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FOREWORD

This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

HISTORY (CARIBBEAN)

GCE Ordinary Level

Paper 2159/01

Paper 1

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This question proved more popular than most, but candidates only scored moderately well. They often displayed knowledge concerning relations between the early Spanish settlers and the Arawaks, and also the efforts of Montesinos and Las Casas, but usually had little to say concerning the role of Columbus in the settlement of Hispaniola or the work of Nicolas Ovando.

Question 2

Approximately one in four answered the question, but scores were often low. A few knew the details of St Kitts, while even fewer were able to supply the key points on the development of Barbados in the first half of the seventeenth century. Several candidates misused valuable time on irrelevant description of the conquest and settlement of Jamaica.

Question 3

As popular as **Question 1**, but producing less credit. Several candidates displayed knowledge of Dutch services to the early English colonists, but very few were able to expand on the wider activities of the Dutch in the Caribbean in the seventeenth century. A minority concentrated on the sugar revolution, which produced credit, but gave an incorrect overall focus.

Question 4

Two thirds of candidates produced a creditable average score for this question. The origins of the buccaneers were well known, as was their general way of life, but details of their services to the French and English governments through the exploits of Morgan and others only appeared more rarely.

Question 5

By far the most popular and successfully answered question. Details of the capture and transportation of slaves to the West Indies were well known by many candidates. Only a detailed explanation of the 'triangular trade' proved to be lacking in the responses of some candidates.

Question 6

Very few answers seen.

Question 7

About one third of candidates answered, producing an average mark which almost equalled that for **Question 5**. Many produced an introduction outlining the structure of society in St Domingue in the eighteenth century and went on to describe how the French Revolution produced reaction from planters, coloureds and slaves. The role of Toussaint was particularly well covered. Only the effects on the British colonies aspect of the question prevented scores from being even higher.

Question 8

Only two questions proved more popular than this, which was answered by some two fifths of candidates. Most were able to describe enough of the details of the Amelioration Proposals to produce a reasonable score on this question, but only a minority could expand on their origins and their effects on the British colonies.

Question 9

Answered by approximately one quarter of candidates, it scored quite well. Some candidates would have scored even higher if they had entered more fully into the likely spirit of such a letter and almost all would have benefited from a display of some knowledge on the importance of the 1846 Sugar Duties Act.

Question 10

Only **Question 5** produced a higher average mark. Governor Eyre's actions were well known by most candidates, although there was occasionally some confusion of detail. The longer term causes of the disturbances were also well covered by many. Only the wider outcome of these events proved to be an aspect of the question that was less well answered.

Question 11

This was attempted by very few candidates. No strong answer was seen. Some answers focused on the immediate post Emancipation period, while others went into the mid 20th century. None displayed sound knowledge of the topic that was the focus of this question.

Question 12

Answered by one fifth of candidates, who did not score well. Several focused on the mid nineteenth century, presumably because that was the period for which they had prepared themselves concerning the topic of immigration. Where the correct 1900 to 1945 focus was achieved, the command of detail was not shown in most cases.

Question 13

Surprisingly few responses to a normally popular topic. Those who did respond usually scored respectably. Most revealed more knowledge of reasons for the establishment of the Moyne Commission than for its recommendations and their results.

Question 14

Very few responses to this question.

Question 15

Answered by almost one quarter of candidates, it produced credit, but not usually in great quantity. Most candidates can score some marks from general knowledge, but they do not always seem to realise that such questions should merit the same level of preparation as topics found earlier in the Paper. There was one notable exception to this general comment, in the form of a lengthy, detailed and varied account from a candidate who had prepared well for the topic.

Question 16

The popularity of this question, and the general nature of the responses seen, were very similar to the previous question. Possibly some candidates, lacking preparation for earlier questions, mistakenly saw this as an 'easy option'.