

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS
Advanced Subsidiary GCE

HISTORY

2584

Period Studies – English History 1780–1964

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 answer in the separate answer book provided.

This paper contains questions on the following three Options:

- England 1780–1846 (page 2)
- Britain 1846–1906 (page 3)
- Britain 1899–1964 (page 4)

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(s) of the paper which cover(s) 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 4 printed pages.

England 1780–1846

1 The Age of Pitt and Liverpool 1783–1830

Answer **either**

(a) How far do you agree that Pitt's success as a reformer, to 1793, was dependent upon royal support?

or

(b) How repressive were Lord Liverpool's governments in the period from 1812 to 1822?

2 War and Peace 1793–1841

Answer **either**

(a) How far did British foreign interests change during the period 1793–1841?

or

(b) How important was the 'Congress System' to Castlereagh's diplomacy in the period from 1814 to 1822?

3 The Age of Peel 1829–1846

Answer **either**

(a) How far do you agree that Peel tackled Irish issues during the years 1829–1846 **only** because he was forced to do so by events?

or

(b) Assess the reasons why the repeal of the Corn Laws (1846) caused divisions in British politics.

4 The Economy and Industrialisation 1780–1846

Answer **either**

(a) 'Canals were the **most** important change in transport during the period 1780–1846.' How far do you agree?

or

(b) 'The ineffectiveness of the popular response to economic change during the period from 1780 to 1846 was **mainly** due to the decline of the artisan class.' How far do you agree?

Britain 1846–1906**5 Whigs and Liberals 1846–1874**Answer **either**

- (a) Assess the claim that the **most** important aim of Gladstonian Liberalism to 1874 was to defend and extend Free Trade.

or

- (b) Which domestic reforms in Gladstone's first ministry (1868–74) had the **most** impact on the Liberal party? Explain your answer.
[Ireland may be included among 'domestic reforms']

6 The Conservatives 1846–1880Answer **either**

- (a) How far do you agree that Conservative weakness in the period 1846–1866 was **mainly** due to the leadership of Derby and Disraeli?

or

- (b) Assess the claim that the **most** important influence in explaining the 1867 Reform Act was a popular demand for the franchise.

7 Foreign and Imperial Policies 1846–1902Answer **either**

- (a) Assess the **most** important issues affecting Britain in the Eastern Question in the period 1854–1878.

or

- (b) Were strategic or economic motives the **more** important factor in explaining Britain's involvement in Africa during the period 1868–1902? Explain your answer.

8 Trade Unions and Labour 1867–1906Answer **either**

- (a) 'The Second and Third Reform Acts (1867 and 1884) were the **most** important reasons for the expansion of Trades Union influence and power during the period from 1867 to 1906.' How far do you agree with this view?

or

- (b) Assess the **main** obstacles to the creation of a Labour party during the years 1886–1906.

Britain 1899–1964

9 Liberals and Labour 1899–1918

Answer either

- (a) Assess the claim that the Liberals won the 1906 general election mainly because of the weakness of the Conservatives.
- or
- (b) Which was the more serious Irish problem for British governments in the period from 1909 to 1916: the Home Rule Bill of 1912 or the Easter Rising of 1916? Explain your answer.

10 Inter-War Domestic Problems 1918–1939

Answer either

- (a) How far do you agree that Lloyd George's fall from power (1922) was the result of his failure to please the Conservatives?
- or
- (b) How far was the success of the economic and employment policies of the National governments hindered by their failure to consider alternative solutions?

11 Foreign Policy 1939–1963

Answer either

- (a) How important was Indian Independence (1947) in changing British attitudes to decolonisation during the period 1945–1960? Explain your answer.
- or
- (b) How far did Britain seek an independent role in the Cold War in the period from 1945 to 1953?

12 Post-War Britain 1945–1964

Answer either

- (a) How far was Labour's electoral defeat in 1951 the result of economic difficulties? Explain your answer.
- or
- (b) 'Social change and the prosperity of the 1950s were the most important reasons for Conservative dominance from 1951 to 1964.' How far do you agree?