

A LEVEL

Examiners' report

HISTORY A

H505

For first teaching in 2015

Y203/01 Summer 2023 series

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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 answers 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.

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Paper Y203/01 series overview

Y203/01 is one of twenty four units in Paper 2 for the revised A Level examination for GCE History. This unit tests an extended period of History of about 100 years through a short-answer essay and a traditional essay. The paper contains two questions, each having two parts, a short-answer essay and a traditional essay and candidates had to answer both parts of one question.

To do well on the short-answer essay question, candidates needed to consider the significance or importance of both issues, factors, individuals or events mentioned in relation to the question. Having analysed or explained both, they must reach a supported judgement as to which is the most important or significant.

To do well on the traditional essay, candidates needed to address the issue in the question, using detailed supporting knowledge. To reach the higher levels, candidates needed to assess the issues they discussed and reach a supported judgement, at least in the conclusion.

Candidates who did well on this paper generally:	Candidates who did less well on this paper generally:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gave equal consideration to the two issues in the short-answer essay • reached a developed and supported judgement as to which issue was more significant or important • linked their knowledge of the issues to the focus of the question • discussed at least two relevant issues in depth • the supporting detail was both accurate and relevant to the question set, not just the topic • reach a supported judgement about the issue in the question • make a series of interim judgements about the issues discussed in relation to the question. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • considered only one of the issues or discussed one in a superficial way • produced a judgement that was not supported and was therefore assertion or a judgement that did not follow logically from the response • were unable to use their knowledge to address the issue in the question • showed a poor understanding of the major issues relevant to the essay • were unable to support their answer with relevant or accurate material • did not focus on the precise wording of the question • made unsupported comments about issues which were no more than assertions.

Question 1 (a)

1 (a) Which of the following was more affected by the failure of the Second Crusade?

- (i) The West
- (ii) The Islamic world

Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).

[10]

Most candidates argued that part (ii) the Islamic world was more affected by the failure of the Second Crusade. In particular, candidates referred to how military successes on the Second Crusade proved to the Muslim leaders that the Crusaders could be defeated. Most referred to Zengi's success in unifying the Muslim world and thereby eliminating the disunity that had worked against the Islamic world at the time of the First Crusade. Some responses even highlighted the links between the promotion of jihad after the Second Crusade and Saladin's decisive victory at Hattin in 1187. When discussing part (i) the West, candidates referred to the damage to the prestige of the leaders of the crusade, including Bernard of Clairvaux, whose preaching had done much to promote the enterprise. Defeat had the effect of turning people away from the idea of crusading, although, as some candidates pointed out, it wasn't sufficient to deter Richard I and Philip Augustus from embarking on the Third Crusade. Weaker responses focused on the reasons for the failure of the Second Crusade. These responses were therefore not properly focused on the question.

Exemplar 1

~~After~~ The failure of the second crusade = ~~the~~ had a very negative impact on the west. First of all, it severely damaged the reputation of Bernard of Clairvaux, who claimed the men were not Godly enough, yet still came under huge criticism. Furthermore it heavily strained relations with between Louis VII and Eleanor of Aquitaine, who eventually blamed Louis for Raymond's death at the Battle of Muret, 1149. This affected the west as they divorced and Eleanor eventually married Henry II of England. The main effect which the failure of the second crusade had on the west was that it severely shattered the aura of ~~indestructibility~~ indestructibility which the crusaders had created around themselves. This subsequently put many people off going on Crusade and can be exemplified in the 1180s when the Patriarch of Jerusalem, accompanied by the ~~leaders~~ leaders of the Templars and Hospitallers, went to ask for another crusade, yet Henry II and the French king said no, only offering 30,000 marks in financial aid. This demonstrates the great affect

which the defeat led on the culture of crusading. In addition, the west became more disunited as Conrad III immediately made an alliance with Manuel I against Roger of Sicily when returning from the crusade.

The Islamic world was also affected greatly, but in a positive way. The failure allowed Nur al-Din to greatly expand his lands, which can be seen through his victory at the Battle of Inab in 1149 and taking Damascus peacefully in 1154. If the crusade had succeeded, this may not have been possible.

Furthermore, and potentially most importantly, the victory at Damascus and subsequent failure of the Second Crusade acted as the catalyst for Jihād. Although Zengi began promoting the idea, the defeat of the Second Crusade is what really began to make it a sweeping ideology across the Muslim world. This allowed Nur al-Din to unite the Islamic world under the banner of Jihād, something that Saladin also used to take Aleppo in 1183 and Mosul in 1186. Consequently it could be argued that the failure of the Second Crusade almost directly resulted in the defeat at the Battle of Hattin in 1187 as it triggered the wave of Jihād sentiment across the Islamic world.

Overall, the Islamic world was more affected by the failure of the Second Crusade than the west. This is because, although the defeat significantly reduced the will of the west to go on crusade, this was not a long term effect. This can be exemplified through the fact that Richard I, Philip II and Frederick Barbarossa all still decided to go on crusade in 1188 and therefore shows that crusading sentiment eventually recovered. The failure of the Second Crusade

had more of an effect on the Islamic world as it resulted in the vast expanse of Muslim territory gained under the banner of Jihad. Also the effects were long-term as it eventually resulted in the Muslim capture of Jerusalem in 1187 and therefore had an enormous effect on the Islamic world, as Jerusalem is the 3rd most holy site in the Muslim faith.

This exemplar is a Level 5 response for Question 1 (a). It includes balanced analysis of both factors using detailed knowledge and a judgement in relation to the question. For Level 6, knowledge will be more developed. This was given Level 5: 8 marks.

Question 1 (b)*

(b)* How important were the military orders to the survival of the Crusader States in the 12th Century?

[20]

Knowledge of the military orders was, in general, good. Candidates discussed quite confidently the role of the Templars and the Hospitallers in protecting pilgrims, providing medical care, guarding castles, and supplementing the kingdom's military forces. Fewer candidates referred to the role of the orders in acquiring support from the West. Some commented on the fearsome reputation of the orders among the Muslims. Other factors discussed included aid from the West. While some candidates made much of this point, others noted that the level of aid fluctuated, and that it was in fact a lack of aid that ultimately contributed to the fall of the Crusader States. Similarly, the strength of leadership offered by the kings of Jerusalem could easily be countered by referring to the damaging impact of succession disputes on the stability of the kingdom itself. For candidates, the most significant factor contributing to the survival of the Crusader States was the disunity of the Muslim world, which had been a reality since 1092. Candidates were aware of the impact of the Muslim successes on the Second Crusade in bringing together the Islamic world. It was only after the middle of the twelfth century that the integrity of the Crusader States became ever more fragile. Answers in the higher levels provided judgements in addition to fairly detailed explanations of relevant factors.

Exemplar 2

It can be argued that military orders were important but not essential to the survival of the Crusader States in the 12th century. For something to be important it has to directly link to survival and furthermore something can not survive without it. Therefore ~~the~~ Muslim disunity can be seen as ~~key~~ the most important reason for the survival of Crusader States as in the beginning of the century the crusaders never faced a united Muslim opposition. Equally, port cities were important for the Crusader States survival but not as important as military orders.

Military orders were important for the survival of the Crusader States in the 12th century as they helped garrison castles and protect pilgrim roads. The military orders were founded after the Battle of the Field of Blood in 1119 in which thousands of defenseless pilgrims were killed by Seljuk Turks. Therefore the Pope decided to provide funding to train warrior monks known as Knight's Templars

and medical monks known as Knights Hospitallers to garrison castles. These castles included Krak de Chevaliers, Montreal and Saffred and Templars and Hospitallers helped to defend Crusader State borders and attack Muslim territory. Furthermore the importance of the military orders is seen in the Cadmus Mountains in 1147 when Louis and his army were saved by the Knight's Templars against a Seljuk Turk ambush. Although Louis lost lots of support without the Templars he would have been killed and the Crusader States would have been weaker as a consequence. Overall this implies the importance of military orders through the ability to effectively garrison armies and protect pilgrims which provided more security to Crusader States.

However it can be believed that Muslim disunity was more important than military orders in the survival of the Crusader States because of the lack of a unified Muslim force. This is viewed at the beginning of the 12th century with Tamerlan and

Baldwin both clashing with Muslim allies at the battle of Artah in 1105. Similarly Baldwin II gained the help of the Sultan of Baghdad in the Battle of Sarmin to defeat Aq-Sunqur II - Barsug. Both these battles highlight how crusaders took advantage of the fractured division between Sunni Syrian Muslims and Shia Fatimid Egyptians. Without this the Crusaders would have been overrun due to the large amount of Muslim opposition which is viewed with the rise of Zengi, Nur ad-Din and Saladin. These rulers were able to continue Zengi's belief of Jihad as a method of uniting Muslims and therefore create issues in the Crusader states. This is shown with Zengi capturing Edessa in 1144 and Nur ad-Din defeating Raymond of Antioch and his army in 1148. As a result of this unity the survivability of the Crusader states decreased which emphasises the large importance that Muslim disunity had for the ^{survival of the} Crusader states. Overall this indicates that Muslim disunity was more important for the Crusader states survival ^{as} ~~one~~ than

military orders as once Zengi was able to unite the different Islamic sects under Jihad the Crusader States started to suffer more losses and defeats.

Lastly Port cities were important for the survival of the Crusader States in the 12th Century through the access to trade. The crusaders managed to control a large strip of the coast which contained Jaffa, Acre, Tyre, Ascalon and Arsuf which allowed ~~for~~ for effective trade and the ability to transport materials and man power from the west. This is therefore important as the increased manpower allowed for the Crusader castles to be garrisoned through the military orders and also for more people to inhabit Crusader cities. Equally all these port cities were located on the silk road which meant they could further trade with local Muslim communities which was a benefit of Muslim disunity and important as it secured the Crusader kingdoms through finance. Likewise the arable farming land around the port cities

was important as it allowed for Crusaders to both grow food to keep and sell. Ultimately the ability to communicate with the Latin West was important for survival as it meant the Crusader kingdoms could receive more support such as requesting for aid after the 1119 battle of the field of blood. Overall this suggests that although port cities were not as vital as military orders and Muslim disunity for the survival of the Crusader states, they still provided useful access to trade and communication with the Latin West which was important for survival.

In conclusion it can be argued that military orders were important for the survival of the Crusader states in the 12th century as they helped to garrison castles and therefore provide stability and security in the Crusader states. However Muslim disunity can be seen as more important because of the early Crusader success as a result of a divided Muslim world that slowly disappeared after

Zengi united the Islamic sects under Jihad. Lastly Port cities were also important but not as important as military orders. Nevertheless they helped to provide trade and communication with the West which was ~~import~~ important for the survival of the crusader states.

This exemplar is a Level 5 response for Question 1 (b). It provides an explanation of relevant factors with reasonably detailed knowledge and a valid judgement. To reach Level 6, more developed judgement is required. Interim judgements at the end of the discussion of each factor would help, as would more detailed knowledge of each factor. This was given Level 5: 16 marks.

Question 2 (a)

2 (a) Which of the following was more responsible for the defeat of the Crusaders at Hattin?

- (i) The tactics of Saladin
- (ii) Crusader weaknesses

Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).

[10]

Many candidates had good knowledge and understanding of the tactics employed by Saladin at Hattin. These included, for example, filling in wells, burning scrubland, and picking off the Crusaders with light cavalry. Some candidates focused instead on Saladin's broader efforts at bringing together the Islamic world and promoting jihad in the decades before the battle. These responses were less effective since they did not properly focus on the tactics themselves.

For Crusader weaknesses, candidates were well aware of the problems caused by succession disputes in the kingdom of Jerusalem. Knowledge of the inadequacies of Guy de Lusignan as a military leader were also discussed. Some candidates erroneously discussed Guy's subsequent dispute with Conrad of Montferrat, events that were irrelevant to this question. Many candidates argued that part (i) was more responsible for the defeat, since Saladin was able to capitalise on Crusader weaknesses: part (ii). A few candidates provided confused responses which associated Richard I and Philip Augustus with Hattin. This was clearly incorrect.

Question 2 (b)*

(b)* Assess the reasons for the enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade. [20]

The reasons for the enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade were largely well known. Answers tended to focus on the novelty of Pope Urban's offer to remit all penance in return for taking part in the crusade, the emergence of primogeniture in inheritance practices across western Europe, and the broader societal conditions which meant that many people lived in poverty. Some candidates added the pull of Jerusalem itself, which was linked to religious motivation, since Jerusalem was where Jesus had walked the earth, and where he had died. Stronger responses were able to evaluate the importance of these factors. Primogeniture, for example, was by no means common across all of western Europe. Similarly, poverty was less likely to impact on the nobility who provided the core of the military support for the endeavour. Other responses took a wider view by highlighting the role of the Peace and then Truce of God in bringing to light the inherent violence of eleventh-century society which Pope Urban sought to re-direct to the east. Relations with the Byzantine Empire, arguably the catalyst for the enterprise, were also discussed, although it perhaps had more to do with the inception of the idea in Gregory VII's mind rather than Urban's. Many candidates were able to discuss some of these factors with reasonably detailed knowledge. However, in order to reach the higher levels, a judgement was needed.

Assessment for learning



In relation to part (b), judgement is needed in order to reach the higher levels. A judgement provides a valid explanation as to why a factor is more or less important. It is not simply an assertion stating that a particular factor is the most important one.

Exemplar 3

The enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade can perhaps be attributed to religious zeal, the appeal of Alexius I in 1095 and the prospect of economic ^{and personal} gain. However, religious zeal is perhaps the most convincing reason for religious zeal as it stayed more consistent throughout the First Crusade.

Religious zeal was perhaps ~~one~~ of the most convincing reasons for the enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade. ~~Urban II~~ First, Urban II's speech was ~~very~~ ^{likely} very convincing. While his own personal aims may have had to do with ~~the~~ ^{for} solidifying Papal power — there was another Pope, Clement III, that was appointed by Henry IV following the Investiture controversy with Urban's predecessor Gregory — he also emphasized the 'Holy Sepulchre' and the idea of Augustine of Hippo's 'just war'. Considering that people in the ~~the~~ 1090s would have been deeply religious, particularly violent and afraid of

the aftermath, the idea of going on a pilgrimage-like war would have likely been appealing. Bohemond of Taranto, for instance, ^{second} ~~commanded~~ ^{was} fighting for 'head and the Holy Sepulchre'. ~~Moreover, the people's~~ ^{some commoners} without much resources were so inspired by Urban II's speech, they started the People's Crusade, ~~which was filled with women and children led by Peter the Hermit and was filled with~~ ^{various} people who were not trained as soldiers including women and children. This perhaps reinforces the idea that the response and the later successful Prince's Crusade - ~~also part of the~~ ^{Second wave of the First Crusade} - ~~was~~ were moved by religious zeal. Moreover, events such as finding the Holy Lance in the Siege of Antioch in 1098, fasting and praying before the capture of Jerusalem in 1099 and holding the Holy Cross and Holy Lance in the Battle of Ascalon emphasises how important religious zeal was throughout the crusade. Overall, religious ~~zeal~~ ^{zeal} was then perhaps a strong reason for the enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade.

The appeal of Alexius I was perhaps a less convincing reason to the enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade. ~~While~~ ^{Some} historians see the appeal ~~to~~ of Alexius I's envoys in 1095 in Piacenza to be the catalyst of the First Crusade. ~~In~~ This is because ~~to~~ the Catholics and Greek Orthodox church were trying to make amends after the Great Schism of 1054. Moreover, it ~~is argued that~~ ^{is possible that}

Alexius' men exaggerated the Muslim threat to convince the Crusaders to help ~~the~~ Byzantium. However, while Byzantium did face the Muslims encroaching on their territory - the Seljuk Turks defeated them in the Battle of Manzikert in 1071 and they were pushed out of Eastern Anatolia from 1077-1092 - the threat had actually died down by 1095. Moreover, there is no evidence to suggest that Urban II actually mentioned Alexius or the state of Byzantium in his ~~of~~ preaching tour, therefore it is unlikely the ~~average~~ average soldier who was particularly enthusiastic would have known or cared about Byzantium. The appeal of Alexius I in 1095 may have ~~led to the~~ ^{test} catalysed Urban II's preaching and some leaders of the First Crusade may have thought helping Byzantium would be important but it is unlikely it would have been a large factor for an 'enthusiastic response'. ~~However~~ ^{while} it may have made some of the leaders a bit more 'enthusiastic' because they would have had more resources ^{and be better prepared} - the Byzantines sent timber to Jaffa in 1095 to aid the ~~Byzantine~~ Crusades and Alexius also helped give intel to the ^{Crusaders} Byzantines on their Muslim adversaries and also helped with the Christian Armenians ^{on the way to Jerusalem} who would have been Greek Orthodox rather than Catholic - it is unlikely this would have been a major factor.

~~The enthusiasm~~ It could also be argued that one reason for the enthusiastic response to the

preaching of the First Crusade was in the personal gain of the Crusaders themselves. The ~~top~~ average soldier may have been excited by the prospect of money and land from pillaging. Moreover, ~~Bohemond of Taranto~~ ^{leader} some of the Crusader leaders would have likely gone for personal gain. For example, Bohemond of Taranto was disinherited and ~~had no money~~, did not have a large fortune - even after fighting in the Byzantine wars in the 1080s which would have, ~~probably~~ ^{possibly} made the idea of fighting ~~for direct profit~~ (something he was used to) for direct profit, especially appealing - and Godfrey of Bouillon also had difficulty asserting his authority ^{in his lands} and hoped gain on the Crusade would do so. Moreover, Bohemond actually took over Antioch after the Siege of Antioch in 1098, making it the second Crusader state. Besides this, Baldwin of Boulogne ~~also~~ did not even make it to the Holy Land but instead went to Edessa to help the Christian Armenians against the Muslims. ~~He~~ ^{He} ended up sidelining the Armenian ruler and taking over Edessa himself, making it the first Crusader state. While the actual gaining of land ~~and~~ as well as the inability of some rulers to assert their power makes personal gain seem like a ~~convincing~~ ^{convincing} reason for the 'enthusiastic response' to the First Crusade, ~~this was probably not true~~ considering there was no guarantee of land as well as the fact most

soldiers had to march four thousand kilometres away from home with ~~man~~ into fairly unknown territory with many dying, it ~~is~~ ^{seems} unlikely that they would have done so for the ~~steepest~~ purpose of gaining some land - many of which did not. Moreover, some ~~crusade~~ leaders had no reason to go but religious ones. For example, Raymond of ~~Toulouse~~ ~~was~~ St. Gilles was an elderly statesman and already very wealthy, so it is unlikely he would have gone ~~or~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~an~~ ~~enthusiast~~ about the crusade for economic reasons. Adhemar le puy who was a bishop was also a crusade leader and so it likely also went for religious reasons ~~not~~ considering both his religious title 'bishop' and the ~~dear~~ potential perils of the Crusade. Therefore, ~~while some~~ ~~Crusaders may~~ ~~part of the reasons for the~~ 'enthusiastic response' to the preaching of the First Crusade may have ~~to do with~~ ~~of the~~ ~~personal gain~~ may have been one reason for the enthusiastic response for the preaching of the First Crusade, but probably not one that was as strong as religious zeal.

Overall, religious zeal was probably the most convincing reason for the 'enthusiastic response' to the First Crusade, while it was true that the Muslim had Jerusalem for over four hundred years before the First Crusade, ~~the~~ Urban II's emphasis

on 'Just War' perhaps was enough to convince ~~most~~ people to go ~~and be examples~~, this is particularly evident in the fact there was even a people's crusade. The Appeal of Alexius I ~~was~~ ~~an~~ ~~also~~ personal gain and perhaps less convincing factors ~~left~~ because saving Byzantium probably would not elicit an enthusiastic response and because some people obeyed for religious reasons. Therefore religious zeal was the most convincing reason for the enthusiastic response to the preaching of the First Crusade.

This is an example of a Level 5 response for Question 2 (b). It includes a fairly detailed explanation of some of the factors. It lacks a clear and substantiated judgement in the conclusion. However, it does provide some limited interim judgement which pushes the response into Level 5. This was given Level 5: 13 marks.

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