

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



HISTORY
Unit 2

HS2M

**Alternative M: The Norman Conquest:
Britain, 1060–1087**

Wednesday 6 June 2007 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS2M.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 25 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and coherently and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Adapted from Wace's chronicle of the Norman Conquest from the *Roman de Rou*, 1160–1170

When his father had died, Harold, feeling sorry for the hostages, wanted to cross to Normandy to bring them home. So he went to say goodbye to the king. But Edward strictly forbade him to go and told him not to speak with Duke William, who might try to trick him, as the duke was very
5 shrewd. But another book tells me that it was the king who ordered him to go in order to assure Duke William, his cousin, that he should be king after Edward's death.

Source B Adapted from *The Deeds of William, Duke of the Normans and King of the English*, by William of Poitiers, written c1071

There came the unwelcome report that the land of England had lost its king and that Harold had been crowned in his place. This unfeeling Englishman did not wait to be elected to the position but, breaking his oath and with help from a few supporters, he seized the throne of the best of
5 kings on the very day of his funeral and when all the people were mourning their loss. He was anointed and crowned illegally by Stigand who had been justly excommunicated by the apostolic see.

Source C Adapted from the Chronicle of Florence (John) of Worcester, 1124–1140, describing what happened in January 1066

On Thursday, January 5th, the pride of the English, the peace-loving King Edward, son of King Ethelred, died at London. The next day he was buried in kingly style while those present mourned him bitterly. After Edward's burial, the chief magnates of England chose the under-king
5 Harold as his successor. King Edward had previously nominated Harold to succeed him. On the same day Aldred, Archbishop of York, crowned Harold with great ceremony.

- (a) Use **Source B** and your own knowledge.

Explain briefly the meaning of 'the apostolic see' (line 7) in the context of the situation in 1066. *(3 marks)*

- (b) Use **Source B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how useful **Source B** is as evidence of Norman attitudes towards Harold. *(7 marks)*

- (c) Use **Sources A, B and C** and your own knowledge.

'William's claim to the English throne was weak.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this statement. *(15 marks)*

Turn over for the next question

EITHER 2 Read the following source and then answer the questions which follow.

In the spring of 1070 the Danes moved to the fens. They needed a defended base and Hereward could provide this for them. His seizure of Ely could have produced a serious threat to William but, once again, the king chose to buy off the Danes.

Adapted from M BENNETT, *The Campaigns of the Norman Conquest*, 1989

- (a) Comment on ‘the fens’ (line 1) in the context of the situation in 1070. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain why the Danes were a threat to England in the years 1069 to 1087. (7 marks)
- (c) Explain the importance of the unreliability of outside help, in relation to other factors, in explaining the failure of English rebellions against William. (15 marks)

OR 3 Read the following source and then answer the questions which follow.

Alexander II and, more especially, Gregory VII praised William as a righteous king in the hope that he would put right ecclesiastical abuses and open up the church to Roman influence. Lanfranc was brought to Canterbury by the king’s and the pope’s command.

Adapted from B GOLDING, *Conquest and Consolidation*, 1994

- (a) Comment on ‘ecclesiastical abuses’ (line 2) in the context of the Church in England. (3 marks)
- (b) Explain why William chose Lanfranc to be Archbishop of Canterbury. (7 marks)
- (c) Explain the importance of William’s relationship with the papacy, in relation to other factors, in explaining his dominance of the English Church in the years 1066 to 1087. (15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 1 Source B: K MORGAN, *The History of Britain*, Sphere, 1985. By permission of David Higham Associates.

Question 2: M BENNETT, *The Campaigns of the Norman Conquest*, Penguin, 1989. Reproduced by permission of Penguin Books Ltd.

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