



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

HISTORY

9769/55

Paper 5e Special Subject: The Reign of Charles I, 1625–1649

May/June 2011

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

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

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.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

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



This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



Answer the following question.

Nominated topic: The Second Civil War (1648) and the trial and execution of Charles I (1649)

- 1** Study all the following documents and answer all the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting upon the documents it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

- A** *At a prayer meeting in Windsor Castle, a gathering of New Model Army officers and soldiers decide to call Charles I to account.*

And in this path the Lord led us not only to see our sin, but also our duty. The Lord did direct our steps, and we were led and helped to a clear agreement amongst ourselves, that it was our duty, with the forces we had, to go out and fight against those potent enemies which that year in all places appeared against us, with a humble confidence in the name of the Lord only, that we should destroy them; also enabling us then, after fervent prayer, to come to a very clear resolution that it was our duty, if ever the Lord brought us back again in peace, to call Charles Stuart, that man of blood, to an account for that blood he had shed, and mischief he had done against the Lord's cause and people in these poor nations.

1 May 1648.

- B** *The wife of a radical Parliamentary army officer describes the setting up of the court which tried Charles I.*

In January 1649 the court sat, the king was brought to his trial, and a charge brought up against him for levying war against the parliament and people of England, for betraying the public trust reposed in him, and for being an implacable enemy to the commonwealth. The gentlemen that were appointed his judges, saw the king so bent upon the ruin of all that opposed him, that it was upon the consciences of many of them, that if they did not execute justice upon him, God would hold them guilty of all the blood shed. Some of them, afterwards for excuse, said they were under the awe of the army, and overpersuaded by Cromwell and the like.

Lucy Hutchinson, *Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson*, written 1664–67.

- C** *The judgement of the High Court of Justice against Charles I.*

Whereas the Commons of England assembled in Parliament, have authorised and constituted us an High Court of Justice for the judging of Charles Stuart, a charge of high treason and other crimes was, in the behalf of the people of England, read openly unto him, wherein he was charged that he, the said Charles Stuart, being King of England, and therein trusted with a limited power to govern by, and according to the law yet, nevertheless, out of a wicked design to erect an unlimited and tyrannical power to rule according to his will, and to overthrow the rights and liberties of the people, hath traitorously and maliciously levied war against the present Parliament and people and that he hath been and is the author, of cruel, and bloody wars, and therein guilty of high treason.

27 January 1649.

D *Charles I's speech on the scaffold.*

I shall first begin with my innocency, for all the world knows that I never did begin a war with the two Houses of Parliament, and I call God to witness, that I never did intend to encroach upon their privileges, they began upon mine. It is the [control of] militia they began upon. They confess that the militia was mine, but they thought it fit to have it from me. For the people, truly I desire their liberty, and their freedom consists in having from Government those laws by which their life and their goods may be most their own. In truth Sirs, my conscience in religion I think is very well known to all the world, and therefore I die a Christian, according to the profession of the Church of England, as I found it left me by my father.

30 January 1649.

E *A modern historian sets out some explanations for Charles I's trial and execution.*

By November 1648, flushed with victory in the Second Civil War, Cromwell was increasingly sure that God's purposes were clear. Charles was a pariah: 'this man, against whom the Lord has witnessed'. After his defeat in the first Civil War, Charles had played a difficult hand with some skill. He sought to play off the parties with whom he had negotiated. Those who had negotiated with Charles became increasingly frustrated and suspicious. Anger and a pragmatic sense that Charles was more trouble than he was worth did not, in themselves, result in his execution. Ultimately, by rejecting the opportunity to settle on the terms of the Heads of the Proposals, and by inviting the Scottish invasion, Charles was faced with men who had developed powerful justification for extreme action. The radical constitutionalism that Ireton borrowed from the Levellers demanded a restructuring of the state on first principles, a settlement to which monarchy was irrelevant. The army also alleged a providential mandate. An army of Saints, justified as such by brilliant victories, demanded vengeance on 'that Man of Blood' because God categorically required it. 'You cannot do without me,' Charles had claimed in 1647: a year later that was no longer the case.

Clive Holmes, *Why was Charles I Executed?*, published in 2006.

- (a) To what extent are the charges made against Charles I in Document C refuted in Document D? [10]
- (b) How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that in bringing Charles I to trial and execution his opponents were motivated chiefly by a belief in divine providence?

In making your evaluation you should refer to contextual knowledge as well as to all the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

Answer one of the following questions. *Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied as well as contextual knowledge.*

- 2 Why did the policies followed by Charles I in the period 1629–40 provoke such serious opposition? [30]
- 3 How important a role did Oliver Cromwell play in the military and political events of the period 1642–46? [30]
- 4 Assess the significance of the Levellers. [30]

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Question 1 Document E © Clive Holmes; *Why was Charles I executed?*; Hambledon Continuum; 2006.

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