



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
June 2012

## History

## HIS2D

**Unit 2D Britain, 1625 – 1642: the Failure of Absolutism?**

**Tuesday 22 May 2012 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm**

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2D.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.  
Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

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Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.  
Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

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### Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A**      The importance of Ship Money for contemporaries was political. Legally in Hampden's Case, the judges who declared for the king had a valid legal argument, but politics proved stronger than the law. The crown obtained its verdict by the narrowest possible margin. The moral and political victory was, however, with  
5 Hampden. Almost the whole propertied class united in opposition to Ship Money. In 1636, of the £196 600 assessed, only £7 000, or 3.5%, failed to come into the Exchequer. In 1637 the figure of non-payment rose to 11%, but in 1638, when the Scottish troubles gave men more opportunity to resist, 61% was unpaid.

Adapted from C HILL, *The Century of Revolution*, 1961

### Source B

**Source B**, a passage by K Sharpe on the relationship between Hampden's Case and the collapse of Ship Money payment, is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

The full copy of this paper can be obtained from AQA Publications.

**Source C**      It has been suggested that Charles's attempt to rule without Parliaments might have worked in the long term but for the outbreak of rebellion in Scotland. Certainly, once he had succeeded in balancing his peacetime budget, only a war might have forced Charles to recall Parliament. Yet the rebellion in Scotland was the direct  
5 consequence of Charles's own determination to impose religious reforms and of his own decision to suppress Scottish passive resistance by force. Therefore, the conflict with the Scots was the outcome of the reforming policies and authoritarian style of government that were the very essence of the regime.

Adapted from DL SMITH, *A History of the Modern British Isles, 1603–1707*, 1998

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 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to Hampden's Case. (12 marks)

and

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 Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important were Charles I's financial policies in strengthening his rule in the years 1629 to 1640? (24 marks)

**EITHER****Question 2**

**0 3** Explain why the expeditions to Cadiz and La Rochelle failed. *(12 marks)*

**and**

**0 4** 'Finance was the most important cause of the collapse in the relationship between Crown and Parliament in the years 1625 to 1629.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**OR****Question 3**

**0 5** Explain why the Short Parliament failed. *(12 marks)*

**and**

**0 6** 'The actions of Charles I in the years 1641 to 1642 led directly to the outbreak of the Civil War.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source A: *The Century of Revolution* by Christopher Hill (Copyright © Christopher Hill, 1961). Reprinted by permission of A.M. Heath & Co Ltd.

Question 1 Source B: K SHARPE, *The Personal Rule of Charles I*, Yale University Press, 1992.

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