



GCE AS/A level

1232/06

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 6

THE GERMAN REFORMATION, c. 1500-1555

A.M. THURSDAY, 19 May 2011

1½ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **one** question.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 2
IN-DEPTH STUDY 6
THE GERMAN REFORMATION, 1500-1555

Answer one question.

1. *Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.*

Source A

‘We order and command you, each and all, as you owe fidelity to us and the Holy Roman Empire that you should refuse to give the aforesaid Martin Luther hospitality, lodging, food and drink. Neither should anyone, by word or deed, secretly or openly, feed or assist him.’

[From the Edict of Worms, 1521, a law passed by Charles V in response to Luther’s challenge]

Source B

‘We see that there is no gold and almost no silver in our German land. What little may be left is drawn away daily by new schemes invented by the council of the most holy members of the Roman Curia. What is thus squeezed out of us is put to the most shameful uses. Leo X gives part of it to his nephews and relations. A portion is consumed by a host of most reverend cardinals as well as supporting innumerable elite officials of the Church.’

[Ulrich von Hutten, an imperial knight and a supporter of Luther,
writing in a letter to the Elector of Saxony (1520)]

Source C

‘Rome is a harlot, for I would never have believed the true state of affairs from what other people told me, had I not seen it for myself. The Italians mocked us for being pious monks. They say six or seven masses in the time it takes me to say one, for they take money for it and I do not.’

[An extract from one of Martin Luther’s religious books, published in the early 1520s]

Source D

‘In 1519 the wise and honorable Bishop of Wurtburg wrote to the Elector Prince Frederick of Saxony begging him to support Martin Luther. The Elector was so pleased with the Bishop’s words that he summarised them in his own hand and sent them to me so that I might understand that he was in support of Luther.’

[Georg Spalatin, court chaplain and secretary to Elector Frederick of Saxony, writing in his memoirs, *Recollections of Frederick the Wise on Luther* (c.1535)]

Source E

‘The Elector of Saxony never explicitly supported or authorised Luther’s ideas, but only tolerated and refused to suppress the spread of them.’

[Euan Cameron, an academic historian and a specialist in Reformation history, writing in a history book, *The European Reformation* (1991)]

- (a) Study Source A. Use Source A **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the term ‘Holy Roman Empire’. [4]
- (b) Study Sources A and D. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the significance of Luther’s survival after the Diet of Worms (1521). [8]
- (c) Study Sources B and C. How reliable are Sources B and C in explaining the criticisms made of the Catholic Church? [16]
- (d) Study Source D and E. How far does Source D support or contradict the interpretation of support for Luther given in Source E? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources to an understanding of the Reformation in Germany in the period, 1500-1555? [32]

(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study, as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions.)

2. Study the sources below and answer the questions which follow.

Source A

‘There is much in Luther’s preaching which I dislike. True, Christendom is corrupt and needs the rod, but it would be better, in my opinion, if we could have the Pope and the princes on our side. Luther sees certain things to be wrong, and in flying blindly at them causes them more harm than he cures. Order human beings as you will, there will still be faults enough and there are remedies worse than the disease. Would that Luther had tried as hard to improve popes and princes, as to expose their faults.’

[Erasmus, a leading Humanist, writing in a letter to Philip Melanchthon, a radical reformer and supporter of Luther (1524)]

Source B

‘I opposed the indulgences and all the papists, but never with force. I simply taught, preached and wrote God’s Word. I did nothing but preach any sermons. And while I slept, or drank beer with my friends, God’s Word so greatly weakened the Papacy that no prince or emperor ever inflicted such losses upon them. I did nothing: God’s Word did everything.’

[An extract from one of Martin Luther’s *Invocavit Sermons*, preached over an eight day period in 1522, and intended to take back control of the Reformation]

Source C

‘The direction of the Reformation owed much, not to sermons, but to the printing press. The Church had faced heresy before and had openly contained it slowly but surely. But now it seemed defenceless. The printing press gave it no time. It was now easier for Luther to attack the corruption of the church.’

[John Lotherington, an academic historian, writing in a general book on European history, *Years of Renewal: 1470-1600* (1999)]

Source D

‘At Worms the Church was simply handing over to Charles the responsibility of dealing with what they saw as a heretic. Charles was not expected to deal with Luther but to suppress him. Given what Luther had already debated and written, it could be argued that the meeting at Worms was doomed to failure. Certainly from Charles’ point of view it was. Both in the public debates and in the private discussions he had with Luther it was clear there was no chance of Luther recanting his ideas, which is what the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church wanted.’

[Derrick Murphy, an academic historian, writing in an Advanced level textbook, *Europe 1450-1661* (2000)]

Source E

‘Since your serene Majesty and your lordships request a simple answer, I shall give it, with no strings and no catches. Unless I am convicted by the testimony of scripture or plain reason (for I believe neither in Pope nor councils alone, since it was agreed that they have often erred and contradicted), I am bound by the scriptures I have quoted, and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I neither can nor will revoke anything, for it is neither safe nor honest to act against one’s conscience. Amen.’

[From Martin Luther’s pamphlet addressed to the Emperor Charles V in response to the Edict of Worms (1521)]

- (a) Study Source B. Use Source B **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the word ‘indulgences’. [4]
- (b) Study Sources A and B. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of Luther’s preaching. [8]
- (c) Study Sources D and E. How reliable are Sources D and E in explaining the outcome of the Diet of Worms, 1521? [16]
- (d) Study Source B and C. How far does Source B support or contradict the interpretation of the spread of Reformation given in Source C? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources to an understanding of the German Reformation, 1500-1555? [32]

(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study, as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions.)