, laws and officials. This made the problem of maintaining law and order very difficult, because criminals could escape punishment by passing from one lordship to another. The Crown was naturally seeking to make government easier by imposing a uniform system of administration. This, the Crown hoped, would also help cure the chronic lawlessness in Wales.’

[William Rees, an academic historian and specialist in political geography, describing the state of pre-Union Wales in *An Historical Atlas of Wales* (1951)]

- (a) Study Source A. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the phrase ‘the Acts of Union’. [4]
- (b) Study Sources C and D. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of the Council of Wales in this period. [8]
- (c) Study Sources C and E. How reliable are Sources C and E in explaining the causes of the Acts of Union? [16]
- (d) Study Sources A and B. How far does Source B support or contradict the interpretation of the willingness of Welshmen to serve in Parliament given in Source A? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources to an understanding of the relationship between Wales and the Tudor State between 1529 and 1588? [32]
(In your answer you are advised to evaluate the sources for their utility and provide appropriate background knowledge.)