



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/11

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

May/June 2016

2 hours 15 minutes

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.

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

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

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 are worth 30 marks.

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 **6** printed pages and **2** blank pages.

Section 1: c. 300–c. 670

- 1 What best explains the difficulties encountered by the rulers of Roman Britain in the fourth century?
- 2 Why was England so attractive to Anglo-Saxon settlers in the period c. 450–c. 600?
- 3 How powerful were the kingdoms of southern England and East Anglia in the period c. 450–c. 670?
- 4 ‘The kings of Northumbria were men of strong character and high ability.’ Discuss.
- 5 How far did the Synod of Whitby solve the problems facing Celtic Christianity in the middle of the seventh century?

Section 2: c. 670–978

- 6 Assess the contribution of St Wilfrid to the consolidation of Christianity in England after the Synod of Whitby.
- 7 How far did the cultural achievements of Northumbria in the late seventh and early eighth centuries depend on a few individuals?
- 8 ‘Offa of Mercia was a good soldier but had few other abilities.’ Discuss this judgement.
- 9 How significant, in his lifetime, were Alfred’s military achievements?
- 10 How vibrant and flourishing was the Anglo-Saxon Church in the tenth century?

Section 3: 978–1135

- 11 Assess the motives that led to the renewal of Viking incursions in the period c. 980–c. 1020.
- 12 What best explains Cnut's success as King of England?
- 13 *(Candidates offering Paper 5a: The Norman Conquest should not answer this question.)*
How well ruled was England during the reign of Edward the Confessor?
- 14 *(Candidates offering Paper 5a: The Norman Conquest should not answer this question.)*
'Consistent brutality characterised his dealings with the English.' How justified is this judgement on William I?
- 15 'He deserved his reputation as a bad king.' Consider this view of William II.

Section 4: Themes c. 300–c. 1066

- 16 How significant a contribution did trade make to the economy of Anglo-Saxon England up to c. 700?
- 17 To what extent did the success of Anglo-Saxon kings depend on good relations with the Church?
- 18 'Continental Europe had little significant contact with England in the seventh and eighth centuries.' Assess this view.
- 19 How great an impact did Danish invasions have on English society in the period up to c. 980?
- 20 'Efficient in its methods and effective in its impact.' How valid is this view of late Anglo-Saxon government?
- 21 Who contributed more to Anglo-Saxon society: merchants or farmers?

Section 5: 1135–1272

- 22 Was the Civil War in the reign of Stephen merely about the succession to the throne?
- 23 'The Angevin Empire was too large to be governed effectively.' How adequate is this explanation for the problems Henry II faced in maintaining it?
- 24 'England was better governed when Richard I was not in the country than when he was.' Discuss.
- 25 How far were the nobility to blame for the instability in the period 1232–1272?
- 26 To what extent was the rise of princely power in Wales dependent on the achievements of Llewelyn?

Section 6: 1272–1399

- 27 How successful was Edward I's government of England?
- 28 'All the advantages lay with the Scots.' How valid is this view of the Anglo-Scottish wars between 1286 and 1357?
- 29 Which led more to the downfall of Edward II: his aims or his methods?
- 30 'English successes in the Hundred Years War up to 1360 were the result of weak French leadership.' Discuss.
- 31 What best explains why Richard II's minority was less troubled than his personal rule?

Section 7: 1399–1485

- 32 Why did Henry V renew the war with France so soon after his accession?
- 33 Why was Henry IV successful in his policies to subdue Wales?
- 34 What best explains the stability of Henry VI's minority government?
- 35 How successful was Edward IV's first reign (1461–1470)?
- 36 How consistent was the foreign policy of the Yorkist Kings in the years 1471–1485?

Section 8: 1485–1558

- 37 How strong was the Scottish monarchy under James IV and James V?
- 38 How able a king was Henry VII?
- 39 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*
How effectively did Wolsey serve the interests of Henry VIII?
- 40 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*
How much support was there for the Henrician Reformation?
- 41 Why was the reign of Edward VI so unsettled?

Section 9: Themes, 1066–1558

- 42 How significant was industrial development to the English economy **either** in the period 1066–c. 1300 **or** c. 1300–c. 1500?
- 43 ‘Only the elite were influenced by literature.’ How valid is this view in the fifteenth century?
- 44 Why was the fifteenth century a ‘golden age’ for the labourer?
- 45 How important was Parliament in governing England in the fifteenth century?
- 46 What best explains the persistence of Lollardy in the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries?
- 47 How serious a threat to established authority was posed by popular unrest in the later fourteenth century and in the fifteenth century?

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