

General Certificate of Education  
June 2008  
Advanced Level Examination



## HISTORY

HS5N

### Unit 5

**Alternative N: Reformation, Reaction and the Age of Elizabeth, c1525–1603**

Wednesday 4 June 2008 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 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 HS5N.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2 and **one** other question.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

### Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

### Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.
- In answering Question 1(b) or Question 2(b) in Section A and your choice of question from Section B, you are advised to draw on an appropriate range of historical knowledge and skills, to demonstrate overall historical understanding for the synoptic assessment requirements for this question paper.

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Answer Question 1 **or** Question 2 and **one** other question.

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**SECTION A**

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.

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**EITHER**

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

**Source A**

A brief text extract adapted from G ELTON, *Reform and Reformation*, 1977, describing the detrimental effects that Cromwell's execution had on Henry VIII's reign. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

**Source B**

A brief text extract adapted from R REX, *The Tudors*, 2002, suggesting that the ultimate fall of Cromwell was brought about by Henry VIII's failed marriage to Anne of Cleves, a marriage he persuaded the King to enter into. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

**Source C**

A brief text extract adapted from D WILSON, *In the Lion's Court: Power, Ambition and Sudden Death in the Reign of Henry VIII*, 2001. It discusses the religious struggles in the court and the Council during the final years of Henry VIII's reign. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

To what extent do these two sources agree in their view of the downfall of Thomas Cromwell? *(10 marks)*

- (b) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

‘The impact of factions and rivalries in the years 1540 to 1547 has been greatly exaggerated; in reality, Henry VIII was always in control.’  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

**Turn over for the next question**

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OR

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

**Source A**

A brief text extract adapted from A G R SMITH, *The Government of Elizabethan England*, 1967, discussing the governing tactics used by Elizabeth I of sharing out offices, prestige and wealth so that no one person was dominant in power or status. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

**Source B**

- The real blame for the problems of Elizabeth's last decade lay with the Queen herself. For most of her reign, she had tried to keep a balance between her advisers but, as Elizabeth grew old, she came to run a narrowly-based regime. Courtiers lost influence. Elizabeth seemed to have thrown in her lot with the
- 5 Cecils and their friends. Government had become the tool of a single unscrupulous faction. The ambitious and the frustrated turned to the Earl of Essex; but their claims for patronage were consistently dismissed. Elizabeth forced Essex into a desperate ploy. In February 1601, Essex and his followers staged a last-ditch effort to smash their way to political success – but they failed to
- 10 raise London and their attempt to seize control of the Queen was a fiasco. The failure of the Essex coup left Elizabeth even more under the influence of Robert Cecil.

Adapted from C HAIGH, *Elizabeth I*, 1988

**Source C**

- During the Essex rebellion, Elizabeth remained coolly in control, giving orders to Cecil and never doubting her people's loyalty. At one stage she received a false report that the City had gone over to Essex but she was no more disturbed by this 'than she would have been to hear of an affray in Fleet Street'. Having
- 5 demonstrated the fact that she was still in authoritative control of her realm, the Queen met the French Ambassador. She had indulged Essex for too long, she confessed, and spoke scornfully about his parading himself through the City. If he had reached Whitehall, she declared, she would have gone out to face him, so that he should know 'which one of them ruled'.

Adapted from A WEIR, *Elizabeth the Queen*, 1998

- (a) Use **Sources B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

To what extent do these two sources agree in their view of the rebellion led by the Earl of Essex?  
(10 marks)

- (b) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

‘Elizabeth was a weak and inconsistent ruler, always dependent upon her ministers.’  
How justified is this view of the reign of Elizabeth I?  
(20 marks)

**Turn over for the next question**

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**SECTION B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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- 3 'England experienced sustained economic prosperity and social stability.'  
How convincing is this view of England between c1525 and c1600? *(20 marks)*
- 4 Assess the extent to which politics and religion in England were affected by the rise of Anne Boleyn in the years 1527 to 1535. *(20 marks)*
- 5 Assess the contribution of parliament to Tudor government, both at national and local level, in the years 1529 to 1547. *(20 marks)*
- 6 'The foreign policies of Henry VIII, in the years 1525 to 1547, were unrealistic and mismanaged.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*
- 7 'Both Somerset and Northumberland were capable and effective rulers.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*
- 8 'The errors of Mary I, rather than the political skills of Elizabeth, explain the success of Elizabeth I in consolidating her authority.'  
Assess the validity of this view with reference to the years 1553 to 1563. *(20 marks)*
- 9 'Throughout the years from 1558 to 1589, Elizabeth's policies towards her European neighbours were driven above all by fear.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*
- 10 'Elizabeth I's authority was threatened more by Puritan extremism than by Catholic opposition in the years 1559 to 1603.'  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*
- 11 Assess the contribution of parliament to Tudor government, both at national and local level, in the years 1566 to 1603. *(20 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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Question 2 Source C: Adapted from *Elizabeth the Queen* by ALISON WEIR, published by Jonathan Cape, 1988. Reprinted by permission of The Random House Group Ltd.