



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/55

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

May/June 2015

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 an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

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

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

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.

The syllabus is approved for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

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 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 *The High Court of Justice passes sentence on Charles I.*

Charles Stuart, King of England, was trusted with a limited power to govern according to the law of the land and not otherwise. He was obliged to use the power committed to him for the good of the people and for the preservation of their rights and liberties. But, out of a wicked design to uphold in himself an unlimited and tyrannical power, he ruled according to his will and overthrew the rights and liberties of the people. He has traitorously levied war against the present Parliament and thereby caused many thousands of the free people of this nation to be slain. He renewed, or caused to be renewed, the said war against the Parliament and good people of this nation in this last year. In this war much innocent blood of the free people of this realm has been spilt, many families undone, the public treasure wasted, trade miserably decayed and many parts of the land spoiled, some of them even to desolation.

Sentence, 27 January 1649.

B *One of the regicides, who had signed Charles I's death warrant and was about to stand trial under Charles II, gives his version of the events leading up to the signing of the warrant.*

I said, 'God knows I desire not the King's death but his life. All that I thirst after is the settlement of the nation in peace. His Majesty now offers it and in order to gain it wishes to speak with his Parliament. Should you pass sentence on him before you have acquainted Parliament with his offer, in my humble opinion, your case will be much altered.' Cromwell, in some scornful wrath, answered me, 'This gentleman should know we are dealing with the hardest-hearted man on earth. It is not the opinion of one man that must sway the court or turn it from its duty in so great a business.' Not one soul would support me or say a word. Some were dissatisfied but dare not say anything.

John Downes, *A True and Humble Representation of the Death of the Late King*, published 1660.

C *A bishop, born in Scotland in 1643 and writing under the restored Stuart monarchs, describes how Oliver Cromwell explained his views about the death of the King.*

Scottish Commissioners came to protest about putting the King to death as they had sworn in the Covenant to protect the King's person. Cromwell answered that they had only sworn to preserve the King's person in defence of the true religion. When that religion was obstructed by the King, their oath was not obligatory. They were bound to bring all enemies of the cause to be punished severely. Those on whom public justice had already been done were small offenders in comparison. They acted on the King's orders and he was therefore the most guilty. However, Cromwell was in a quandary about the King's death and the majority of the people of the city of London were against it and were everywhere fasting and praying for the King's preservation.

Gilbert Burnet, *History of his Own Time*, published after 1724.

D *Charles I defends his actions.*

All the world knows that I never did begin the war with the two Houses of Parliament and that I never did intend to encroach on their privileges. They began the war on me. They agreed the militia was mine but then they thought fit to take it from me. I truly desire the liberty and freedom of the people as much as anybody. Their liberty and freedom consist in having laws from the government which ensure their lives and lands remain their own. It does not mean that they should have a share in government. A subject and a sovereign are completely different things and until you give the people that liberty, as I say, they will never prosper. If I had agreed to let all the laws be changed in an arbitrary way by the power of the sword, I need not have come here. I tell you, therefore, that I am the Martyr of the people.

Speech from the scaffold, 30 January 1649.

E *The wife of a Parliamentarian Colonel, looking back at events, gives her view.*

Some of the regicides afterwards lied, saying they were in awe of the army and over-persuaded by Cromwell. But it is certain that they were all given liberty of action and neither persuaded nor compelled. There were some nominated to the High Court who never sat and others who sat at first but dared not carry on. The rest could have declined had they wished, when they saw they would not have suffered by doing so. When in 1660, Richard Ingoldsby, Cromwell's cousin, was asked to explain his actions, with many tears he professed his repentance for the murder of the king and told a false tale of how Cromwell had held his hand and forced him to sign the sentence, making a most whining recantation.

Lucy Hutchinson, *Memoirs of the Life of Colonel Hutchinson*, written before 1671.

- (a) How far is the account in Document D about Charles I's view of the role of a king corroborated by Document A? [10]
- (b) How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that the King was executed only because Cromwell was determined that he should be?

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 How great an impact did the First Civil War have on English society? [30]
- 3 How far was the Army Revolt of 1647 caused by discontent about army pay? [30]
- 4 What best explains the proliferation of radical political and religious groups in this period? [30]

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge International Examinations Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cie.org.uk after the live examination series.

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.