

**GCE**  
**AS and A Level**

# History

**AS exams 2009 onwards**  
**A2 exams 2010 onwards**

## **Unit 2C**

### **Specimen question paper**

**Version 1.1**



**HISTORY**  
**Unit 2**  
**The Reign of Henry IV of France, 1589–1610**

**HIS2C**

<DAY>      <TIME>

**For this paper you must have:**

- A 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black 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 HIS2C.
- 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 72.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

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

**HIS2C**

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

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

**Source A** The Wars of Religion were not continuous. There were several periods of peace. Also the wars did not affect every region of France in the same way. In 1593–4 peasants began to band together to prevent the pillaging of both the armies of Henry IV and of the Catholic League. In south-west France, the peasants made demands that included  
5 lowering taxes. In May 1594, as many as 20 000 peasants assembled to put forward their grievances; these peasant uprisings helped to convince Henry IV that an end to the civil wars was important to prevent social upheaval. By 1598 he was able to buy off the leaders of the Catholic League and end the conflict between Catholics and Huguenots with the Edict of Nantes.

Adapted from D MURPHY, M TILLBROOK and P WALSH-ATKINS, *Europe 1450–1661*, 2000

**Source B** With the death of Henry III (1589) about half the royal army refused to continue fighting. Henry IV's forces were so depleted that he had to retreat to Normandy. Henry then set about driving the League army southwards, defeating them at Ivry in 1590 and laying siege to Paris. This obliged Philip II of Spain to commit himself more directly to  
5 the struggle. When this failed, he instructed the Duke of Parma to invade France. Parma crossed the frontier and broke the siege of Paris. Henry IV was aware that the sword alone would not win him the kingdom. On 23 December 1593, Henry formally abjured the Protestant heresy. With the king now a Catholic the enthusiasm of his enemies rapidly ebbed away.

Adapted from M RADY, *France: Renaissance and Recovery 1494–1610*, 1988

**Source C** The Huguenots were encouraged after some hard bargaining to accept the Edict of Nantes in 1598. Liberty of conscience was granted and Protestant worship allowed only on the estates of Huguenot nobles, at places decided by rival commissioners and wherever the Huguenots could prove that it had been openly practised in 1596 and 1597. Bi-partisan courts (*chambres mi-parties*) were to be set up in the parlements to judge lawsuits involving protestants. However, Huguenots were not allowed to impose taxes, build fortifications, levy troops or hold political assemblies. The edict encountered stiff opposition from the parlement as the king might have expected. By degrees he got his way.

Adapted from R J KNECHT, *The Rise and Fall of Renaissance France*, 1996

(a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source A** differ from those in **Source B** in relation to the reason why the Wars of Religion came to an end by 1598. (12 marks)

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

How important was the Edict of Nantes in enabling Henry IV to establish his authority in France by 1610? (24 marks)

**EITHER 2**

- (a) Explain why, in the years 1598 to 1610, Sully made changes to taxation in France. *(12 marks)*
- (b) ‘The development of industry was Sully’s most important contribution to the economic recovery of France by 1610.’  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**OR 3**

- (a) Explain why Henry IV made alliances with the United Provinces and German protestant princes. *(12 marks)*
- (b) ‘Henry IV’s greatest achievement in foreign affairs was the avoidance of war.’  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source B: M RADY, *France 1494–1610, Renaissance, Religion and Recovery*, Hodder & Stoughton, 1991. Reproduced by permission of Hodder & Stoughton Ltd.

Question 1 Source C: R J NECHT, *The Rise and Fall of Renaissance France*, HarperCollins, 1996. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers Ltd. <http://www.harpercollins.co.uk/>

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