



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/53

Paper 5c Special Subject: The Reign of Henry VIII, 1509–1547

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: Religious ideas from the 1520s to 1547**

- 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** *Following the Pilgrimage of Grace, Abbot Pyle of Furness surrenders Furness Abbey to the King.*

Knowing the disorder and evil life both unto God and our Prince by the brethren of this monastery, I do freely and wholly surrender, give and grant unto the King's highness and to his heirs all such interest and title as I have to ease my conscience. I confirm this deed as required by the King's Council. It comes freely as my own decision and without any use of force, and as a result of the evil disposition of the brethren of this monastery. I have signed this in the presence of my lord the Earl of Sussex, the King's lieutenant within this county of Lancashire and Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, a justice and a member of the King's Council.

Surrender document, 5 April 1537.

- B** *The abbot of Biddlesden monastery, in Buckinghamshire, surrenders his lands to the King.*

We, Richard Green, abbot of the Monastery of our Blessed Lady Saint Mary of Biddlesden, do profoundly consider that the manner of living which we and others of our pretended religion have practised does consist only of dumb ceremonies. They are not really based on God's laws but only on the authority of Rome and other powerful foreigners. These foreign powers never came to reform abuses and bad ways of living which have now been found to dominate our lives. We now assuredly know that the most perfect way of living is that which is declared to us by our master, Christ, his apostles and evangelists. It is now right for us to be governed by the King, our Supreme Head under God. We yield up to his gracious hands all our said monastery with all its lands, titles, rents and revenues. We humbly ask him to grant to each one of us under his authority some pension or some means to live, and to allow us to change our garments into those of secular priests. We faithfully pray to God to preserve the King and increase his happiness.

Surrender document, 25 September 1538.

- C** *The King personally drafts a bill to dissolve the Greater Monasteries. The draft was not used.*

All those people who have been known as monks have been living idle and ungodly lives. This bill is to ensure that from now on their lives are put to better use and God's word will be better set forth. As a result, children will be given better learning, students will be nourished in universities, alms houses for the poor will be supported. Teachers of Greek, Hebrew and Latin will be given good salaries. There will be the mending of highways, more bishoprics and churches instead of these religious houses.

Draft Bill, 1539.

D *An Act of Parliament dissolves the Greater Monasteries.*

Many abbots, priors, abbesses, prioresses of their own free will, without constraint or compulsion by any person or persons, have renounced by their own free wills all their said monasteries and all their manors, lordships, lands, rents, titles, churches, chapels, rights and commons. The King, our Sovereign lord, shall have, hold, possess such late monasteries and so shall his successors for ever. They shall be vested by authority of this Parliament in the possession of the King, except those which shall happen to come to the King by attainder of treason. The lands shall be surveyed and governed by the King's Court of Augmentations. Any churches and chapels belonging to the monasteries which were exempted from inspection by the bishops shall be within the jurisdiction of the bishops or of persons appointed by the King.

Adapted from the *Act for the Dissolution of the Greater Monasteries*, 1539.

E *A modern historian considers the origin of the dissolution of the Greater Monasteries.*

A combination of threats, pressures and inducements, such as were used at Furness Abbey were, from later in 1537, used to achieve the 'voluntary' surrender of all the monasteries in the realm. No 'smoking gun' has been found to enable the historian to indicate a precise date or to show this was a policy for which particular individuals were responsible. A plausible explanation is that the shock of the Pilgrimage of Grace, in which the defence of the monasteries was a prominent concern, greatly intensified Henry VIII's reservations about monasticism. Where abbots had been convicted of treason and monasteries had surrendered, involvement in rebellion was the principal factor. By the spring of 1537, Henry had doubts about the loyalties of the monasteries and reservations about their spiritual contribution, doubts and reservations that were turning into something like anger. And, whether through careful thought or accidental stumbling, a procedure had evolved by which monasteries could be taken over by the Crown.

G.W. Bernard, *The King's Reformation*, 2005.

- (a) To what extent does Document B corroborate the evidence given in Document A for the reasons for surrender of a religious house? [10]
- (b) How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that political rather than religious factors explain the dissolution of the Greater Monasteries?

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 Was Wolsey's fall principally the result of his own limitations? [30]
- 3 Who played the greater role in bringing about political and social change in the period 1529 to 1536: Cranmer or Cromwell? [30]
- 4 Why was there not more opposition to the Henrician Reformation before the outbreak of the Pilgrimage of Grace? [30]

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