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# AS HISTORY

Spain in the Age of Discovery, 1469–1598

Component 1B The establishment of a 'New Monarchy', 1469–1556

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Wednesday 17 May 2017    Afternoon    Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

## Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

## Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/1B.
- Answer **two** questions.
  - In **Section A** answer Question 01.
  - In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

## Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**Answer Question 01.

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**Extract A**

Ferdinand and Isabella were successful as long as they ruled an obedient society. Aristocratic co-operation was indispensable. The palaces of the rich men of the time showed their wealth and power; a combination that enabled them to resist interference. A dozen of the most powerful noble families controlled incomes greater than those of any bishopric. The monarchs sensed no conflict of interest with a class who were their natural allies in the government of the country and whose very status was because of traditions of service to the Crown. The monarchs were also skilful in handling their position as matchmakers in the aristocratic marriage market. 5

Adapted from *The Improbable Empire* by Felipe Fernandez-Armesto, 2000**Extract B**

The taming of the Castilian aristocracy was an outstanding achievement of the Catholic Kings: there were no noble revolts in the realm after 1516. Nobles were confirmed in their estates and private armies, but were given no extension of privileges. Instead, cities were taken back under royal control and new state officials were selected from the lesser gentry rather than from the aristocracy. The absence of any permanent capital or court made it impossible for the aristocracy to congregate together and to impose their will on the monarchy, as happened in other countries. The magic factor holding the varied personalities of the nobility together was Queen Isabella. 5

Adapted from Henry Kamen, *Spain 1469–1714, A Society in Conflict*, 1983

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of relations between the Spanish Crown and the nobility in the years 1492 to 1516?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2** 'The expansion of Spain's American Empire in the years 1519 to 1556 was due to the personal ambitions of the 'conquistadores'.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'In the years 1529 to 1556, Charles V's commitments as Holy Roman Emperor badly weakened Spain.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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

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