

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY
Unit 6W

HS6M

Alternative M: The Anarchy of King Stephen's Reign

Friday 22 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.30 am

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 HS6M.
- Answer **all** questions.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- 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 about 45 minutes on part (c).

Answer **all** questions.

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

Source A We must allow, in attempting an estimate of the character and extent of the anarchy, for exaggeration and for unacceptable generalisation in the narrative accounts of King Stephen's reign, of which several were written in just those districts which we know to have been seriously affected. The most famous passage, in which the Peterborough monk describes the horror of the anarchy, is drawn on particular events which happened near his monastery.

Adapted from A POOLE, *From Domesday Book to Magna Carta, 1087–1216*, 1963

Source B From *Gesta Stephani*, written by an anonymous author in 1148

All England wore a look of grief and calamity, an aspect of wretchedness and oppression. England was swamped with a bestial horde of barbarians who had come together simply for the sake of fighting. In the face of so much suffering they had neither bowels of compassion nor feelings of human pity, but everywhere in castles they conspired with one accord to commit crime and outrage, spent their time insatiably pillaging the goods of the poor, and devoted all the zeal of their evil hearts to encouraging hostilities on both sides and to slaughtering everywhere.

Source C

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Source D

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

Assess the validity of the view in **Source A** about the existence of anarchy in King Stephen's reign. *(10 marks)*

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

How useful is **Source B** as evidence about the causes of disorder? *(10 marks)*

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

'Not truly a period without government, nor one of utter chaos.'
Assess the validity of this view on the extent of disorder during King Stephen's reign. *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: A POOLE, *From Doomsday Book to Magna Carta, 1087–1216*, Oxford University Press, 1963. By permission of Oxford University Press.

Question 1 Source B: R DAVIS, *King Stephen*, Pearson Education, 1990,

Question 1 Source C: J BRADBURY, *Stephen and Matilda*, Sutton Publishing, 2005.

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