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Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

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Paper 1A British History Outlines c.300–1547

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MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 90

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Introduction

- (a) The banding definitions which follow reflect, and should be interpreted within the context of, the following general statement:
- Examiners will give their highest marks to candidates who show a ready understanding of the relevant material and a disciplined management of the discussion the question provokes. They will be impressed more by critical judgement, careful discrimination and imaginative handling than by a weight of facts. Credit will be given for evidence of a good historical intelligence and for good use of material rather than for a stereotyped rehearsal of memorised information.
- (b) Examiners will use these banding definitions in combination with the paper-specific mark schemes.
- (c) It goes without saying that any explanation or judgement is strengthened if informed by the use of source material.
- (d) Examiners will also bear in mind that analysis sufficient for a mark in the highest band may perfectly legitimately be deployed within a chronological framework. Candidates who eschew an explicitly analytical response may yet be able, by virtue of the very intelligence and pointedness of their selection of elements for a well-sustained and well-grounded account, to provide sufficient implicit analysis to justify a Band 4 mark.
- (e) The Band in which an essay is placed depends on a range of criteria. As a result, not all essays fall obviously into one particular Band. In such cases a 'best-fit' approach will be adopted with any doubt erring on the side of generosity.
- (f) In marking an essay, examiners will first place it in a Band and then fine-tune the mark in terms of how strongly/weakly the demands of the Band have been demonstrated.

Band 5: 25–30 marks

The answer will be sharply analytical in approach and strongly argued. It will show that the demands of the question have been fully understood and that a conscious and sustained attempt has been made to respond to them in appropriate range and depth. It will be coherent and structured with a clear sense of direction. The focus will be sharp and persistent. Some lack of balance, in that certain aspects are covered less fully or certain arguments deployed less strongly than others, need not preclude a mark in this Band. The material will be wide-ranging and handled with the utmost confidence and a high degree of maturity. Historical explanations will be invariably clear, sharp and well developed and historical concepts fully understood. Where appropriate there will be conscious and successful attempts to engage with the historiography, to evaluate source material critically and to demonstrate an awareness of competing interpretations.

Band 4: 19–24 marks

The answer will be characterised by an analytical and argued approach, although there may be the occasional passage which does not go beyond description or narrative. It will show that the demands of the question have been very well understood and that a determined attempt has been made to respond to them in appropriate range and depth. The essay will be coherent and clearly structured and its judgements will be effectively supported by accurate and relevant material. Some lack of rigour in the argument and occasional blurred focus may be allowed. Where appropriate there will be a conscious and largely successful attempt to engage with the historiography, to evaluate source material and to demonstrate an awareness of competing interpretations. The material will be wide-ranging, fully understood, confidently deployed and well controlled with high standards of accuracy. Historical explanations will be clear and well developed and there will be a sound understanding of historical concepts and vocabulary.

Band 3: 13–18 marks

The answer will attempt an analytical approach, although there will be passages which do not go beyond description or narrative. It will show that the demands of the question have been understood, at least in large part, and that a conscious attempt has been made to respond to them. There will be an effective focus on the terms of the question and, although in places this may break down, standards of relevance will be generally high. Although it may not be sustained throughout the answer, or always fully supported, there will be a recognisable sense of argument. The material will be clearly understood, with a good range, and organisation will be sound. There will be a conscious attempt to draw conclusions and form judgements and these will be adequately supported. Some understanding of differing and competing interpretations is to be expected and some evaluation of sources may be attempted but probably not in a very sophisticated form. Historical explanations and the use of historical concepts and vocabulary will be generally sound but some lack of understanding is to be expected.

Band 2: 7–12 marks

The answer may contain some analysis but descriptive or narrative material will predominate. The essay will show that the demands of the question have been understood, at least in good part, and that some attempt has been made to respond to them. It will be generally coherent with a fair sense of organisation. Focus on the exact terms of the question is likely to be uneven and there will be a measure of irrelevance. There will be some inaccuracies in knowledge, and the range may be limited with some gaps. Understanding of the material will be generally sound, although there will be some lack of tautness and precision. Explanations will be generally clear although not always convincing or well developed. Some attempt at argument is to be expected but it will lack sufficient support in places and sense of direction may not always be clear. There may be some awareness of differing interpretations and some attempt at evaluating source material but this is not generally to be expected at this level and such skills, where deployed, will be unsophisticated.

Band 1: 1–6 marks

The answers will respond in some measure to the demands of the question but will be very limited in meeting these. Analysis, if it appears at all, will be brief and undeveloped. If an argument is attempted it will be lacking in real coherence, sense of direction, support and rigour. Focus on the exact terms of the question is likely to be very uneven; the answer is likely to include unsupported generalisations, and there will be some vagueness and irrelevance. Historical knowledge, concepts and vocabulary will be insufficiently understood and there will be inaccuracies. Explanations may be attempted but will be halting and unclear. Where judgements are made they will be largely unsubstantiated and investigation of historical problems will be very elementary. Awareness of differing interpretations and the evaluation of sources are not to be expected. The answer may be fragmentary, slight and even unfinished.

Band 0: 0 marks

No evidence submitted or response does not address the question.

Section 1: c.300–c.670

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>What best explains the evacuation of Britain by the Romans?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to frequent changes in the person of the Emperor, through rebellion or through a high death rate as in 363–364. Instability was worsened by inconsistent policies with Valentinian sending troops to Britain while Maximus and Honorius removed them. In 367, the so-called Barbarian Conspiracy overran the whole island. Resentment in Britain over Roman rule was exacerbated by the brutality of men like ‘Catena’. Theodosius was more concerned with the Eastern Empire and after his death the Empire was divided. Gildas suggests there were at least three Pictish wars in the fifth century.</p> <p>AO2 – The debate centres on explanations that the Roman withdrawal was prompted by factors outside Britain, such as the pressures on the Empire and the need to evacuate troops to meet these as opposed to factors within Britain, such as the economic demands made by the Romans, leading to their unpopularity. In addition, the landowning class in Britain had less confidence in Rome as its ability to defend Britain declined. The invasions of the Picts and the failure to maintain Hadrian’s Wall added to these reactions. The position of Britain on the edge of the Empire was a contributing factor.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
2	<p>‘Buildings and artefacts were the most significant legacy of Roman Britain.’ Do you agree?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to a range of buildings such as urban administrative buildings, amphitheatres as at Verulamium, villas such as Lullingstone, rural complexes such as Fishborne, defences such as Hadrian’s Wall and the Saxon Shore forts and to roads and drainage. Artefacts could include items of military and domestic use and coinage. Other legacies mentioned could be governmental methods, Roman Law, Christianity and vegetables and plants to enhance cookery.</p> <p>AO2 – The debate hinges on significance and this can be judged in various ways such as longevity or breadth of impact. Candidates could argue that the concrete Roman remains have had the greatest effect in Britain. The Hadrian’s Wall boundary remained important long after the Romans. The communication system in Britain was heavily based on Roman roads. Roman coins were copied by many rulers. On the other hand, the Church followed Roman patterns of government with dioceses and vicars and though Christianity faltered, there is a view that it never died out entirely. Descriptions of buildings and artefacts should be credited cautiously as the focus is on their significance.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
3	<p>How important is instability in Britain in explaining the Anglo-Saxon settlement in the fifth and sixth centuries?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the arrival of Hengist and Horsa in Kent, Aelle in Sussex and Cerdic and Cynric in Wessex. The limitations of the available sources, such as Gildas and Bede and how far the written sources are borne out by archaeological evidence could also be discussed.</p> <p>AO2 – The debate centres on the relative roles of the push factors and the pull factors. The incursions of various barbarian marauders into Europe put pressure on the Angles, Saxons and Jutes and thus may have led them to cross the North Sea to find a safer home. There were also factors such as the rising population among the tribes and the competition for land for grazing and agriculture. The divided kingdoms of Britain meant that there was little organised resistance. The story that Hengist and Horsa were invited by Vortigern to help him fight a rival reflects this situation. Some may have been attracted by the accounts sent back to continental Europe by those who had already settled. In some cases settlers followed a forceful leader, hoping for fame and fortune. They had the technical skills to cross to Britain, which was a contributing factor.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
4	<p>Was Penda a ruler of outstanding ability?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the defeats Penda inflicted on Edwin and Oswald of Northumbria, his domination of the Middle English kingdom and of the Hwicce, his alliance with Cadwallon of Gwynedd and his slaughter of three East Anglian rulers. They could also consider Bede as the source of much of the information about Penda and how far Penda's blatant paganism affected Bede's judgement.</p> <p>AO2 – The question requires some assessment of Penda's abilities and a context in which to take a view. Candidates could argue that Penda's series of victories from 628 to 654 attest to his ability, along with the extensive geographical range of his dominions from Cirencester to East Anglia. He put Mercia on the map and from the base that he had established, the kingdom was able to expand and flourish. Although not specifically mentioned in the sources, administrative skills would have been needed to maintain his position. He was also ready to build alliances and even agreed to the marriage of his son, Peada, to a daughter of Oswiu of Northumbria, and Peada became a Christian. This may have led to Penda's fall, since the Mercian nobility needed constant warfare and a supply of booty, but the final defeat of Penda's large army at Winwaed in 655 was his undoing. It could be suggested that this was as much a result of heavy rain, leading the river to flood and to more warriors being drowned than killed in the fighting, and so not wholly to be blamed on Penda.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
5	<p>'No one else matched the contribution of St Aidan to the spread of Celtic Christianity in Northumbria.' Discuss.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the coming of Aidan from Iona at the behest of Oswald and his establishment on Lindisfarne in 635, from where he preached to the Northumbrians. The work of Bede could be discussed as the source of much of what is known about Aidan. The part played by other figures such as Columba and Oswald could be mentioned.</p> <p>AO2 – Candidates could assess the role of Aidan, mentioning his personal piety and his ability to win over Northumbrians to Christianity, unlike the monk sent previously from Iona. His firm basis in Celtic Christianity gave him authority. His strong relationship with Oswald was a further factor. But it could be argued that the Columban mission to Iona had been instrumental in laying the foundations of Christianity and that the support of Oswald was crucial for Aidan to progress. At first he needed the King to translate for him. The Northumbrian king favoured conversion as a top-down process. Moreover, Aidan needed other Irish monks to spread the gospel initially and then trained a new generation at Lindisfarne to carry on the work of conversion, so his was not a one-man show.</p>	30

Section 2: c.670–978

Question	Answer	Marks
6	<p>‘St Wilfred was more important than Theodore of Tarsus in the consolidation of Christianity in England after the Synod of Whitby.’ Was he?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the role of Wilfred and his connections with the Roman hierarchy along with the appointment of Theodore as archbishop with the aim of reconciling the Celtic and Roman factions in England. Theodore also held Councils and introduced other reforming measures.</p> <p>AO2 – Wilfred could be credited with excellent intentions in establishing monasteries and equipping them to develop as centres of Roman practices. He was an effective bishop. But his abrasive personality and his long periods in exile rather diminished his impact in England. Theodore was about 60 years old when appointed in 668 and remained archbishop until his death in 690, so his long period in office assisted his promotion of stability. He was backed by the Church establishment in Rome. His conciliatory personality, as well as his instructions from the Pope, meant he emphasised the need to incorporate Celtic and Roman patterns of Christianity in England. By holding Synods, such as those at Hertford and Hatfield, he underlined his authority. He tried to root out heresy and to restructure the diocesan system to strengthen the Church. Hence his role was significant.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
7	<p>What best explains the cultural achievement of Northumbria in the late seventh and the eighth centuries?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to various examples of cultural achievement such as the writings of Bede, manuscripts such as the Lindisfarne Gospels and the Codex Amiatinus, artefacts like the Ruthwell Cross and the Franks Casket and poems such as <i>The Dream of the Rood</i> and <i>Beowulf</i>. The dating of the latter is debated but, as some consider it the product of this period, it can be discussed.</p> <p>AO2 – One explanation for the achievements lies in the impact of the work of Bede, one of the greatest intellects of the period. His research and writing, in turn, derived from the books provided by Benedict Biscop in the library at Monkwearmouth-Jarrow and from loans from other monasteries as Bede’s reputation spread. As the manuscripts attest, Northumbria had trading and cultural contacts with other centres as far apart as Ireland and Byzantium. The fusion of pagan and Christian traditions is exemplified in the Franks Casket, while the Ruthwell Cross and the <i>Dream of the Rood</i> reflect the coming of Christianity to Northumbria. One factor which was less important was patronage from lay sources. This was a period of political upheaval in Northumbria so the main impetus came from religious motivation of various kinds.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
8	<p>How far do internal English divisions explain why resistance to Viking invasions was so ineffective in the period up to 871?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the Viking invasions from the raid on Lindisfarne in 793, to the large-scale raids in the 860s and to the efforts made in England to resist.</p> <p>AO2 – There should be some discussion of the factor given in the question. England was still disunited with several kingdoms, which were often rivals. Hence a coherent opposition to the Vikings was unlikely. Some English rulers like Edmund were killed and instability resulted. In Cornwall, the native Britons even helped the Vikings.</p> <p>But it can also be argued that the Vikings were hard to resist. At first, they chose soft targets like monasteries, then the lure of booty drew others to follow them. Their mastery of the sea and their nautical skills made them formidable enemies. After having wintered on the Isle of Sheppey in 858, they began to move from being invaders to settlers and so even harder to dislodge. Candidates could challenge the question to a degree in suggesting that Aethelwulf and his sons with the ealdormen of Wessex did put up some stout resistance.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
9	<p>'Better at fighting than at governing.' Assess this view of King Alfred.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the victories won by Alfred at Ashdown and Edington, to his building of a navy and to his innovations in the defence of his kingdom. His administrative reforms, his laws, his raising of money and his coinage could also be mentioned.</p> <p>AO2 – The question provides candidates with alternatives and they are expected to make a supported judgement as to which is the more credible. Alfred's achievements in battle can be assessed as significant, given the intractable nature of the Danish attacks. His perseverance in the face of defeats, the nature of his leadership and his establishment of a standing army contributed to his success. The construction of a navy meant he could challenge the Danes before they landed on the south coast. His defensive measures owed much to his understanding of Danish tactics and knowledge of methods used by the Franks to deter the Danes. Their effectiveness is borne out by their impact. The containment of the Danes indicates his success.</p> <p>In government, Alfred depended on his ealdormen, churchmen and the witan for advice and administration. He restored the rule of law and was able to raise taxes to pay for his defensive measures. Trade with Europe flourished. But, arguably, had the Danes not been resisted, his governmental skills could not have been exercised.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
10	<p>How effective were Church reforms in the tenth century?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the work of St. Dunstan and to his circle, including Aethelwold and Oswald. Some context in which to place the reforms could also be outlined.</p> <p>AO2 – One argument could be that the reforms were effective given the disasters that had affected the Church during the Viking raids, such as the murder of St Edmund, and the re-paganisation of parts of England. St. Dunstan as Abbot of Glastonbury then, from 960, as Archbishop of Canterbury was able to reform the monastic rule, using the Benedictine model and make the monasteries the power-houses of further changes. He sent Aethelwold to reform the monastery at Abingdon and, after a spell at Fleury, brought continental practices, such as correct choral singing back to England, thus strengthening the Church and establishing the <i>Regularis Concordia</i>. This extended the reforms across the Church. Once Aethelwold became Bishop of Winchester and Oswald Bishop of Worcester, there was more reform and some of the monasteries wiped out by the Danes were re-founded to spread the impact of reforms.</p> <p>But there were limitations. Dunstan himself was exiled twice and once he became archbishop he focused more on his diocese. Rome did not always look favourably on the late Anglo-Saxon Church and viewed it as out of touch with the latest European trends.</p>	30

Section 3: 978–1135

Question	Answer	Marks
11	<p>How effectively did the Danish monarchs rule England in the period 1016–1042?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the reigns of Cnut, Harold Harefoot and Harthacnut and to the successes and failures of the monarchs.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the Danish monarchs were effective: Cnut restored order after the instability under Aethelred. He was even-handed in his treatment of Danes and English threats. Eadric Streona was removed and once Thorkell seemed too ambitious he was exiled. He used English earls, Leofric, Siward and Godwin to help him govern. Danish invasions obviously ceased and Cnut issued a law code. He made peace with the Church and used its power to his advantage, making atonement for the murder of Aelfeah and endowing both Ramsey and Ely. He married Emma, Aethelred's widow, and she gave him sons. He was able to raise large amounts of taxation, some of which went to bolster his position in his other kingdoms.</p> <p>The problems arose over the disputed succession when Cnut died in 1035, since both Harold Harefoot and Harthacnut had a claim, although the English claimants had been largely eliminated. This led to instability and only the early deaths of both rulers saved the English state from disintegration. Harthacnut was noted for his brutal suppression of rebellion in Worcester. Then restoration of Aethelred's line in the person of Edward in 1042 shows the final ineffectiveness of the Danish monarchy.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
12	<p>‘All the successes in the reign of Edward the Confessor were due to the Godwins.’ Discuss.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the administration of England under the Godwin earls, to the crisis of 1051–1052 and its outcome, and to the subsequent rule of Harold as a sub-king.</p> <p>AO2 – The successes of the Godwins could be outlined in their assumption of power. Edith married Edward and dominated his court, overthrowing his mother’s influence. Godwin was the Chief Minister and able to resist Edward’s wishes over key decisions. After 1052, this position was held by Harold, Earl of Wessex, who was recognised as a sub-king, while his brothers Gyrth and Leofwine held other key earldoms. The Godwins also emerged victorious from the events of 1051–1052 with Edward forced to restore them after their exile following the disorder at Dover. How far these were successes for the reign or just for the Godwins could be considered. The stability of the 1050s was certainly a benefit, but Harold was not universally successful. In 1055–1056, the Welsh prince, Gruffydd ap Llywelyn, defeated his forces on the Welsh marches and Malcolm of Scotland invaded in 1057. But Scotland and Wales were eventually subdued or became allies. But there was further unrest in the North over the government of Tostig, restored to favour but then again outlawed by Harold.</p> <p>Edward enjoyed few successes in that he was generally unable to make his authority felt. He did manage to outlaw the unruly Godwin sons, Swein and Tostig, but his bid for freedom in 1051 failed and his desire to appoint a Norman as archbishop was overruled. He contented himself with the building of Westminster Abbey, but may have been instrumental in the suggestion that William of Normandy should be his successor. How far this counts as a success or a failure for England is debatable.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
13	<p>How important was the ability of William of Normandy in determining the outcome of the Battle of Hastings?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the events of 1066, the invasion of Harald Hardrada and the battle of Stamford Bridge, the preparations and invasion of William of Normandy and the tactics he pursued to win the battle.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that luck decided the battle and that it mostly lay with William. Examples could include: the invasion of Harald Hardrada which meant William could land on the south coast unopposed; the change of the wind which meant he could take advantage of the window of opportunity; the hard-fought battle at Stamford Bridge which left Harold’s army wearied and depleted; the long, tiring march south for the English troops; and, Harold’s decision to fight at once, rather than wait for reinforcements. The final piece of luck enjoyed by William was the death of Harold.</p> <p>But William showed skilful leadership in gathering together his motley force in the first place and maintaining its morale. He utilised the support of the Church effectively. Once he had landed he built defences and foraged for supplies. His raids on Harold’s estates contributed to Harold’s rash decision to fight. In the course of the battle, he changed his tactics to take advantage of the chance to attack once the fyrd had abandoned their advantageous position and he pursued the English ruthlessly. His archers were another deciding factor.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
14	<p>How successfully did Henry I rise to the challenge of ruling his Anglo-Norman realm?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the invasion of England by Robert of Normandy in 1101 and Henry’s invasion of Normandy in 1106 resulting in his victory at Tinchebrai. The impact of these events could be developed with reference to William Clito and the role of Louis VI.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that Henry was successful. He bought off Robert in 1101 and built up new alliances to get support before the 1106 invasion, which allowed him to keep Robert in honourable captivity and govern Normandy on his behalf. Roger of Salisbury as Justiciar could rule England effectively when Henry was absent. Henry subdued Wales and Scotland so their princes could not make diversionary invasions. He made a series of sound marriage alliances for both his legitimate and far more numerous illegitimate offspring. In 1119, he was enabled with papal backing to dispossess Robert and do homage for Normandy. Alternatively, his success was limited by events not entirely under his control. In 1118, a series of deaths among the Norman barons weakened his position there and Louis could invade. The disaster of the White Ship in 1120 deprived him of his male heir. This meant there was an opening for William Clito, the son of Robert, who had found refuge with Baldwin of Flanders and was supported by Louis VI of France. Clito built up support among the Norman barons and Henry’s second marriage, an attempt to provide another male heir, was childless. Waleran of Meulan came out in rebellion in 1123–1124. The marriage of Matilda to Geoffrey of Anjou and the fortunate death of Clito made Henry’s position stronger to a degree, but the events at his death demonstrated how the challenges had not been fully met.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
15	<p>What best explains invasions of England by Scottish kings in this period?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the reigns of Malcolm III, his various disputing successors, Alexander I and David I.</p> <p>AO2 – One explanation could be that Scottish kings took advantage of every chance to try to become more independent. Malcolm III was able to benefit from the Norman Conquest and pose a threat to William by sheltering Anglo-Saxon refugees and indeed married one of them. When William was faced by rebellion, then Malcolm crossed the border to join in. But eventually Malcolm became William’s man, once William’s control seemed secure. When in 1093 he invaded again, in response to the less stable rule of William II, he was killed.</p> <p>David I was more concerned to intervene in England in support of Matilda, the daughter of Henry I, to whom he pledged his allegiance in 1127. He was Earl of Huntingdon, as he had married the daughter of Waltheof, and was hopeful that he could get control of Northumbria.</p>	30

Section 4: Themes c.300–c.1066

Question	Answer	Marks
16	<p>What best explains the development of towns in the ninth and tenth centuries?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to specific examples of urban development and reasons for their growth.</p> <p>AO2 – One view is that towns grew as centres of fortification and defence. Alfred's burhs and the rudimentary wooden Anglo-Saxon castles are examples. In other cases, towns developed around monasteries and cathedrals or cathedrals were resited in already existing towns. Association with a saint or a pilgrimage centre could lead to the growth of towns. London as the capital city developed throughout the period. Ports grew up as trade developed and sea defences were built.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
17	<p>How powerful was the nobility in the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms between c.560 and 871?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to a variety of kingdoms or to a smaller range, but more than one example should be cited. Northumbria is likely to be used as one example.</p> <p>AO2 – One argument could be that the nobles had a key role to play as advisers, shown in the conversion to Christianity in Northumbria and East Anglia, and in local government as deputies to the King. The nobles' other main role was a military one to defend the ruler, shown by instances where they died at the side of their monarch. But, equally, the Anglo-Saxon rulers were personal rulers and powerful figures. They needed the support and backing of their nobles and their co-operation, but they were in command and could make or break noble families. However, there was a degree of mutual dependence and candidates could develop this theme.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
18	<p>Assess the view that cultural contacts with continental Europe were more important for England than economic contacts in the period c.600–c.1000.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to a range of contacts, citing monasteries in Europe which influenced cultural developments in England and the exchanges between scriptoria and personnel. Religious contacts can be considered as many impinged on culture. Trade between England and Europe can also be discussed.</p> <p>AO2 – One argument could be that the cultural contacts mattered most as they allowed England to play a more central role in European culture. Artefacts such as the Lindisfarne Gospels illustrate this. Monastic rules and the use of plainchant came from Europe. Scholars from England such as Alcuin affected the court of Charlemagne, while missionaries and individuals like Wilfred and Benedict Biscop also contributed to cultural exchanges. On the other hand, the trade between England and Europe affected the wealth and prosperity of England, although this is less easy to quantify from the available sources.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
19	<p>How far-reaching was the Scandinavian impact on Britain c.786 to c.1069?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the Danish invasions from the sacking of Lindisfarne and the subsequent fifty years of raiding, with the establishment of the Danelaw to the further tenth century raids and the Battle of Maldon. The invasion of Harald Hardrada in 1066 and the Danish raids on the Humber in 1069 could also be mentioned.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the impact was considerable. The sacking of Lindisfarne led eventually to the abandonment of the site, which never recovered. There was a heavy cultural loss with the raids on the Northumbrian monasteries. Mercia, Wessex and East Anglia also suffered and after 866 the Danes were established in York. Edmund of East Anglia was martyred, leading to the establishment of his cult. Alfred fought the Danes for most of his reign and had to cede the Danelaw to Guthrum. Under Aethelred, the Vikings returned and by 1013 Swein was able to drive Aethelred out of his kingdom. From 1016 to 1042, England was governed by Danish kings. The further impact of Danish occupation, shown in examples like place names, could be discussed.</p> <p>Alternatively, the impact did not affect all areas of the country and there were long periods when there was little Scandinavian threat. There was a distinct Anglo-Saxon culture which owed little to Scandinavian influences and it could be argued that rulers like Cnut were assimilated into Anglo-Saxon ways, becoming Christians and governing through Anglo-Saxon institutions.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
20	<p>How well governed was Anglo-Saxon England in the period 871–1016?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the use of advisers in government and the consultation of councils by the king. The development of the legal system and use of writs could be discussed. The raising of revenue and the issuing of coinage could be considered.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that late Anglo-Saxon government was considerably more sophisticated than many other European models. Kings were able to make their wishes felt and use their reeves to enforce the law. There was adequate revenue, given the general prosperity in the country. One possible limitation lay in the opportunities for nobles to rival the power of weak kings, as shown in examples like Eadric Streona.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
21	<p>With what justification can late Anglo-Saxon England be described as ‘a highly-cultured society’?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the artistic achievement of the Winchester school and the impact of links with the Carolingian court. The Exeter Book shows the poetic output, while the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and the work of Aelfric illustrate prose writing.</p> <p>AO2 – In some ways, Anglo-Saxon England was the leader of European culture in this period. The surviving manuscripts and sculpture attest to the high standards achieved, while the embroideries presented by Aethelstan to the Shrine of St. Cuthbert are fine examples of artistic skill in another medium. The literary output was equally impressive and what survives may be only a small sample of what was written. Candidates could question how widespread the impact of the arts was in the period since the educated elite was probably the main beneficiary. Much depended on patrons, especially churchmen and kings.</p>	30

Section 5: 1135–1272

Question	Answer	Marks
22	<p>'It was mainly the shortcomings of both Stephen and Matilda which prolonged the civil war in England.' Discuss.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the lack of a clear procedure to settle the succession to the throne, the early support gained by Stephen, the role played by Robert, Earl of Gloucester and the invasion by Matilda, the Battle of Lincoln in 1141 and its results, the mistakes made by Matilda, the role of Henry of Anjou and the factors which finally ended the civil war.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that Stephen alienated Robert of Gloucester and the bishops, which allowed Robert and Matilda to land in England, that he made a foolish decision to risk battle at Lincoln and that he failed in one of the main duties of a medieval king, the preservation of law and order. Matilda's main error resulted from her abrasive personality. She kept Stephen a prisoner in chains which alienated the barons. She also caused much resentment among the Londoners who deserted her, so she could not keep possession of the capital city. But there were other factors at work, such as: the reluctance to accept a female ruler; the power of local barons like Ranulf of Chester and the marauding Geoffrey de Mandeville, who changed sides to suit their own ends; the spirited actions of Stephen's queen, also Matilda, which kept his cause alive; and, the rivalry between Eustace of Boulogne and Henry of Anjou. In the end, it was the death of many of the main participants which led to the Treaty of Wallingford.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
23	<p>Assess the view that Henry II's legal reforms outweigh his other achievements.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to legal reforms such as the Assizes of Clarendon and Northampton, the introduction of justices in 'eyre', the system of courts at Westminster, the assizes of <i>novel disseisin</i> and <i>mort d'ancestor</i> and the 'grand' assize. They could also mention Henry's successes in Scotland and Ireland, his introduction of improved administrative methods, his defeat of the rebellion of 1173–1174 and his relationship with the Church.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the legal reforms were the greatest achievement. There was much to be done to restore respect for the law after the anarchy of Stephen's reign. A bigger role was given to sheriffs and to locally empanelled juries to bringing offenders to trial. Justices were sent into the localities to bring law and order to the people, while Westminster became the headquarters of the system. Disputes over property rights were more easily resolved and there was the chance of trial by jury. These developments foreshadowed much of the way legal affairs were to progress. But Henry also reformed the way in which taxes were collected and the exchequer was formalised under Richard FitzNigel, making the English bureaucracy one of the most effective in Europe. Henry limited the power of the Scottish king and he invaded Ireland. Initially, he defeated the rebellions against him and, in the end, he emerged victorious in his quarrel with the Church. But arguably it was his legal reforms for which he is most remembered.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
24	<p>‘An outstanding soldier, but a very poor king.’ Consider this view of Richard I.</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the successes of Richard in the Third Crusade such as his capture of Acre and his victory at Arsuf and to his recovery of his French lands in 1194–1198. The government of England in his absence could also be discussed.</p> <p>AO2 – Candidates could argue that Richard was indeed an outstanding soldier. His reputation has endured remarkably. He was much admired by contemporaries, including enemies like Saladin. His so-called poor kingship stems from the way in which he raised huge sums of money for the Crusade, regardless of other considerations, and how he left the country in weak hands while he was absent. But it can be argued that England was well governed without Richard by his chancellors, William Longchamp and later Walter of Coutances. They were assisted by William Marshal and Geoffrey FitzPeter, both able men. His mother, Eleanor of Aquitaine, was a loyal, experienced supporter. Later Hubert Walter ran the government effectively. The problems arose when Richard was captured on his way back from the Crusade and from the machinations of Philip Augustus and Prince John, but Richard was able to defeat them militarily and recover his position.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
25	<p>What best explains why King John’s relations with his barons were frequently so bad?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the series of difficulties which King John encountered such as his loss of Normandy and then his failure to regain his French lands and the disaster at Bouvines. His oppressive regime and his regular presence in England were other factors.</p> <p>AO2 – One explanation could be that King John looked like a failure as a king after his loss of Normandy and then he was unable to recover his Norman lands, despite several attempts, and his efforts to build a successful alliance against Philip Augustus also failed. Medieval kings were often judged on their success in warfare. The loss of Normandy had repercussions in that it meant John was resident in England, unlike his immediate predecessor, and that he needed large sums of money to pay for mercenaries to try to regain Normandy. Alternatively, John was a harsh ruler. His law courts were active and oppressive. He trusted few barons and even the model William the Marshal came under suspicion. He exploited traditional feudal revenues to the hilt and he was accused of lechery towards baronial wives and daughters. His supposed murder of Arthur added to his unpopularity. Once a number of barons had been driven into opposition, they came together to force Magna Carta on John for self-preservation and were helped by the leadership of Stephen Langton.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
26	<p>How effectively did Alexander II and Alexander III rule Scotland in the period 1214–1286?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates might refer to the policies pursued by the kings, such as extending their control, raising more revenue and being less inclined to fight England.</p> <p>AO2 – One argument could be that the kings concentrated successfully on dealing with rebellious nobles such as the MacWilliams and on getting control of the Isle of Man, although Orkney and Shetland remained in Scandinavian hands. This was helped by peace with England. Alexander II married Joan, a sister of Henry III, and Alexander III was betrothed to a daughter of Henry III. The brief renewal of hostilities in 1244 led to a favourable treaty, although Alexander II had married a French princess after the death of Joan and she was the mother of his heir. Both kings modernised the administration and finances, often using English patterns.</p>	30

Section 6: 1272–1399

Question	Answer	Marks
27	<p>Did Edward I achieve more in England than in France?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the reforms instigated by Edward beginning with the <i>quo warranto</i> proceedings and going on to include his use of Parliament and the passing of further statutes. Edward's wars in Gascony could be discussed and their impact on events at home.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the establishment of strong government at home, after the vicissitudes of Henry III's reign, was a priority for Edward. His law-making, using his Parliament, meant Statutes were now to be seen as being valid in perpetuity, although some of his legislation was still carried out in his Council. He challenged his magnates to justify some of the claims they made in exercising justice. The success of his proceedings has been judged as limited, and law and order may not have improved that much. By the end of his reign his demands had made him very unpopular and the baronage was resentful. In 1273, while in Gascony, Edward attempted to bring about a more peaceful Europe and began with doing homage to Philip III for Gascony. When Edward returned to England, he arranged for Gascony to be ruled by Maurice de Craon. His Gascon Wars to put down opposition there and challenge the claims of the French king were expensive and led to resistance in England from barons who saw no obligation to serve in France. But the French lands were recognised as Edward's at the treaty of Paris in 1303.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
28	<p>How great were the problems facing English rule in Wales in the fourteenth century?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the creation of the Prince of Wales, the completion of castles at Denbigh and Beaumaris, the activities of Llywelyn, the role of the Despensers and the Marcher Lords.</p> <p>AO2 – It could be argued that the problems were largely overcome as a result of the conquests of Edward I. By 1307, Wales was largely under control and the castles built by Edward I maintained English rule. The Black Prince became Prince of Wales in 1343 and later Richard, his son, was also invested. After the crisis of 1327, the Marcher Lords maintained order.</p> <p>Alternatively, there was a revolt in Glamorgan in 1318 and further trouble on the borders in 1321, although it could be claimed the latter was actually part of the hostility between Mortimer and the Despensers. In 1372, Owain Lawgoch began a series of attempted invasions to seize the Welsh crown but was easily repulsed.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
29	<p>How important is military failure in explaining the difficulties of Edward II's reign?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the defeats which Edward sustained at the hands of the Scots, culminating in the battle of Bannockburn. The failure of the siege of Berwick in 1318 could be mentioned. Other factors could include the King's dependence on his Favourites and the attitudes of some of his barons.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that Edward II's military failures impacted on his government of England. In 1310, his failures in Scotland were partly responsible for Edward being faced with the demands of the Ordinances. His refusal to agree to the renewed exile of Gaveston led to civil war and the capture and execution of the favourite. The defeat at Bannockburn brought Thomas of Lancaster to power. This caused problems for Edward in that Lancaster tried to enforce the Ordinances and was hostile to the King and his friends. The failure at Berwick discredited Lancaster's government and could be said to lead on to his defeat at Boroughbridge.</p> <p>Alternatively, Edward was the author of his difficulties himself, with his unwavering loyalty first to Gaveston and then to the Despencers. His big mistake was to let his wife and son go to France in 1326, from whence, in conjunction with her lover, Mortimer, she launched the invasion which resulted in Edward's downfall. The pursuit of private quarrels and feuds by the nobility also caused problems, and the blood-letting which resulted in exacerbated feelings between the baronial families.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
30	<p>'A period of decline in royal power.' How valid is this view of Edward III's reign after 1360?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the impermanence of the treaty with France in 1360 and the revival of the war by Charles V, with some success, to the death of the Black Prince, and the rise of John of Gaunt and to the ascendancy of Alice Perrers at court.</p> <p>AO2 – It could be argued that royal power declined. When Edward returned from France, he was much depleted in health and strength and often seemed not to be in control. The rapacity of Alice Perrers was proverbial. The resentment at the greed of the courtiers and officials was expressed by the 'Good' Parliament in 1376 and offenders were impeached and dismissed. But John of Gaunt maintained the administration, although not especially popular, and was to prove an able ruler in the minority of Richard II. So, in another view, although these years were far from being the most glorious of the reign, royal power was not irrevocably damaged.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
31	<p>How far was Richard II's deposition the result of his own actions?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates may refer to the humiliation that Richard felt he had suffered when the Lords Appellant were appointed after the Merciless Parliament of 1388 and to his Favourites who encouraged his resentment. The role of the nobles could also be discussed, along with the outcome of the exile of Henry Bolingbroke.</p> <p>AO2 – One argument could be that Richard's actions were imprudent and his aims unrealistic. He alarmed the nobles needlessly and so ended up being brought under the domination of the Lords Appellant. His favoured advisers were not men to whom the baronage could warm and their encouragement of Richard's exalted view of kingship put the King on the road to confrontation. His actions against Warwick, Arundel and Lancaster worried the nobles even further. The crisis of the reign was precipitated by Richard in his failure to be impartial in the quarrel between Mowbray and Bolingbroke and by the death of John of Gaunt and Richard's refusal to acknowledge Bolingbroke's right of inheritance, which caused the nobles to be even more fearful. Embarking on an expedition to Ireland at this point was Richard's final folly, leaving the way open for Bolingbroke to invade, ostensibly just to claim his rightful inheritance. But the conservatism of the nobility, the growing power of Parliament and the more random factor that Richard had no heir or any immediate prospect of one in 1399, were also factors in his deposition.</p>	30

Section 7: 1399–1485

Question	Answer	Marks
32	<p>How successful was Henry V as King of England in both domestic and foreign affairs?</p> <p>AO1 – The focus here is on Henry as King of England. However,, candidates may well refer to the war in France in terms of reflecting that Henry needed government at home to be secure while he was abroad fighting and in order to raise sufficient taxation.</p> <p>AO2 – Generally, Henry V has been seen as a very able and successful king, but some criticisms more recently have suggested that he was not without fault. Henry’s abilities as a military commander are well rehearsed, although his successes were not forgone conclusions and involved the kingdom in huge expense. It was essential that the kingdom be well ruled while Henry was at war. He certainly was able to maintain peace and stability in England and extend the prestige of the monarchy. He was able to achieve considerable feats with finance and accounting. His relationship with the nobility was sound and assured, although this might depend largely on his success in war. Henry was also notably pious; he worked against Lollardy and worked with the papacy.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
33	<p>‘Factional nobility, not personal inadequacy, best explains why Henry VI lost his throne in 1461.’ Does it?</p> <p>AO1 – The question concerns the reasons why Henry VI lost his throne; there is a focus on the responsibility of Henry himself as compared to the role of the nobility. Candidates’ answers need relative evaluation of the other possible reasons for his deposition.</p> <p>AO2 – Responses should explore Henry’s personal weaknesses and failings as a king alongside the issue of factionalism, and the role of people such as Suffolk, Somerset, Margaret of Anjou and Richard Duke of York, Salisbury and Warwick. It could be argued that Henry’s personal failings were the cause of factionalism, but other reasons might be explored. There are clear links between the various factors and the changes and developments of these over time. There should be some exploration of the final year of Henry’s reign.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
34	<p>How serious a threat was Owain Glyndwr to Henry IV?</p> <p>AO1 – The focus here should be on the threat posed by Glyndwr, although there may be some comment that it was more serious because of other threats to Henry. While the circumstances of Henry’s accession might have some bearing on the debate, it is not the thrust of the question.</p> <p>AO2 – An assessment of the longevity of the rising is essential as opposed to a narrative of events, although a chronological approach could work. Glyndwr’s declaration of himself as Prince of Wales in 1400 through to the fall of Harlech in 1409 and then his disappearance in 1413 should be considered. The fact that Glyndwr ruled in Wales for a decade, calling parliaments and negotiating with the papacy, should be considered. Responses should evaluate his dealings with the English nobility, especially the Earl of March, and Henry’s problems including his own accession, issues with Scotland and the challenges of the Percies. For ten years, Wales and the Marches were a battleground with economic, social and political consequences. The ultimate defeat of Glyndwr and the future Henry V’s role in that should also be considered.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
35	<p>Account for the dramatic changes in political fortune for both Lancastrians and Yorkists in the period 1469–1471.</p> <p>AO1 – The question concerns this specific period when the crown changed hands twice. Responses should focus on an analysis of the competing reasons for this change.</p> <p>AO2 – The reasons for the dramatic changes include: Warwick’s disappointments and desire to rule; the inaction of Edward IV, followed by his recovery and Warwick’s flight to France; the treachery of Clarence; the foreign perspective of the agreement of Warwick and Anjou, followed by Edward IV’s flight to Burgundy; and, the declaration of war on Burgundy once the re-adoption had been completed followed by the military triumphs of Edward IV. These could be considered in the context of the failings and abilities of the key players, Edward IV, Warwick and Anjou.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
36	<p>'He was never able to escape the circumstances of his accession.' Assess this view of Richard III.</p> <p>AO1 – The focus here is on whether Richard III's reign was troubled and short because he usurped the throne from his nephew whom he was rumoured to have killed. This needs to be set against an analysis of whether there were other faults and problems with the reign.</p> <p>AO2 – A case can be made for the proposition that Richard III 'was never able to escape the circumstances of his accession', with analysis of the impact this had on Richard's reputation. The weakness of his claim and the narrowness of his support base could also be considered. A crucial turning point is Buckingham's revolt and the aftermath, including the use of the northern lords. The activities of the French king could be considered. There should be some evaluation of whether Richard ruled well and whether in fact he lost his throne through chance on the battlefield.</p>	30

Section 8: 1485–1558

Question	Answer	Marks
37	<p>'A tyrant from start to finish.' Discuss this view of Henry VII as king.</p> <p>AO1 – The question focuses on Henry's reputation as a tyrant and what this might mean in the fifteenth century. Contemporary views and historical debate concerning this issue might be referred to.</p> <p>AO2 – An exploration of some of the key features of his reign, most importantly relationships with the nobility and finances, should be explored. Responses should examine the constraints placed on the nobility which linked to financial exactions. Some explanation of the circumstances of Henry's accession might be expected. It could be argued that Henry became more of a tyrant after 1502, but there should be good coverage of the whole reign.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
38	<p>Did Henry VIII achieve his aims in foreign policy in the years 1509–1529?</p> <p>AO1 – Henry's aims in foreign policy in this period include wanting to emulate Henry V, rid himself of his father's cautious foreign policy and ultimately claim the French throne. He clearly failed to achieve this given the situation in Europe, the behaviour of his allies and financial constraints.</p> <p>AO2 – Responses are likely to include a strong focus on Wolsey and whether he had aims of his own. Successes in foreign policy including gains in France and the Treaty of London might be set against the failure to capitalise on the Battle of Pavia due to the failure of the Amicable Grant. Ultimately, there were some successes but the main aim was not fulfilled.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
39	<p>How damaging for England was the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII?</p> <p>AO1 – This question concerns the impact of the dissolution of the monasteries on England in a variety of ways including social, religious, cultural and financial. The answer should be an evaluation of the level and scale of the damage.</p> <p>AO2 – The dissolution marks the end of a rich tradition in England. The loss of buildings, artefacts and books can be considered. The issues include the role played by the monasteries in the community in terms of charity, employment, the local economy and society. The wider political issues include: the severing England from the religious orders in Europe; the secularisation of the House of Lords; and, the way in which land was redistributed and the wealth used by the Crown. The impact of the Pilgrimage of Grace might also be evaluated.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
40	<p>How effective were Somerset and Northumberland in governing England during the reign of Edward VI?</p> <p>AO1 – The question concerns how effectively England was ruled during the minority of Edward VI, and the relative merits of Somerset and Northumberland. There is likely to be some consideration of a the changes over the course of the reign.</p> <p>AO2 – Often considered to be a period of crisis, it is important to consider such issues as: finance, inflation and the economy, and measures taken in their respect; the use of Parliament; proclamation and the Council; the role played by foreign policy; and the personal attributes and styles of Somerset and Northumberland. Candidates might compare the two, although this is not essential. The issue of social unrest will also be evaluated. There may be some knowledge of the historical debate which has rehabilitated Northumberland.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
41	<p>How able a queen was Mary I?</p> <p>AO1 – This question concerns the ability and attributes of Mary I as queen. Responses could refer to the debate over her ability. There should be a sense of a range of issues covered and evaluated.</p> <p>AO2 – The issue of her succession and her ability to secure the Crown and then to stand firm against Wyatt might be considered. There will be an evaluation of her religious policy which may well conclude that this was the least impressive area of her reign. Foreign policy and her marriage will also be considered. There should be an evaluation of the reforms she introduced and references to her use of Parliament and the council. These could be set against the background of economic distress and, perhaps, the view that however able the monarch, these circumstances would have been impossible to deal with.</p>	30

Section 9: Themes 1066–1558

Question	Answer	Marks
42	<p>How significant were developments in education in the period c.1200–1400?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the founding of schools and to the developments at Oxford and Cambridge.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the developments were considerable. The Church maintained its stranglehold on schools, often largely to supply choristers for Cathedrals, though in London some were attached to important churches. Some chantries had grammar schools attached. William of Wykeham’s foundation at Winchester was a large undertaking and was the basis for the later setting up of Eton. By 1400, the universities were both well established and had achieved a monopoly of higher education which remained unchallenged for centuries. The Hundred Years War cut off the universities from Europe and so assisted their independent development. Scholars such as Duns Scotus, William of Ockham and John Wyclif were influential. The colleges often attracted very distinguished patrons.</p> <p>Alternatively, education was still very much the preserve of the few and the universities seen primarily as training grounds for the clergy. The quarrel between the universities and the friars were discreditable as were the town-gown conflicts.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
43	<p>How far did the lives of peasants improve in the fourteenth century?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to the impact of the Black Death and the changes it brought to the lives of the peasants, and to the causes and results of the Peasants’ Revolt.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the lives of the peasants did not improve much. Even before the Black Death, there had been famine years in 1315–1317 and floods in 1324–1326. Prices of agricultural products were in decline, thus reducing profits and making the lords more oppressive. The rigours of the feudal system remained harshly enforced. Then a large number of peasants died in the plague. The Statute of Labourers attempted to peg wages. The aftermath of the Peasants’ Revolt was the revoking of the concessions made by the King. Chaucer’s poor widow and Langland’s ploughman attest to the miseries suffered by some peasants.</p> <p>Alternatively, some peasants did prosper. Those who survived the plague were often well placed to demand that their lords excuse them from feudal services and instead employ them for wages. Several major landowners moved to leasehold arrangements for their tenants, which allowed the peasants much more freedom. Some benefited from the growing wealth derived from the wool industry. Candidates could suggest that the experiences of the peasants varied a good deal.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
44	<p>‘More harmony than discord.’ How accurate is this view of Crown–Church relations in the period 1066–1300?</p> <p>AO1 – Candidates could refer to issues which caused trouble between Crown and Church, such as the Investiture Contest, relations with the papacy and matters of taxation.</p> <p>AO2 – One view could be that the interests of Church and State were not dissimilar and so it behoved both to be on good terms. Churchmen were prominent in secular administration, which could hardly run without them. The friendship between William I and Lanfranc could be cited, along with the religiosity of Henry III.</p> <p>Alternatively, there were quarrels. Even Lanfranc was exiled for a period. William II and Anselm fell out and Henry I, after reconciling with the Archbishop also exiled him. The role of the Church during the anarchy reflected its independent power. The conflict between Becket and Henry II could be seen as the zenith of discord in England, while King John and Stephen Langton provide a further example. After 1215, much of the discord arose from the reforms which the papacy was trying to enforce and from clerical resentment at royal writs and parliamentary statutes which restricted the power of the Church.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
45	<p>‘The Church in England in the fifteenth century was characterised by worldliness and corruption.’ Was it?</p> <p>AO1 – The answers to this question should focus on the fifteenth century; it is not a question about how far the Church was ripe for reform in 1529. There was a great deal of corruption and worldliness in the period, but this argument needs to be balanced against that stating the good deal of piety and development.</p> <p>AO2 – There is a strong case to be made for the question with plenty of examples of worldly prelates such as Beaufort, yet vocation was still strong. There were an increasing number of graduates amongst the secular clergy although monastic life seemed to falter despite their wealth. Candidates might refer to various attempts at genuine reform. Some reference to Lollardy could be made. Popular piety was generally strong with enthusiasm for pilgrimage and lay guilds in particular. The links between lay literacy and printing of religious works are also relevant. The flurry in Church building and the refurbishment of parish churches should be mentioned. Candidates could debate whether there was a change in religiosity. There was certainly some anti-clericalism, but whether this was any greater or prompted by increased corruption is debatable.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
46	<p>How central was Parliament to the government of the realm in the period 1399–1529?</p> <p>AO1 – This question concerns the use of Parliament by the government in this period; there should be a reasonable spread over the period, although there should be sharper focus on some areas.</p> <p>AO2 – A thematic approach could work well in considering issues such as taxation, support for war, usage for succession, rebellion and civil war, and increased usage by individuals and usage to direct and encourage trade. Certainly, the issue of taxation became a fraught one, and there was increased reluctance to support a war that was going badly. The use of the House of Commons after usurpation and the Act of Accord could be mentioned. Packing of the House is important especially in the Parliament of Devils. The growing use of Parliament for issues such as enclosure, trade and commerce cannot be ignored, and to secure the throne and claims to the throne. There should be focus on both Houses and candidates might reflect on how the two Houses worked together and on the issues of patronage. Some comment on the changing nature of MPs is expected and how this relates to changes in society.</p>	30

Question	Answer	Marks
47	<p>Why did some towns thrive, and others decline, in the fifteenth century?</p> <p>AO1 – The focus should cover the whole period and evaluate both parts of the question. Candidates should refer to a spread of examples. The picture is very mixed, and changes and develops during the period. There should be some sense of the underpinning wider economic issues.</p> <p>AO2 – Though population distribution in this period remained overwhelmingly rural and relatively stable, there was growth in urban population, with London taking the lead. The situation, however, was mixed. While many towns grew in both size and importance some declined significantly. In the North, towns such as York, Hull and Newcastle remained important, but York declined in relative terms especially at the end of the period. Traditional centres such as Lincoln and Salisbury declined. In some places, plague and death were to blame; in others, the impact of the civil war and shifts in the wool trade were responsible. Centres of pilgrimage saw a moderate decline, while the university towns of Oxford and Cambridge flourished. Change patterns of internal trade were important, as was external trade.</p>	30