

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced GCE**

**HISTORY**

**2593**

Independent Investigation (Open Book Examination)

**Exam to be sat on any day selected by each centre from Monday 18  
April 2005 to Saturday 14 May 2005**

Additional materials:

Candidates books and notes.

One 8-page Answer Book.

**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 on the separate answer book provided.

Answer **one** question.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Candidates may use their notes and books in this coursework examination. Notes do not need to be handed in with the answer book.

Every question is marked out of 90.

Candidates may confine their answer to one country or draw from several countries. The choice is theirs.

Candidates may not discuss any period before 768AD.

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

In their essay, candidates must **either** use and evaluate primary and/or secondary source material which is relevant to their chosen question **or** must explain and evaluate interpretations of the historical events and topics studied, **or** both.

Footnotes giving the source of quotations are optional.

Candidates should end their essay with their bibliography. This may be typed out ahead of the exam and then attached to the answer book with a tag.

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**This question paper consists of 2 printed pages.**

Answer one question.

- 1    **The Arts and History**  
 'The spirit of an age is defined more by its "commonplace objects" than by its "great works" of art and architecture.' Using examples, discuss with reference to any period you have studied.  
  
 [note: "commonplace objects" can be things such as fashion, posters, interior design, engineering such as the Forth railway bridge or 'street architecture' such as Parisian art nouveau metro stations]
- 2    **Economic History**  
 How significant have long-term economic factors been in explaining the occurrence of any major event chosen from your period of study?
- 3    **The Individual in History**  
 Assess the historical significance of any individual you have studied.  
 [note: criteria for determining 'historical significance' will need to be established and then employed]
- 4    **Local History**  
 How far did developments in any locality you have studied reflect national trends?  
 [note: 'locality' can be an individual building, a hamlet, a town, a county or a region]
- 5    **Military History**  
 With reference to any military conflict, assess the relative importance of chance in explaining the outcome of that conflict.
- 6    **Political History**  
 With reference to any major uprising against political authority, assess the relative importance of the reasons why it was either successful or unsuccessful.
- 7    **Religious History**  
 With reference to any period you have studied, assess the extent to which religion has been used as a pretext for political action.
- 8    **Science, Technology and History**  
 With reference to any period you have studied, assess the relative importance of the factors that tended to advance or impede scientific and/or technological progress.
- 9    **Social History**  
 'Differences of class or rank, rather than of gender, provided the main obstacle to the development of women's rights.' Discuss with reference to any period you have studied.
- 10   **World History**  
 'On the whole, the influence of European civilization on other parts of the world has been beneficial.' How far is this true of any period you have studied?