OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A LEVEL

Examiners' report

HISTORY A

H505
For first teaching in 2015

Y203/01 Summer 2022 series

Contents

Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. A selection of candidate responses is also provided. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from OCR.

Advance Information for Summer 2022 assessments

To support student revision, advance information was published about the focus of exams for Summer 2022 assessments. Advance information was available for most GCSE, AS and A Level subjects, Core Maths, FSMQ, and Cambridge Nationals Information Technologies. You can find more information on our website.

Would you prefer a Word version?

Did you know that you can save this PDF as a Word file using Acrobat Professional?

Simply click on **File > Export to** and select **Microsoft Word**

(If you have opened this PDF in your browser you will need to save it first. Simply right click anywhere on the page and select **Save as . . .** to save the PDF. Then open the PDF in Acrobat Professional.)

If you do not have access to Acrobat Professional there are a number of **free** applications available that will also convert PDF to Word (search for PDF to Word converter).

Paper Y203/01 series overview

This is a Unit Group 2 Non-British study A Level History paper on The Crusades and The Crusader States 1095-1192. It targets AO1 of the H505 A Level History course. To do well on this paper, candidates need to compare different historical factors and draw conclusions about their relative historical importance. They also need to produce a structured, sustained argument which allows them to form a judgement in relation to the question. This argument needs to be supported by well-selected and specific historical knowledge and context of the period.

Candidates who did well on this paper generally did the following:	Candidates who did less well on this paper generally did the following:
• focused specifically to the wording of the question, particularly key terms such as 'the Kingdom of Jerusalem' • viewed events within the wider historical context, including linking events in the Crusader States to those in Europe • made connections between factors such as the preaching of Bernard of Clairvaux and the role of Pope Eugenius III, rather than discussing them in isolation • demonstrated detailed, chronologically- secure knowledge of the period, for example, they paid attention to terms such as 'in the 12th century.'	• wrote about the Crusader States generally and did not distinguish between them • spent time discussing the background of the factors in part (a) questions and did not fully evaluate them • did not reach a clear, substantiated judgement in relation to the question.

Question 1 (a)

1   **(a)**   Which of the following was more important in determining the outcome of the Third Crusade?

    (i)   The failure of Frederick Barbarossa's expedition

    (ii)   The disagreements between Richard I and Philip Augustus

    Explain your answer with reference to both **(i)** and **(ii)**.   **[10]**

This question, along with 1(b), was slightly more popular with candidates. Knowledge of both factors was generally sound. Candidates who did well demonstrated a clear understanding of how the loss of much of Frederick Barabarossa's army had a direct impact on the Third Crusade. They described, for example, how Richard I decided not to try to seize Jerusalem, believing that he did not have sufficient troops to hold it. Those who were less successful tended to discuss how much of the army returned home but did not explain why this determined the outcome of the Third Crusade.

For factor (ii), stronger responses focused on how the rivalry between Richard and Philip partly caused the latter to return to Europe. They discussed Philip's plot with Prince John to seize Richard's French lands. They explained how this distracted Richard and prompted him to leave the Outremer earlier than he should have. Less successful responses spent a long time discussing the background to this rivalry but did not link it specifically with the outcome of the Third Crusade. This meant that the factors were not fully evaluated.

Exemplar 1

Following the issuing of Audita Tremendi in October 1187, calls to crusade saw response from Richard I, Philip Augustus, Leopold of Austria, and crucially Frederick Barbarossa. Barbarossa, the Holy Roman Empire was the most proven and experienced warrior out of the possible leaders - with the rest predominantly being newly ascended. Had he reached the Levant he would have been a formiddable opponent for Saladin. Barbarossa led a force of 17,000-20,000 men overland to Palestine. During his march, he saw victory at Iconium in May 1190. This proved that his force was effective. However, in June 1190, while fording a river, Barbarossa suffered a heart attack and drowned. Thus, the crusade lost a strong potential leader. With Barbarossa's death, a plurality of his soldiers returned home, with only a small few, led by Barbarossa's unproven son. The failure of Frederick Barbarossa to reach the Levant deprived the crusade of a strong leader and

a fighting force equivalent in size to Richard's. With them, it is possible that attempts to retake Jerusalem in January and June 1192 would not have been abandoned due to low manpower.

In Exemplar 1, taken from a Level 6 response, the knowledge of Frederick Barbarossa's previous military career is used to explain the outcome of the Third Crusade. There is further detailed evidence about his forces and why they left following his death. This is then linked back to the question and used to show why that affected subsequent events in the Third Crusade.

Question 1 (b*)

(b)* 'Internal rivalries were the most important factor in causing problems in the twelfth century kingdom of Jerusalem.' How far do you agree?   **[20]**

Along with 1(a), this question was slightly more popular than Question 2. Stronger responses were able to specifically tie in the rivalries to the problems caused. For example, they discussed the rivalry that resulted from the marriage of Sybilla to Guy of Lusignan and the impact this had at the Battle of Hattin. They also linked these to the other factors such as lack of help from the west for the Kingdom of Jerusalem.

Less successful responses did not distinguish between the Kingdom of Jerusalem and other Crusader States. For example, they discussed events in Antioch and did not link them with Jerusalem. There was a lot of discussion on 'hawks and doves' in the Kingdom of Jerusalem without fully evaluating this in relation to the question.

Exemplar 2

Baldwin III. Furthermore, during the reign of Baldwin IV, there was tension between Raymond III of Tripoli, and Guy de Lusignan. Guy had his regency of Baldwin V revoked for due to his slack stance on Saladin, causing resentment when it was assumed by Raymond in 1185. This allowed Saladin to increase the strength of the Muslim world, as the power struggle between the peace and war factions of the Jerusalem court meant more time was invested in rallying ~~support~~ internal support rather than preventing Saladin's acquisition of ~~Aleppo~~ Mosul in 1186 or Galilee in 1183, or of Kerak Castle in the same year. In this sense, it is clear that there is a strong case for internal rivalries, being the most important factor due to the distraction they caused from the muslim threat. However this argument

In Exemplar 2, the candidate has focused clearly on internal rivalries in the Kingdom of Jerusalem. Evidence is detailed, accurate and specific. A clear connection is made between the rivalries and how they created problems for the Kingdom of Jerusalem. They were a distraction which Saladin was able to capitalise on. This extract shows all the key elements of a successful Level 6 response to this question.

Assessment for learning

Candidates need to understand the differences between the Crusader States and that the term 'Outremer' refers to all four collectively. They should also understand the interaction between them and the impact on each.

Question 2 (a)

2   (a)   Which of the following was more important in leading to the First Crusade?

    (i)   The aims of Urban II

    (ii)   The Appeal of Alexius 1095

    Explain your answer with reference to both **(i)** and **(ii)**.   **[10]**

This question, along with 2(b), was slightly less popular. Knowledge on Urban II was frequently detailed but understanding of the appeal of Alexius tended to be more limited. Some responses appeared to believe it came immediately following the Battle of Manzikert in 1071, rather than over twenty years later. Credit was given to those candidates who connected the two factors, before evaluating which was more important.

Less successful responses did not directly compare them. This meant there was no judgement made.

Question 2 (b)*

(b)* 'Without Bernard of Clairvaux, the Second Crusade would not have taken place.' How important was the preaching of Bernard of Clairvaux in bringing about the Second Crusade?

    [20]

Along with 2(a), this question was slightly less popular. Responses tended to be less successful than other questions on the paper. A limited number of candidates really looked at the meaning of 'would not have taken place' in the question. While many knew about Bernard's preaching efforts, weaker responses tended to describe events such as the response of the crowd of Vézalay, without relating this explicitly to the question. The strongest responses compared events in the Holy Land with the political needs of Eugenius III and the preaching of Bernard of Clairvaux. They also showed sound knowledge of the growing threat of the Muslim forces of Zenghi and Nur ad Din.

Exemplar 3

Firstly, Bernard of Clarvaux's preaching was highly effective in convincing people to go on crusade. This is because he targeted the naughty classes rather than peasants to avoid a repeat of the People's crusade. He also was able to smooth over events of the first crusade that may have dissvaded people to go, such as the pillaging of the Jews. Therefore, he was effectively able to convince people of the first crusade's success and persvade them to repeat this success. Furthermore, his preaching was timed to coincide with important event such as Lent and Easter and he preached at abbeys and gathers to spread the word to many people. His use of religion to persuade people to crusade was perhaps the most effective strategy. In the 12th century people were much concerned with hell and purgatory and therefore, a crusade was a chance to repent and get remission of sins. For this reason Bernard of Clarvaux's preaching was the most significant factor in bringing about the second crusade because of he hadn't convinced so many people to go, there would have been a more severe shortage of manpower and perhaps the crusade would not have happened.

In Exemplar 3, the candidate gives specific reasons why Bernard of Clairvaux's preaching was so important. Knowledge is shown of the context of the time and detail is well-selected to support the arguments. While some comments about religion are generalised, this Level 6 response addresses the idea that the Second Crusade would not have happened without Bernard due to a lack of support, particularly from the knightly classes.

Supporting you

Post-results services

If any of your students' results are not as expected, you may wish to consider one of our post-results services. For full information about the options available visit the OCR website.

Keep up-to-date

We send a weekly roundup to tell you about important updates. You can also sign up for your subject specific updates.
If you haven't already, sign up here.

OCR Professional Development

Attend one of our popular CPD courses to hear directly from a senior assessor or drop in to a Q&A session. Most of our courses are delivered live via an online platform, so you can attend from any location.

Please find details for all our courses on the relevant subject page on our website or visit OCR professional development.

Signed up for ExamBuilder?

ExamBuilder is the question builder platform for a range of our GCSE, A Level, Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals qualifications. Find out more.

ExamBuilder is **free for all OCR centres** with an Interchange account and gives you unlimited users per centre. We need an Interchange username to validate the identity of your centre's first user account for ExamBuilder.

If you do not have an Interchange account please contact your centre administrator (usually the Exams Officer) to request a username, or nominate an existing Interchange user in your department.

Active Results

Review students' exam performance with our free online results analysis tool. It is available for all GCSEs, AS and A Levels and Cambridge Nationals.

It allows you to:

- review and run analysis reports on exam performance
- analyse results at question and/or topic level
- compare your centre with OCR national averages
- identify trends across the centre
- facilitate effective planning and delivery of courses
- identify areas of the curriculum where students excel or struggle
- help pinpoint strengths and weaknesses of students and teaching departments.

Find out more.