



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate
Principal Subject

HISTORY

9769/11

Paper 1a British History Outlines, c. 300–1547

May/June 2010

2 hours 15 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Answer **three** questions which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.



This document consists of **5** printed pages and **3** blank pages.



Section 1: c. 300–663

- 1 How is the end of Roman rule in Britain best explained?
- 2 How extensive was Anglo-Saxon settlement in England in the period c. 450–c. 600?
- 3 How serious were the problems experienced by the kingdoms of Southern England and East Anglia in this period?
- 4 Explain the significance of the Synod of Whitby (664).
- 5 Why did the kingdom of Northumbria dominate seventh-century England?

Section 2: 663–978

- 6 Who contributed more to the consolidation of Christianity in England: St Wilfrid or Theodore of Tarsus?
- 7 Assess the relative importance of Aethelbald and Offa to the growth of Mercian power in the eighth century.
- 8 'Alfred's reputation depends as much on cultural achievements as on military successes.' Assess the validity of this claim.
- 9 How far was Athelstan's success in uniting England based on the achievements of Edward the Elder?
- 10 How much did St Dunstan contribute to the success of the tenth-century reformation of the English Church?

Section 3: 978-1135

- 11** How convincing is the argument that the Danish conquest of England (c. 980–c. 1020) could not have been prevented?
- 12** *(Candidates offering Paper 5a: The Norman Conquest should not answer this question.)*
Did the strengths of Edward the Confessor as a ruler outweigh his weaknesses?
- 13** *(Candidates offering Paper 5a: The Norman Conquest should not answer this question.)*
Why was William I so successful as King of England?
- 14** How great were the tensions between Scotland and England from 1066 to 1124?
- 15** How considerable were the achievements of Henry I as King of England?

Section 4: Themes c. 300–c. 1066

- 16** How significantly did the pattern of internal and external trade develop in the ninth and tenth centuries?
- 17** How effectively was agriculture organised from c. 650 to c. 1000?
- 18** Examine the importance of cultural and religious contacts with continental Europe in the period c. 600–c. 900.
- 19** How destructive was the Scandinavian impact on Britain in the period c. 900–c. 1069?
- 20** Assess the strengths of the late Anglo-Saxon Church (c. 1000–1066).
- 21** How wealthy was late Anglo-Saxon England?

Section 5: 1135–1272

- 22 How weak was royal authority under King Stephen?
- 23 Have the achievements of Henry II as ruler of England been over-estimated?
- 24 'John's problems as King of England arose entirely from his untrustworthiness.' Discuss.
- 25 How well did Henry III manage the English nobility?
- 26 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Scottish monarchy in the period 1165-1286.

Section 6: 1272–1399

- 27 Examine the view that political developments were more important than military achievements in the reign of Edward I.
- 28 What issues were at stake in the Anglo-Scottish Wars of 1286-1357?
- 29 How incompetent a ruler was Edward II?
- 30 How are Edward III's achievements best explained?
- 31 'Richard II was deposed because he became too powerful in the eyes of the nobility.' Discuss this view.

Section 7: 1399–1461

- 32 How seriously challenged was Henry IV by rebellion and conspiracy?
- 33 How valid is the judgement that Henry V represented 'the ideal of late medieval kingship'?
- 34 Account for the mixed fortunes of the English in France in the period 1422–53.
- 35 To what extent did the outbreak of civil strife in England in 1455 arise out of conflicting claims to the throne?
- 36 Assess the importance of the nobility to the government and military activity of the kingdom of England in this period (c. 1399–c. 1461).

Section 8: 1461–1547

- 37 How insecure was the legacy passed by Edward IV to his sons?
- 38 Discuss the accuracy of the judgement that the key to Henry VII's success was his relationship with the nobility.
- 39 Who was more successful in advancing the authority of the Scottish monarchy: James IV or James V?
- 40 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*
With what justification did Henry VIII regard himself as 'the Great'?
- 41 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*
How convincing is the argument that the breach with Rome was a movement from below rather than a policy enforced from above?

Section 9: Themes c. 1066–1547

- 42 In what ways, and why, did the economic and political status of towns develop in the period c. 1066–c. 1300?
- 43 How 'feudal' was English society in the period c. 1066–c. 1300?
- 44 'The dispute over Langton was more damaging to relations between the English Crown and the Papacy than the dispute over Becket.' Discuss.
- 45 How prosperous was the English economy in the fifteenth century?
- 46 To what extent can it be argued that Parliament was a check on, rather than an aid to, royal power in the period 1399–1529?
- 47 Assess the influence of printing as a force for change in Britain in the late-fifteenth and the sixteenth centuries.

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