

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced Subsidiary GCE

HISTORY

2583

Period Studies – English History 1042–1660

Thursday

12 JANUARY 2006

Morning

45 minutes

Additional materials:
one 8-page answer book

TIME 45 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Write your answers on the separate answer book provided.

This paper contains questions on the following five Options:

- England 1042–1100 (page 2)
- England 1450–1509 (page 3)
- England 1509–1558 (page 4)
- England 1547–1603 (page 5)
- England 1603–1660 (page 6)

Each Option has eight questions, two for each of its Study Topics.

Answer **one** question.

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

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Every question carries equal marks (45).

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.

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

England 1042-1100

1 The Reign of Edward the Confessor 1042-1066

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the claim that Edward the Confessor's personality was the **most** important cause of his problems as king.

or

(b) How far was the English Church in need of reform by 1066?

2 The Norman Conquest of England 1064-1072

Answer **either**

(a) Assess Harold's problems in his attempt to secure the English throne.

or

(b) How easily did William I suppress rebellions against his rule after the battle of Hastings (1066)? Explain your answer.

3 Norman England 1066-1100

Answer **either**

(a) How far did William II continue the methods of government of William I?
(Do **not** discuss the Church in your answer.)

or

(b) Assess the reasons why Anselm had more problems than Lanfranc as archbishop of Canterbury.

4 Society, Economy and Culture 1042-1100

Answer **either**

(a) How far did England's social structure change during the period from 1066 to the end of the eleventh century?

or

(b) Assess the reasons why some towns became prosperous during the last half of the eleventh century.

England 1450-1509

5 The Threat to Order and Authority 1450-1470

Answer **either**

- (a) How successfully did Edward IV deal with the nobility during his first reign as king (to 1470)?
- or**
- (b) Which was **more** important in government in the mid-fifteenth century: the council or parliament? Explain your answer.

6 The End of the Yorkists 1471-1485

Answer **either**

- (a) 'The belief that Richard III had seized the throne illegally was the **most** important reason for opposition to him after he became king.' How far do you agree with this judgement?
- or**
- (b) Assess the reasons why Henry Tudor became the **most** dangerous enemy of Richard III.

7 The Reign of Henry VII 1485-1509

Answer **either**

- (a) 'Henry VII's character was the **most** important reason why he succeeded in securing the Tudor dynasty by 1509.' How far do you agree with this claim?
- or**
- (b) Assess the claim that Henry VII was more a 'medieval' than a 'modern' ruler.

8 Social and Economic Issues 1450-1509

Answer **either**

- (a) Examine the **most** important characteristics of 'bastard feudalism'.
- or**
- (b) How far did economic changes affect the 'middle classes' in the period from 1450 to 1509?

England 1509-1558**9 Henry VIII and Wolsey 1509-1529**

Answer **either**

(a) How far did Wolsey achieve his aims in foreign policy from 1515 to 1529?

or

(b) Assess the reasons why the Divorce issue brought about the fall of Wolsey.

10 Government, Politics and Foreign Affairs 1529-1558

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the effects of the factions at court during the last part of the reign of Henry VIII (from 1540) and the reign of Edward VI.

or

(b) Assess the claim that Mary I was more successful in governing England than Somerset and Northumberland.
(Do **not** discuss religion in your answer.)

11 Church and State 1529-1558

Answer **either**

(a) How extensively did Henry VIII attack Catholic practices and beliefs during the years from 1529 to the Six Articles (1539)?

or

(b) Assess the claim that the **most** important reason why Mary I's religious policies aroused opposition was her marriage to Philip of Spain.

12 Social and Economic Issues 1509-1558

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the claim that private charity did more than government legislation to help the poor during the period from 1509 to 1558.

or

(b) Assess the claim that government policies made the problem of price inflation worse during the period from 1509 to 1558.

England 1547-1603**13 Church and State 1547-1603**Answer **either**

(a) Assess the **main** reasons why Roman Catholicism declined in England during the reign of Elizabeth I.

or

(b) How important were Elizabeth I's archbishops of Canterbury (Parker, Grindal and Whitgift) in dealing with the problem of Puritanism?

14 Foreign Affairs 1547-1587Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons why Mary, Queen of Scots, was important in Elizabeth I's foreign policy to 1587.

or

(b) Assess the reasons why England maintained mostly good relations with Spain from 1554 to 1568.

15 Government and Politics in Elizabethan England 1558-1603Answer **either**

(a) How well did Elizabeth I's government handle its financial problems to 1603?

or

(b) Was Elizabeth I's gender more an advantage or a disadvantage in maintaining the power and prestige of the monarchy? Explain your answer.

16 Social and Economic Issues 1547-1603Answer **either**

(a) Assess the effects of inflation during the period from 1547 to 1603 on any **two** of the following social groups: landowners, tenants, labourers, townspeople.

or

(b) How successfully did governments, during the period from 1547 to 1603, try to solve the problem of poverty?

England 1603-1660**17 Politics and Religion 1603-1629**

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the reasons why foreign policy caused problems between James I and his parliaments.

or

(b) How far did religious divisions increase from 1603 to 1629?

18 Personal Rule and Civil War 1629-1649

Answer **either**

(a) Who was **more** responsible for the outbreak of civil war in 1642, Charles I or the parliamentary opposition? Explain your answer.

or

(b) Assess the claim that the **most** important reason for the execution of Charles I (1649) was his unwillingness to compromise with his opponents from 1646.

19 The Interregnum 1649-1660

Answer **either**

(a) Assess the problems that faced the Rump Parliament (1648-53) after the execution of Charles I in 1649.

or

(b) Assess the reasons why republicans were unable to prevent the restoration of the monarchy in 1660.

20 Society and the Economy 1603-1660

Answer **either**

(a) How far can the Civil War and Republic be considered as a turning-point in the development of the English economy during the period from 1603 to 1660?

or

(b) Assess the importance of the royal Court for London in the reigns of James I and Charles I.

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