

**ADVANCED GCE
HISTORY**

2588

Historical Investigations 1556–1725

TUESDAY 22 JANUARY 2008

Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials: Answer Booklet (12 pages)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer book.
- Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This paper contains questions on the following four Options:
 - Philip II (pages 2–3)
 - Elizabeth I (pages 4–5)
 - Oliver Cromwell (pages 6–7)
 - Peter the Great (pages 8–9)
- Answer on **one** Option only. In that Option, answer the question on the Passages and **one** other question.
- 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.
- The time permitted allows for reading the Passages in the one Option you have studied.
- You are advised to spend equal time on the Passages question and the essay you select.
- In answering the question on the Passages you are expected to use your knowledge of the topic to help you explain and evaluate the interpretations in the Passages, as well as to inform your answers.
- In answering an essay question, you are expected to refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations to help you develop your arguments.
- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total mark for this paper is 90.

This document consists of **10** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

Philip II

If answering on this Option, candidates **must** answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

1 Study all the Passages

Using these **four** Passages **and** your own knowledge, assess how far Philip II ruled mainland Spain in the interests of his subjects. [45]

- A** From: Peter Pierson, *Philip II of Spain*, published in 1975. This historian argues that Spaniards beyond Castile opposed Philip's absolute power.

Philip's non-Castilian subjects did indeed fear Castilians as the instruments for carrying out the policy of Philip and his ministers for imposing a Castilian-style regime on the other states of his monarchy. Such a regime implied an obedient Cortes, a dependent nobility and clergy, a crown-directed Inquisition unhindered by ordinary legal procedures, a compliant judiciary and towns governed by royally controlled officials. This amounted to absolute monarchy run by Castilians appointed from Madrid to the chief offices in each of Philip's dominions without regard for local privileges. Provincial fears and consequent resistance appeared in the riots inspired by the appointment of a Castilian viceroy for Aragon.

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- B** From: R.A. Stradling, *Europe and the Decline of Spain*, published in 1981. This historian argues that Philip II failed to defend the interests of Castilians due to continuous war.

The rapidly increasing tax demands upon Castile in the years following the defeat of the Armada sparked off an outburst of public criticism of defence commitments...

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Details:

An extract from *Europe and the Decline of Spain* by R. A. Stradling

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... they could see the argument that Castile's resources should now be spent on areas closer to their own interests.

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- C** From: James Casey, 'Philip II of Spain: The Prudent King', an article published in 1997. This historian sees Philip's sense of duty as fully in tune with the hopes and aspirations of his subjects.

Government at this time depended very much on the personal relationship of the king with his subjects. As the father of his people under God, in the imagery of the time, he was expected to travel among them, to take a personal interest in their welfare, and to be accessible to their petitions. But much of the administration remained in Madrid, and his regular trips were more in the nature of retreats for the king from the pressure of business than an opportunity to get to know his subjects. In Madrid he was accessible to petitioners, though he had an unnerving habit of listening quietly and talking little, and, in any case, referred petitions to his ministers. In general, he disliked conducting business face to face. The great advantage of retreat to the Escorial and his other rural residences was the opportunity for tranquil reflection. Philip, the 'Prudent King', was rarely foolhardy; rather he came to be criticised for listening to too many conflicting pieces of advice and failing to make up his mind quickly. But he was a conciliator, doing his best to safeguard the inherited privileges and autonomy of the individual realms. Here was a great ruler, in tune with the traditions and aspirations of his people.

- D** From: Geoffrey Parker, *The World is Not Enough: the Imperial Vision of Philip II*, published in 2001. This historian argues that Philip II's subjects shared in his belief that he ruled with God's support.

Philip II believed that God had chosen him to rule expressly to achieve God's purpose for the world...

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Details:

An extract from *The World is Not Enough: the Imperial Vision of Philip II*
by Geoffrey Parker

...Philip's cause and Spain's cause were all the same.

Answer **either**

- 2** How far was Philip II personally responsible for Spain's failure to end the Netherlands Revolt by 1598? [45]

or

- 3** To what extent was Philip II's foreign policy simply a reaction to events? [45]

Candidates are reminded that they must refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations in developing the argument in their essay.

Elizabeth I

If answering on this Option, candidates **must** answer **Question 4** and **one** other question.

4 Study all the Passages

Using these **four** Passages **and** your own knowledge, assess the view that the survival of Roman Catholicism in Elizabethan England depended on gentry support. [45]

- A** From: J. J. Scarisbrick, *The Reformation and the English People*, published in 1984. This historian argues that Catholic survivalism depended on both gentry and ordinary folk.

Much recent recusant history has tended to show how tenacious and widespread was the survival of the old religion during Elizabeth's reign. It was not merely that Lancashire, much of Yorkshire and the north-east had many recusant Catholics. Catholic refusal to conform was powerful in Northamptonshire and Hampshire, Hereford and Worcester, much of Warwickshire and some of Sussex. Even East Anglia and Essex showed signs of dogged allegiance to the old ways. It does less than justice to post-Reformation Catholicism to describe it as simply a country-house religion. Certainly gentry provided the main mass-centres, but humble folk gave priests a roof over their heads in inns and lodging houses, especially in the ports. They carried letters and messages among English Catholics and between England and the continent. They must have had a major hand in the remarkable spread of Catholic books and pious objects from abroad. 5
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- B** From: Diarmaid MacCulloch, *The Later Reformation in England, 1547–1603*, published in 1990. This historian argues that gentry support was the most important factor in Catholic survivalism.

The story of Roman Catholicism amid the 1559 Settlement of religion is one of failure: failure to recapture the nation or to bring about alteration in the state of the Church of England. Few Catholics were prepared to follow desperate courses to further the Faith after the rebellion of 1569 had failed so dismally. Being largely dependent on the gentry, priests were powerless to conduct large-scale missionary work as the Catholic gentry did not think it would be a good thing. Immense sacrifices were made to preserve Catholicism, and it was necessary to make those sacrifices because the government was out to destroy Catholicism even if it was not out to destroy Catholics. Nevertheless, English Catholicism turned into a largely upper-class sect with a faintly exotic flavour. 15
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- C** From: Susan Doran, *Elizabeth I and Religion 1558–1603*, published in 1994. This historian argues that, despite some gentry support, popular Catholicism virtually died out.

The task of the new Protestant regime of Elizabeth was to steer the population away from its traditional beliefs and convert the country to Protestantism through preaching and education. In this, the government had considerable success. By the end of the reign Catholicism had shrunk to a very small sect (constituting about 1 or 2 per cent of the population), practising a household religion which posed little threat to the monarch or the Church. While in the short term the government's avoidance of confrontation with the Catholics allowed Catholicism to survive throughout the country during the 1560s, in the longer term it helped to secure its eventual failure. During the 1570s and 1580s the drift towards Protestantism could not be halted by the Catholic priests. The exact numbers who conformed are unknown, but reports from most parts of the realm suggest that year by year individuals and small groups of Catholic gentry families were joining the Protestant Church from the mid-1580s onwards, while popular Catholicism all but died out. 25
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- D** From: Peter Marshall, *Reformation England 1480–1642*, published in 2003. This historian argues that urban Catholics existed independently of the gentry.

What sort of society had English Catholicism in practice become by 1600? Increasingly the English Catholic community had come to rely on the gentry and on gentry households. Yet from a number of sources it is possible to build up a picture of a late Elizabethan Catholicism more diverse and more fluid than this would suggest, and as a result more relevant to the mainstream of English social and ecclesiastical life. The existence of a continuing strand of lower-class Catholicism has been asserted. Catholics in London could hardly enjoy gentry protection: they were numerous enough to alarm the Privy Council. The notion of an enclosed Catholic world of stubbornly recusant gentry families is challenged by research on conversion, which shows that considerable numbers of individuals passed in and out of allegiance to Rome.

Answer **either**

- 5** To what extent was Elizabeth's power as monarch undermined by her gender? [45]

or

- 6** How far was Elizabeth in control of her Privy Council? [45]

Candidates are reminded that they must refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations in developing the argument in their essay.

Oliver Cromwell

If answering on this Option, candidates **must** answer **Question 7** and **one** other question.

7 Study all the Passages

Using these **four** Passages **and** your own knowledge, assess the view that Cromwell's rise to prominence during the First Civil War was the result of his own scheming. [45]

A From: *Autobiography of Richard Baxter*, published in 1696. This writer implies that Cromwell and his allies controlled Cromwell's appointment in the New Model Army.

The problem was how Cromwell and his allies could bring about the new modelling of the army without stirring up against them the forces which they intended to disband. All this was achieved at once by one vote, which was called the Self-Denying Vote. This pleased the soldiers, who looked to have more pay to themselves. The two generals, the Earl of Essex and the Earl of Manchester, lost their commissions, and so did many colonels in the army and the governors of many garrisons. To avoid all suspicion, Cromwell also lost his commission. The next problem was who should be lord-general and what new officers should be appointed or old ones retained. And here the policy of Cromwell was most successful. They chose Sir Thomas Fairfax as general. This man was chosen because he was thought to be a man that Cromwell could make use of as he pleased because Fairfax was not quick of speech and nor did he possess a suspicious plotting nature. And when Fairfax had been chosen as the general, Cromwell's men demanded Cromwell's appointment. So valiant a man must not be laid aside. The Self-Denying Vote must be dispensed with for Cromwell alone, and so he is made lieutenant-general of the army.

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B From: Barry Coward, *Oliver Cromwell*, published in 1991. This historian argues that Cromwell's military survival after 1645 resulted from a combination of factors.

In December 1644 Essex and Holles decided not to proceed with the impeachment of Cromwell, 'that darling of the sectaries', because of his now considerable military and political reputation. On the face of it Cromwell's escape from this dangerous political crisis and triumphant emergence shortly afterwards as a key commander of the New Model parliamentary army was remarkable and supports a picture of a scheming Cromwell who manipulated events to secure his self-advancement. It is, however, a picture that fades away on closer inspection, leaving only one element of it intact: by this stage Cromwell had become a skilful master of the art of politics. He survived the political crisis because he had powerful allies at Westminster, because he was lucky and because he was politically sure-footed.

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- C** From: Peter Gaunt, *Oliver Cromwell*, published in 1996. This historian argues that Cromwell rose to prominence as a result of his military successes.

Between autumn 1642 and summer 1646 Cromwell's life was dominated by the first civil war. He was an active soldier, an officer in the parliamentary army, who displayed great skill in commanding men and winning engagements and who duly rose to a position of military prominence and power by the closing stages of the civil war. This military experience not only helped to shape and to sharpen many of Cromwell's ideas and expectations but also gave him a stronger position from which to achieve his military, political and religious aspirations. Although, of necessity, his parliamentary career was severely disrupted by his absence on campaign, Cromwell's successes in the military sphere and his standing as a military commander gave him an alternative power-base which was to prove vital in post-war politics. 25
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- D** From: Colin Davis, *Oliver Cromwell*, published in 2001. This historian argues that Cromwell could not have planned the outcome of the Self-Denying Ordinance.

To what extent was Cromwell self-servingly ambitious and determined to use military success to climb ever upwards? Was there a deep-laid scheme to oust the old commander while enabling Cromwell to escape the provisions of the Self-Denying Ordinance? There are three main reasons for thinking such scheming improbable. The first is that no one could have foreseen the outcome. In particular, the final version of the Self-Denying Ordinance was substantially different from the resolution proposed. A second reason is that the Ordinance had to be approved by Parliament which was not a body controlled by Cromwell's friends. The third reason is that Cromwell's military commission was subject to periodic review and renewal by Parliament. 35
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Answer **either**

- 8** Assess the reasons why Cromwell decided to support the execution of the king. [45]

or

- 9** 'King in all but name.' To what extent is this a fair assessment of Cromwell as Lord Protector? [45]

Candidates are reminded that they must refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations in developing the argument in their essay.

Peter the Great

If answering on this Option, candidates **must** answer **Question 10** and **one** other question.

10 Study all the Passages

Using these **four** Passages **and** your own knowledge, assess the claim that Peter the Great's achievements in domestic affairs were much more substantial than his failures. [45]

A From: B. Pares, *A History of Russia*, published in 1947. This historian believes that Peter the Great had many achievements and that he changed Russia very considerably.

By 1725, Peter's work was as complete as one lifetime could make it. There was no department in which he did not begin Russia's new civilisation. He himself simplified the Russian alphabet which was in use after him. He edited the first newspaper in Russia. He ordered the translation of books on all subjects into Russian, and flooded the Russian language with German titles and words. The first textbook on social behaviour was brought out under his direction, ordering his subjects to look modest and respectful, take off their hats, not to dance in boots, or to spit on the floor or to sing too loudly, put fingers in the nose, lean on tables, lick fingers, gnaw bones when at dinner, scratch one's head or talk with one's mouth full. His social gatherings, where attendance was compulsory, were the first crude schools of European manners.

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B From: V. Garvin and C. de Grunwald, *Peter the Great*, published in 1956. These historians suggest that Peter spent his last years relaxing after introducing so many changes in Russia.

In Peter the Great's last years, when his great reforms were beginning to take effect, he recovered his early taste for cheerful relaxation. He said, 'My present occupations are a game compared with the efforts I had to make to create the army and the fleet. I had to teach my people not only science, but also courage and duty. That did not happen easily. I thank God that He has granted me this leisure, thanks to which I keep in good health.' Every aspect of the relaxation he sought was to be found in the new society which had grown up round him in St Petersburg. Two main features distinguished this society from the old Muscovite world: its variety and the presence of women. A radical change had altered the conditions of women. In 1699, the fact that some women took part in a royal dinner and ball was a memorable event. Emancipation had come a long way since then. After 1700 all ladies of quality had to dress in the German or the French fashion. In 1711 there was the possibility of sending some nobly-born young ladies to Germany so that they might learn foreign manners and languages.

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- C** From: I. Grey, *Peter the Great: Emperor of All Russia*, published in 1960. This historian considers that Peter the Great had a number of failures at the end of his reign.

The revolutions in government and in the Church were matched by a revolution in Russian society. By his social and economic reforms, Peter broadened the composition of the landowning class, regularized the position of the peasantry, and reorganized the merchant-traders. His reforms were designed to strengthen the nation by giving it an efficient administration, by maintaining its armed forces, by developing its natural resources, and by establishing new industries. They did not lighten, but added to, the burdens of the people, and their effect was to widen the gulf between the landowning class and the peasant masses. Peter was isolated at the end of his reign. Many of his officers and colleagues had died in action. Some had been executed for corruption or treason. Many of those who were living lost Peter's confidence through dishonesty or greed. The trial of Alexis was a major crisis. Peter saw his son and heir become the focus of opposition to himself and to his work, and Peter sensed the silent but massive popular support for Alexis.

- D** From: P. Neville, *Russia*, published in 1960. This historian believes that Peter's achievements were controversial and that Russia had not recovered from the effects of his policies at the end of his reign.

Peter the Great's achievements were immense but his record remains controversial. He made Russia into a substantial European power, but the human cost was high. This fact is best demonstrated by the population statistics. In 1678, the Russian population was about 16 millions. In 1724, the year before Peter's death, it had fallen to 13 millions, a percentage drop which was a catastrophe. It has been argued that Peter spent human resources and lives extravagantly and unsparingly.

Answer **either**

- 11** Assess the claim that the most important aim of Peter the Great's domestic reforms was to build a powerful army and navy. [45]

or

- 12** Assess the threats to Russia from foreign enemies during the reign of Peter the Great. [45]

Candidates are reminded that they must refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations in developing the argument in their essay.

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