



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

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**HISTORY**

**9769/11**

Paper 1a British History Outlines c.300–1547

**May/June 2013**

**2 hours 15 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**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 **three** questions which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.

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.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

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



**Section 1: c.300–663**

- 1 How is the prosperity of Roman Britain in the first half of the fourth century best explained?
- 2 How widespread were Anglo-Saxon settlements by c.600?
- 3 How far did the development of the kingdoms of southern England and East Anglia in this period depend on the qualities of their rulers?
- 4 To what extent did the kings of Northumbria derive their power from the support of the church?
- 5 How important were Roman missionaries in the process of consolidating Christianity among the English?

**Section 2: 663–978**

- 6 How significant was the work of Theodore of Tarsus in the maintenance of Christianity in Anglo-Saxon England?
- 7 How are the cultural achievements of Northumbria up to 735 best explained?
- 8 Who contributed more to the development of Mercia as a major power in the eighth century: Aethelbald or Offa?
- 9 Assess the view that the main achievement of King Alfred was defending Wessex against the Viking Danes.
- 10 'Aethelstan was a more successful ruler than Edgar.' Discuss.

**Section 3: 978–1135**

- 11 How far, in the years 1016–42, was the Danish monarchy in England weakened by disputes over the succession?
- 12 *(Candidates offering paper 5a: The Norman Conquest should not answer this question.)*  
‘Edward the Confessor’s problems arose from his outlook being more French than English.’ Assess this view.
- 13 *(Candidates offering Paper 5a: The Norman Conquest should not answer this question.)*  
How far was the outcome of the Battle of Hastings a result of King Harold’s mistakes?
- 14 To what extent did Scottish kings benefit from their invasions of England from 1066 to 1135?
- 15 How convincing is the view that William II was a more successful king than Henry I?

**Section 4: Themes c.300–c.1066**

- 16 ‘The most important role of the nobility in the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms c.560–871 was the military one.’ Discuss.
- 17 How substantial were the cultural and religious contacts between England and Europe in the seventh and eighth centuries?
- 18 Assess the view that the main reason for economic change in the ninth and tenth centuries was the development of towns.
- 19 How far-reaching were the results of the tenth-century reforms of the church in England before 1066?
- 20 How significant was the Scandinavian impact on England in the years c.900–1069?
- 21 What best explains the development of trade in Anglo-Saxon England?

**Section 5: 1135–1272**

- 22 To what extent was Stephen responsible for the troubles of his reign?
- 23 'Henry II displayed sounder judgement in his government than in his relations with his family.' Discuss.
- 24 Which caused John more problems: his quarrel with the papacy or his relations with the barons?
- 25 What best explains the downfall of Simon de Montfort?
- 26 To what extent were the achievements of Llywelyn made possible by English failings?

**Section 6: 1272–1399**

- 27 'Edward I's reforms in government were driven by the need for money.' How far do you agree with this judgement?
- 28 How far do geographical factors explain the survival of Scotland as an independent kingdom in the reigns of the first two Edwards?
- 29 Was it more Edward II's character or his policies which led to his deposition?
- 30 How considerable were Edward III's achievements in France?
- 31 What best explains the downfall of Richard II?

**Section 7: 1399–1461**

- 32 'Henry IV was ineffective as a monarch because of the circumstances of his accession.' Discuss.
- 33 To what extent have Henry V's abilities as king been over-estimated?
- 34 Why were the English unable to maintain their hold on France during the period 1422–53?
- 35 To what extent did the actions of Margaret of Anjou contribute to the loss of Henry VI's throne in 1461?
- 36 How convincingly can it be argued that the nobility was a source of stability in England, 1399–c.1450?

**Section 8: 1461–1547**

- 37 'A good King, but a bad man.' Assess this view of Richard III.
- 38 How far was the power of the Scottish monarchy enhanced during the reigns of James IV and James V?
- 39 Why was Henry VII so preoccupied with the security of his throne and dynasty throughout his reign?
- 40 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*  
'Always the King's loyal servant.' Discuss this judgement on Thomas Wolsey.
- 41 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*  
Why did the Henrician Reformation not meet with more effective opposition?

**Section 9: Themes c.1066–1547**

- 42 Consider the view that the development of the universities was mainly in order to develop a better-educated priesthood.
- 43 How far was the Church weakened by disputes with the Crown in the twelfth century?
- 44 How important are economic factors in peasant discontent in the fourteenth century?
- 45 Assess the importance of women to fifteenth-century society and economy.
- 46 How is the expansion of English overseas trade in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries best explained?
- 47 'A greater age for secular than for religious art.' Assess this verdict on artistic developments in England in the fifteenth century.



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