

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced GCE**

**HISTORY**

**2590**

Themes in History 1066–1796

Monday            **31 JANUARY 2005**            Morning            1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials:  
One 12-page answer book  
Insert 1.

**TIME**    1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer book.

Write your answer in the separate answer book provided.

This paper contains questions on the following six Options:

- England 1066–1228 (page 2)
- England 1485–1603 (page 3)
- England 1558–1689 (page 4)
- Europe 1498–1610 (page 5)
- Europe 1598–1715 (page 6)
- Europe 1661–1796 (page 7)

Each Option has one or more Themes. Each Theme has three questions.

Answer any **two** questions.

Teachers may indicate to candidates in the examination room the part(s) of the paper which cover(s) the Theme(s) studied.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Every question is marked out of 60.

You should write in continuous prose and are reminded of the need for clear and accurate writing, including structure of argument, grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Candidates are expected to demonstrate understanding of the issues in **each** of their selected questions over a period of **at least a hundred years** (unless an individual question specifies a slightly shorter period).

Candidates are reminded of the synoptic nature of this Unit. Answers are required to demonstrate understanding of the processes of historical continuity, development and change across the **full breadth** of the period studied.

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**This question paper consists of 7 printed pages, 1 blank page and an Insert.**

**England 1066–1228**

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**Key Theme: The Government of England 1066–1216**

- 1 To what extent was the reign of Henry I the **most** important turning-point in the development of English central government in the period from 1066 to 1216?
- 2 'The development of feudalism was the **most** important factor in the development of English common law in the period from 1066 to 1216.' How far do you agree with this assessment?
- 3 Assess the importance of baronial self-interest in bringing about the breakdown of effective government in England in the period from 1066 to 1216.

**Key Theme: Crown, Church and Papacy 1066–1228**

- 4 To what extent was Anselm's relationship with the crown typical of that of archbishops of Canterbury during the period from 1066 to 1228?
- 5 'The growing power of the Church was the **main** reason for changes in the administration of Church law in the period from 1066 to 1228.' How far do you agree with this assessment?
- 6 'Popes intervened in English affairs mainly to strengthen their own authority and influence.' How far do you agree with this assessment of the period from 1066 to 1228?

**England 1485–1603**

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**Key Theme: Rebellion and Disorder in England 1485–1603**

- 7 How important was the nobility in upholding political stability in Tudor England?
- 8 Explain why some rebellions presented a greater danger than others to Tudor monarchs.
- 9 Assess the importance of social and economic factors in causing localised disturbances in Tudor England.

**Key Theme: England's Changing Relations with Foreign Powers 1485–1603**

- 10 Assess the reasons for the changes in England's relations with Scotland from 1485 to 1603.
- 11 Assess the importance of political factors in shaping Tudor foreign policy.
- 12 'Consistent aims, inconsistent methods.' Discuss this view of Tudor foreign policy.

**England 1558–1689**

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**Key Theme: The Development of Limited Monarchy in England 1558–1689**

- 13** How far were England's rulers responsible for parliament's challenge to their power between 1558 and 1689?
- 14** Assess the reasons for the changing opposition to English monarchs during the period from 1558 to 1689.
- 15** Assess how religious developments influenced the crown's relationship with parliament from 1558 to 1689.

**Key Theme: Dissent and Conformity in England 1558–1689**

- 16** Assess the reasons why the strength of anti-Catholic feeling in England varied during the period 1558–1689.
- 17** To what extent did English Puritanism change from 1558 to 1689?
- 18** How successfully was religious uniformity imposed from 1558 to 1689?

**Europe 1498–1610**

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**Key Theme: The Development of the Nation State: France 1498–1610**

- 19 Assess the importance of social and economic changes in the development of France as a nation state from 1498 to 1610.
- 20 How far do you agree that the power of the French monarchy was greater between 1515 and 1547 than at any other time from 1498 to 1610?
- 21 'It divided rather than united France.' Discuss this view of religion in the development of France from 1498 to 1610.

**Key Theme: The Catholic Reformation in the Sixteenth Century**

- 22 Assess the role of the sixteenth-century popes in reforming the Catholic Church.
- 23 'The creation of the Jesuits was the **most** important development in the sixteenth-century Catholic Reformation.' How far do you agree?
- 24 To what extent had the Catholic Church been reformed effectively during the course of the sixteenth century?

**Europe 1598–1715**

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**Key Theme: The Decline of Spain 1598–1700**

- 25 'By 1650 the decline of Spain was so far advanced it could not be reversed.' How far do you agree with this view of Spain from 1598 to 1700?
- 26 Assess the importance of war as a cause of Spain's declining economy in the seventeenth century.
- 27 Which seventeenth-century Spanish monarch do you hold **most** responsible for bringing about the political decline of Spain? Justify your answer with reference to the kings of Spain from 1598 to 1700.

**Key Theme: The Ascendancy of France 1610–1715**

- 28 Assess the importance of economic factors in explaining the rise of France from 1610 to 1715.
- 29 How far were French kings absolute monarchs from 1610 to 1715?
- 30 How far do you agree that France's greatness in the seventeenth century owed more to military success than to political leadership?

**Europe 1661–1796**

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**Key Theme: From Absolutism to Enlightened Despotism 1661–1796**

- 31** How far were political ideas about absolutism in France marked more by change than continuity from 1661 to 1789?
- 32** To what extent can the period 1661–1796 be described as ‘The Age of Enlightenment’?
- 33** ‘Of Maria Theresa and Joseph II, and Peter the Great and Catherine the Great, only Joseph II was an enlightened despot.’ How far do you agree with this assessment?

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