



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/11

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

May/June 2017

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 evacuation of Britain by the Romans?
- 2 'Buildings and artefacts were the most significant legacy of Roman Britain.' Do you agree?
- 3 How important is instability in Britain in explaining the Anglo-Saxon settlement in the fifth and sixth centuries?
- 4 Was Penda a ruler of outstanding ability?
- 5 'No one else matched the contribution of St Aidan to the spread of Celtic Christianity in Northumbria.' Discuss.

Section 2: c. 670–978

- 6 'St Wilfred was more important than Theodore of Tarsus in the consolidation of Christianity in England after the Synod of Whitby.' Was he?
- 7 What best explains the cultural achievement of Northumbria in the late seventh and the eighth centuries?
- 8 How far do internal English divisions explain why resistance to Viking invasions was so ineffective in the period up to 871?
- 9 'Better at fighting than at governing.' Assess this view of King Alfred.
- 10 How effective were Church reforms in the tenth century?

Section 3: 978–1135

- 11 How effectively did the Danish monarchs rule England in the period 1016–1042?
- 12 ‘All the successes in the reign of Edward the Confessor were due to the Godwins.’ Discuss.
- 13 How important was the ability of William of Normandy in determining the outcome of the Battle of Hastings?
- 14 How successfully did Henry I rise to the challenge of ruling his Anglo-Norman realm?
- 15 What best explains invasions of England by Scottish kings in this period?

Section 4: Themes c. 300–c. 1066

- 16 What best explains the development of towns in the ninth and tenth centuries?
- 17 How powerful was the nobility in the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms between c. 560 and 871?
- 18 Assess the view that cultural contacts with continental Europe were more important for England than economic contacts in the period c. 600–c. 1000.
- 19 How far-reaching was the Scandinavian impact on Britain c. 786 to c. 1069?
- 20 How well governed was Anglo-Saxon England in the period 871–1016?
- 21 With what justification can late Anglo-Saxon England be described as ‘a highly cultured society’?

Section 5: 1135–1272

- 22 'It was mainly the shortcomings of both Stephen and Matilda which prolonged the civil war in England.' Discuss.
- 23 Assess the view that Henry II's legal reforms outweigh his other achievements.
- 24 'An outstanding soldier, but a very poor king.' Consider this view of Richard I.
- 25 What best explains why King John's relations with his barons were frequently so bad?
- 26 How effectively did Alexander II and Alexander III rule Scotland in the period 1214–1286?

Section 6: 1272–1399

- 27 Did Edward I achieve more in England than in France?
- 28 How great were the problems facing English rule in Wales in the fourteenth century?
- 29 How important is military failure in explaining the difficulties of Edward II's reign?
- 30 'A period of decline in royal power.' How valid is this view of Edward III's reign after 1360?
- 31 How far was Richard II's deposition the result of his own actions?

Section 7: 1399–1485

- 32 How successful was Henry V as King of England in both domestic and foreign affairs?
- 33 ‘Factious nobility, not personal inadequacy, best explains why Henry VI lost his throne in 1461.’ Does it?
- 34 How serious a threat was Owain Glyndwr to Henry IV?
- 35 Account for the dramatic changes in political fortune for both Lancastrians and Yorkists in the period 1469–1471.
- 36 ‘He was never able to escape the circumstances of his accession.’ Assess this view of Richard III.

Section 8: 1485–1558

- 37 ‘A tyrant from start to finish.’ Discuss this view of Henry VII as king.
- 38 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*
Did Henry VIII achieve his aims in foreign policy in the years 1509–1529?
- 39 *(Candidates offering Paper 5c: The Reign of Henry VIII should not answer this question.)*
How damaging for England was the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII?
- 40 How effective were Somerset and Northumberland in governing England during the reign of Edward VI?
- 41 How able a queen was Mary I?

Section 9: Themes 1066–1558

- 42 How significant were developments in education in the period c. 1200–1400?
- 43 How far did the lives of peasants improve in the fourteenth century?
- 44 ‘More harmony than discord.’ How accurate is this view of Crown–Church relations in the period 1066–1300?
- 45 ‘The Church in England in the fifteenth century was characterised by worldliness and corruption.’ Was it?
- 46 How central was Parliament to the government of the realm in the period 1399–1529?
- 47 Why did some towns thrive, and others decline, in the fifteenth century?

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