

History A

Advanced GCE

Unit **F966/01**: Historical Themes Option A: Medieval and Early Modern 1066-1715

Mark Scheme for June 2011

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Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the Report on the Examination.

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AOs	AO1a	AO1b
Total mark for each question = 60	Recall, select and deploy historical knowledge appropriately, and communicate knowledge and understanding of history in a clear and effective manner.	Demonstrate understanding of the past through explanation, analysis and arriving at substantiated judgements of: - key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance within an historical context; - the relationships between key features and characteristics of the periods studied
Level IA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses a wide range of accurate and relevant evidence • Accurate and confident use of appropriate historical terminology • Answer is clearly structured and coherent; communicates accurately and legibly. <p>18-20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) relevant to analysis in their historical context • Excellent synthesis and synoptic assessment • Answer is consistently and relevantly analytical with developed explanations and supported judgements • May make unexpected but substantiated connections over the whole period <p>36-40</p>
Level IB	<p>Level IB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses accurate and relevant evidence • Accurate use of a range of appropriate historical terminology • Answer is clearly structured and mostly coherent; communicates accurately and legibly <p>16-17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good level of understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) in their historical context. • Answer is consistently focused on the question set • Very good level of explanation/ analysis, and provides supported judgements. • Very good synthesis and synoptic assessment of the whole period <p>32-35</p>
Level II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses mostly accurate and relevant evidence • Generally accurate use of historical terminology • Answer is structured and mostly coherent; writing is legible and communication is generally clear <p>14-15</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good level of understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) in their historical context • Good explanation/ analysis but overall judgements may be uneven • Answer is focused on the issues in the question set • Good synthesis and assessment of developments over most of the period <p>28-31</p>

AOs	AO1a	AO1b
Level III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses relevant evidence but there may be some inaccuracy • Answer includes relevant historical terminology but this may not be extensive or always accurately used • Most of the answer is structured and coherent; writing is legible and communication is generally clear <p style="text-align: center;">12-13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows a sound understanding of key concepts, especially continuity and change, in their historical context • Most of the answer is focused on the question set • Answers may be a mixture of analysis and explanation but also description and narrative, but there may also be some uneven overall judgements; OR answers may provide more consistent analysis but the quality will be uneven and its support often general or thin • Answer assesses relevant factors but provides only a limited synthesis of developments over most of the period <p style="text-align: center;">24-27</p>
Level IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is deployment of relevant knowledge but level/ accuracy will vary. • Some unclear and/or underdeveloped and/or disorganised sections • Mostly satisfactory level of communication <p style="text-align: center;">10-11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satisfactory understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) in their historical context • Satisfactory focus on the question set • Answer may be largely descriptive/ narratives of events, and links between this and analytical comments will typically be weak or unexplained • Makes limited synoptic judgements about developments over only part of the period <p style="text-align: center;">20-23</p>
Level V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General and basic historical knowledge but also some irrelevant and inaccurate material • Often unclear and disorganised sections • Adequate level of communication but some weak prose passages <p style="text-align: center;">8-9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) in their historical context • Some understanding of the question but answers may focus on the topic and not address the question set OR provides an answer based on generalisation • Attempts an explanation but often general coupled with assertion, description / narrative • Very little synthesis or analysis and only part(s) of the period will be covered <p style="text-align: center;">16-19</p>

AOs	AO1a	AO1b
Level VI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of relevant evidence will be limited; there will be much irrelevance and inaccuracy • Answers may have little organisation or structure • Weak use of English and poor organisation <p>4-7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very little understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) in their historical context • Limited perhaps brief explanation • Mainly assertion, description / narrative • Some understanding of the topic but not the question's requirements <p>8-15</p>
Level VII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little relevant or accurate Knowledge • Very fragmentary and disorganised response • Very poor use of English and some incoherence <p>0-3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weak understanding of key concepts (eg. continuity and change) in their historical context • No explanation • Assertion, description / narrative predominate • Weak understanding of the topic or of the question's requirements <p>0-7</p>

English Government and the Church 1066-1216

- 1 'The main changes in English central government took place after 1154.' How far do you agree with this judgement of the period from 1066 to 1216? [60]**

Henry II claimed that he wished only to restore Anglo-Norman government as it had existed pre-Stephen but he introduced fundamental changes. In his reign the office of chief justiciar reached its apogee as a great office of state, overseeing the Exchequer and running England in the king's absence. Henry also introduced the possessory assizes and the Grand Assize which did much to increase the amount of business coming into the royal courts and helped to bureaucratise the administration of justice. He also routinely employed juries. The Angevin inquests of sheriffs in 1170, 1194 and 1213 went beyond anything used previously to bring royal officials under royal control. In the later Angevin period the chancellor developed as the greatest officer in the government. However, significant developments also took place in the Anglo-Norman period. William I developed feudal government in England and the chancery functioned from the beginning of the period. From William II's reign methods were developed to enable the government to function effectively in the absence of the king and this led to the origin of the prototype of the chief justiciar, first with Ranulf Flambard and then developed in Henry I's reign with Roger of Salisbury. Increasing costs of warfare and administration, caused partly by the continental possessions, led to a desire to maximise royal finances through systematic exploitation of finance and of the profits of justice. This in turn led to the development of the Exchequer, at least from Henry I's reign, with the Pipe Rolls extant from 1129, and sheriffs being required to render account regularly at the Exchequer. Use of eyres and itinerant justices enabled closer control over justice. Consequently, great steps towards centralisation and bureaucracy had been taken well before 1154.

Weaker responses might well describe changes taking place, possibly adopting a chronological approach and perhaps being limited to the pre or post 1154 period. Most candidates are likely to compare advances after 1154 with those before. They may argue in favour of the later period as Angevin changes took centralisation to new heights or in favour of the earlier as the foundations were laid then. The best responses are likely to compare a wide range of changes from before and after 1154 and reach a supported judgement.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

- 2 Assess the view that archbishops of Canterbury in the Anglo-Norman period, from 1066 to 1154, did more to strengthen the English Church than those in the Angevin period, from 1154 to 1216. [60]**

Candidates are likely to limit their discussion to the archbishops in the specification, Lanfranc, Anselm, Becket and Langton and this is sufficient for the highest marks. However, relevant reference to others, such as Theobald or Hubert Walter, should be credited. There is some evidence to support the idea that Anglo-Norman archbishops did more to strengthen the church than those in the Angevin period. Arguably Lanfranc did the most. His use of the church to help establish Norman rule enhanced its prestige. He also introduced reforming councils which helped to unify the English church, and other reforms which brought it into closer contact with Europe but avoided the Investiture Contest which could have damaged its position by causing conflict with William. The primacy problem was temporarily resolved by York's recognition of Lanfranc's personal primacy which helped to give the church structure and order. In addition, Anselm's compromise with Henry I over investiture, by which the king relinquished investment with the ring and staff, helped to increase the rights and independence of the church and prevented the investiture dispute causing any further problem for the English church. Theobald, in Stephen's reign, helped to promote canon law. By contrast, Langton's inability to enter England until 1213 meant that he could do little to strengthen the church and indeed, his quarrel with John led to the English church being put under interdict which undermined its prestige, effectiveness and independence as it was firmly under papal control and John sequestered church lands. Earlier in the Angevin period, Becket's quarrel with Henry II allowed Henry opportunity to try to control the bishops, worsened relations with York over the coronation of Young Henry and caused division in the rest of the episcopate, especially with Foliot, so destroying the unity of the church and weakening it. Less good responses might well concentrate on these aspects, possibly adopting a chronological approach. However, stronger candidates are likely to argue that the picture is more complex. Anselm's time of exile weakened his authority over the church. On the other hand, Becket helped to strengthen the church by supporting the rights of criminous clerks and the independence of church courts and his martyrdom and canonisation helped to increase the reputation of the church vis a vis royal authority. The best responses are likely to evaluate evidence from both the Angevin and Anglo-Norman periods, compare and reach a supported conclusion.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

- 3 'Anselm's time as Archbishop of Canterbury was the main turning point in the impact of the papal reform movement in England.' How far do you agree with this view of the period from 1066 to 1216? [60]**

Candidates might well confine their discussion to the archiepiscopates of Lanfranc, Anselm, Becket and Langton as these are mentioned in the specification, and this range will be sufficient for the highest marks. However, credit should be given to relevant reference to other periods.

The papal reform movement led to advances in papal power which resulted in increased papal intervention in English affairs. Under William I and Lanfranc, papal reform had made no headway in England. Lanfranc had refused Gregory's summons to Rome and had upheld William I's traditional interpretation of the authority of church and state, keeping England free of the investiture dispute. Anselm's time as Archbishop of Canterbury marks a turning point in several ways in the impact of the papal reform movement. His quarrel with William II led to his exile which brought him into contact with the fullest expression of Gregorian Reform and on his return, England was embroiled for the first time in the Investiture Contest. The Compromise of Bec of 1107, which led to Henry I surrendering the right to invest with the ring and staff, marked a new stage in freedom of the church from royal control. Although the question of investiture itself ceased to be an issue after 1107, it

was the first of several clashes of principle between archbishops keen to uphold ecclesiastical rights and independence, prompted by the papal reform movement, and monarchs determined to defend their traditional rights, manifested, for example, in the struggles between Becket and Henry II and John and Langton. Anselm's archiepiscopacy also marks a turning point in terms of successful papal intervention in English affairs. Papal intervention later in the century took a variety of forms including attempts to decrease primatial authority, attempts to intervene in political affairs and increasing control over judicial decisions through the development of appeals to Rome.

However, to address the question of whether Anselm's time as Archbishop was the main turning point candidates need to evaluate this in the light of at least one other turning point. Possible alternatives could be the reign of Stephen, Becket's quarrel with Henry II or Langton's time as archbishop. Stephen's reign saw a large increase in appeals to Rome and thus of papal influence over legal cases; the pope taking advantage of the weakness of the monarchy to intervene in support of Stephen to enhance his own authority, and support for Henry of Blois to strengthen papal power at the expense of Canterbury. Becket's quarrel arose from Becket's defence of church property, the rights of criminous clerks and of ecclesiastical courts, all born of ideas of ecclesiastical freedom arising from the papal reform movement and led, among other things, to the pope threatening to place England under interdict. Langton's appointment as archbishop of Canterbury was itself an expression of papal power at its height under Innocent III, who not only imposed his candidate on the king but also excommunicated John, placed England under interdict and eventually suspended Langton.

Most candidates are likely to compare the impact of the papal reform movement under Anselm with at least one other possible turning point. The best responses are likely to do this using a range of evidence from across the period and reach a supported relative evaluation.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

4 'Taxation was the main cause of rebellion in the Tudor period.' How far do you agree? [60]

Candidates are required to consider the relative importance of taxation as a cause of rebellion. They are likely to refer to the Yorkshire, Cornish and Amicable Grant rebellions, where taxation was the principal grievance, and to the Pilgrimage of Grace and Western rebellions where it was a minor cause. Thereafter, taxation was never a major issue in England and not at all in Ireland. Candidates may explain why this was so and by inference evaluate causes that were more prevalent and persistent than taxation. Religious changes could be usefully assessed as they caused disturbances in Ireland in the Munster, Geraldine and Tyrone rebellions, although answers that do not discuss Ireland can still reach the top level, and in England in the Pilgrimage of Grace, Western, and Northern Earls' rebellions, and rather less so in the Kett and Wyatt rebellions. Some answers may stress the issue of the succession, which was a key cause of disturbances in England in 1486, 1487, 1497, and 1553, and was evident as a subsidiary factor in 1536, 1569 and 1601. Opposition to 'evil councillors' also surfaced regularly: in 1497, 1525, 1536, 1549, 1569 and 1601, and most Irish rebellions had an anti-English sentiment. Social and economic grievances especially concerning enclosures and greedy landlords may also be cited; these were apparent in 1536, 1549 and 1596. Opposition to the economic and social consequences of plantations in Munster and Leix-Offaly may also be cited as evidence for the Munster and Tyrone rebellions. Most candidates are likely to conclude that while taxation was a prominent cause of rebellion between 1489 and 1549 in England, other causes were more recurrent. The best answers should focus on 'the main cause of rebellion' rather than simply explaining why rebellions occurred in the course of the period.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

5 'Most Tudor governments under-estimated the threat presented by rebellions in England and Ireland.' How far do you agree? [60]

Most candidates are likely to assess the seriousness of the threat of rebellions with respect to numbers of rebels, location, leadership, objectives, and how close each rebellion came to achieving its aims. However, the key to a good answer lies in candidates assessing how far and in what ways governments responded to rebellions and arguably 'under-estimated' the threat. No Tudor government was overthrown by rebellion (Northumberland and Lady Jane Grey were usurpers) and it may be claimed that no ruler under-estimated the threat. However, some governments made serious errors and as a result had to face longer, more expensive and more menacing challenges. In spite of his numerous difficulties, Henry VII never under-estimated the threats to his throne posed by Yorkist claimants and their supporters, and he dealt with them as clinically as he did the Yorkshire and Cornish tax revolts. Henry VIII in contrast under-estimated the size and popularity of the Amicable Grant rebellion and was just as slow to deal with the Lincolnshire and Pilgrimage of Grace disturbances. Limited information and resources and the king's reliance on councillors and nobles to suppress the threat, as well as his own heavy-handed interventions, compounded the problems and made the threats more serious. Somerset also under-estimated the depth of feeling voiced by regional complainants in 1549 and failed to take appropriate measures to suppress the Western and Kett's rebellions quickly. Mary was badly advised by her council about the nature and extent of Wyatt's threat, and could not prevent the rebels from entering London. Elizabeth, in contrast, acted decisively to weaken the threat presented by a noble conspiracy in 1569 and dealt effectively with the northern earls when they did revolt. Similarly neither the Oxfordshire nor Essex challenges were allowed to gather support and momentum due to the pro-active measures taken by the privy council. In dealing with Ireland, most of the Tudors regarded rebellions there as less threatening. If this was true for all but Tyrone's rebellion, which Elizabeth seriously under-estimated, Irish rebellions were nevertheless more costly than English rebellions and always took longer to suppress. Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

6 'Local authorities were more important than central government in maintaining political stability in the Tudor period.' How far do you agree? [60]

Candidates are likely to suggest that political stability was upheld by both central and local authorities working together and that the effectiveness of one depended to a large extent on the competence of the other. While this may be true, candidates should also be aware that local authorities, especially JPs, lords lieutenants, and to a lesser degree sheriffs, often dealt with disturbances independently of central government directives or policies, and maintained stability in the counties through hard work and personal diplomacy and intervention. In effect, sensible and popular government policies, particularly in economic and religious affairs, went a long way towards keeping the country prosperous and peaceful. Similarly political grievances usually only concerned a small number of nobles and gentry and held little or no interest locally. Most complaints involved social, economic and religious changes and these were best dealt with at a local level by the parish clergy, JPs, mayors, aldermen and town authorities. Central government, nevertheless, played a key part in developing respect for the monarchy (candidates could usefully compare rebellions during Somerset's protectorate with the stronger rule of Elizabeth), the role of royal propaganda and patronage, the growth of parliament, the expansion of regional councils, increasing use made of crown courts, and in appointing competent officials to implement royal policies and oversee local government. Better essays should assess local and central government authorities, demonstrate their interplay and examine a range of methods by which the political stability in England was maintained, and may assess the situation in Ireland. They may contrast how the Dublin administration endeavoured to keep order through lord deputies and deputy lieutenants, garrisons, and colonisation and plantations with the more centralised methods at the disposal of English governments. Consideration of both English and Irish administrations may be assessed by higher quality

answers while weaker responses are likely to have a narrow range of methods and examples.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

7 How far did the Tudors have consistent aims in their foreign policy? [60]

The main aims behind Tudor foreign policy were national security, trade agreements, continental expansion and dynastic alliances. National security and trade agreements were consistently pursued although, if there was a conflict of interest, trade yielded to political security. Keeping the Netherlands neutral or out of enemy hands was also a constant objective. Dynastic and marriage alliances were consistently pursued by Henry VII, Henry VIII and Mary, and less so by Edward VI and inconclusively by Elizabeth – although the latter used her unmarried status as a pawn in foreign diplomacy. Candidates should point out however that there were inconsistencies in the Tudors' attitude towards war. Henry VII avoided war if possible but engaged in continental alliances; Henry VIII devoted much time and money to waging war against Scotland and France; Somerset continued this policy towards Scotland but Northumberland totally changed it; Mary was also opposed to war but was drawn into it by Philip, and Elizabeth avoided direct conflict for as long as possible before going to war with Spain for the last 18 years of her rule. War was a last resort for most of the Tudors with the exception of Henry VIII and Somerset. Religious reforms also brought changes in allies and foreign commitments although religious objectives were never key features in their policy aims. This can be best illustrated in Elizabeth's reign when she allied with Catholic France against Catholic Spain but refused to side directly with Protestant Netherlands. The best candidates are likely to assess and explain the more prevalent trends and account for any inconsistencies.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

8 'The years from 1547 to 1550 were the most important turning point in England's relations with Scotland.' How far do you agree with this view of the period from 1485 to 1603? [60]

A turning point may be taken to be a time of significant long-term change and candidates should examine the years 1547-50 in the context of Anglo-Scottish relations. The Duke of Somerset embarked on a personal mission to subdue the Scots, secure the northern border and marry Edward to Mary Queen of Scots. None of these objectives happened. Instead a war, which Henry VIII had begun in 1542 and which had lapsed inconclusively in 1546, was renewed at great cost. It resulted in the entry of France, the betrothal of Mary to the French dauphin and a realisation by 1550 that England could not defeat the Scots. English troops left Scotland, French troops poured in and diplomacy replaced aggression in England's attitude towards the Scots. Candidates should assess relations between 1485 and 1547, when Scotland was England's 'postern gate' which French troops exploited and to which English armies responded in 1497, 1513, 1542 and 1547. Thereafter Northumberland, Mary and Elizabeth adopted a more diplomatic approach. Candidates may suggest alternative turning points such as the expulsion of the French court and troops in 1560 which saw the installation in Edinburgh of a Protestant and pro-English faction. Coming at the same time as Anglo-Spanish relations started to decline, Elizabeth cultivated friendly relations with the French regent, Catherine de Medici. Alternatively the arrival in England of Mary Queen of Scots in 1568 brought a change in relations. Cecil tried to use Moray and Morton to secure a pro-English faction at the Scottish court, which worked until 1581. The consequences of the Wars of Religion and the Dutch Revolt might also be assessed since each had a profound effect on France and Spain respectively, which in turn affected Anglo-Scottish relations. Expect better candidates to compare the

significance of Somerset's policies with other periods of change before reaching a conclusion.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

9 Assess the importance to England of Burgundy and the Netherlands in the period from 1485 to 1603. [60]

The Duchy of Burgundy, its territories and the Netherlands were important to England for economic and political reasons, and later in the period for religious reasons. Henry VII established trade links with Burgundy, which grew stronger as time passed and held firm in spite of interruptions in 1493-6, 1503-6, 1527-8 and 1562-4, until the Dutch Revolt in 1572. The subsequent decline led to a re-assessment of overseas markets and the Elizabethan interest in transatlantic trade. Burgundian support for the Yorkists brought political security to the fore in Henry VII's reign. Henry VIII's friendship with Charles V and the absorption of Burgundy into Charles' empire, and later Mary's marriage to Philip, lessened its political significance until the outbreak of the Dutch Revolt. This necessitated Leicester's intervention in 1586-7, which hastened war with Spain. The growth of Calvinism in the Netherlands in the 1550s onwards brought religion as an issue – Elizabeth's implicit support for the Sea Beggars and Dutch rebels (explicit after Nonsuch) ensured the Netherlands after 1572 was central to Tudor foreign policy and remained important enough for Elizabeth to secure Dutch cautionary towns in the 1590s in return for English aid after the Armada. Better essays should assess the importance of Burgundy and the Netherlands to England and compare it with other factors, such as responding to the more powerful states of France and Spain, or the problems caused by Scotland. Weaker essays are likely to offer a chronological narrative and comment, with an imbalanced assessment in favour of other determinants rather than of Burgundy and the Netherlands.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

10 How accurately does the term 'Counter Reformation' describe the developments in the Catholic Church in the period from 1492 to 1610? [60]

Candidates need to assess the term 'Counter Reformation' in the context of the whole period. They should be aware that there are arguments that the Catholic Church owed a great deal to the Protestant Reformation and that developments were essentially a response to it; but also for the Catholic revival beginning before the advent of Protestantism and so largely developing independently of it. Candidates are likely to assess Counter and Catholic Reformation arguments sequentially. Arguments in favour of a Counter Reformation may include: the absence of effective reform before Luther's outburst and the need to respond to it; the subsequent importance attached to preaching and the sermon, both of which were key traits of Lutheranism; greater importance attached to education; the role of the confessional and consistory to achieve greater obedience and uniformity (the influence of Calvinism); the need to reform clerical abuses and establish a clearer and unequivocal definition of doctrine (highlighted by Luther, Zwingli and Calvin); more attention was given to addressing the social and spiritual needs of the laity. Features of the Church that owed nothing to Protestantism include: 14th and 15th century legacy of Church reform; conciliar movements culminating in the Fifth Lateran Council of 1512-17; monastic observant reforms; the creation of new orders and lay groups; the establishment of the Spanish Inquisition; biblical humanists and early reformers such as Erasmus, Savonarola, Cisneros, Lefevre; the Church's half-hearted response to Protestantism for much of the period; the Council of Trent's reluctance to discuss the merits of Protestant beliefs or to be affected by them. A balance between Counter and Catholic Reformation elements is expected of better essays. Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

11 To what extent was the Council of Trent the major factor in the revival of the Catholic Church in Europe in the period from 1492 to 1610? [60]

Candidates need to assess the role of the Council of Trent in the revival of the Catholic Church in Europe and compare it with other factors during the period. The main arguments in favour of Trent are likely to include:

- (1) its re-assertion of papal authority: the period from 1492 had seen the prestige and leadership of the Papacy ridiculed and brought into question
- (2) it redefined the Catholic doctrine: biblical humanists and Protestant evangelists had challenged traditional teaching and offered alternative interpretations
- (3) it stressed the pastoral role of bishops and unique authority of the clergy: Protestants had criticised worldly bishops, claiming that 'all men were priests'
- (4) confessionals, seminaries and a better educated clergy were acknowledged: until the Reformation, clerical and lay education had been under-valued
- (5) a drive to eliminate clerical abuses was begun: until 1563 there had been much talk but little action.

Between 1563 and 1610 much progress was made in Europe to revive the Church as the Papacy and secular rulers endeavoured to implement the Tridentine reforms but better candidates will be aware of Trent's limitations – not all secular rulers adhered to or applied the decrees in their states; reforms needed time and money to be effective; some contentious issues such as the Breviary, Missal and Catechisms were not resolved at Trent; little was said about the role of the Inquisition, Index, regular orders and women. Essays should compare Trent's significance with other factors; and a range of individuals and institutions could be cited, such as papal leadership, the importance of the Jesuits, the contribution of humanists and Protestants who preceded the Council of Trent. Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

12 How far did the Catholic Reformation achieve its aims in the period from 1492 to 1610? [60]

Candidates are likely to begin by determining the aims of the Catholic Church from 1492 to 1610 and better answers should be aware that these changed in the course of the period. Between 1492 and 1517 the Papacy was guilty of poor leadership and blatant corruption, clerical abuses and indiscipline were widely reported, the Church seemed to ignore the spiritual needs of most European Christians and there was a reluctance to call a general council to address these problems. After 1517 the challenges presented by Lutheranism and later Calvinism highlighted the need not only to reform abuses but also to define Church doctrine more clearly, to heal the growing schism and recover those who had defected to Protestantism as well as attract new members in the future. Candidates may suggest some of the following achievements evident by 1610:

- (1) many clerical abuses had been identified and reforms set in train
- (2) the clergy was better educated and seminaries established
- (3) Church doctrine had been defined and no allowance made to Protestantism
- (4) the Papacy was much stronger and more respected
- (5) popular interest in lay and new orders widened the appeal of the Church
- (6) the growth of Protestantism had been halted and in some countries reversed
- (7) a greater uniformity of faith and practices had been effected by the Inquisition, Index and state authorities
- (8) the city of Rome had become an attractive centre for pilgrims.

Better candidates should also comment on areas of limited achievement, such as the continuing schism in Europe between Catholics and Protestants which had resulted in religious wars; the lack of respect accorded to the Papacy by the strong Catholic powers of Spain and France; the spiritual understanding of most people remained basic, even simplistic; the gulf between rich and poor clerics remained; distrust between old and new religious orders and the widespread hostility towards the Jesuits.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

13 To what extent was the reign of Henry II (1547-59) the major turning point in the development of France as a nation state in the period from 1498 to 1610? [60]

Henry II's reign saw several key developments that underlined earlier features and changed the direction of others. In 1559 he ended the long-running Italian wars and made peace with Spain, which held until 1595. Cateau-Cambresis acknowledged Spain's supremacy in Europe and finally ceded French claims to Italy. Royal finances were bankrupted, which made the crown vulnerable to the nobility and estates. Rivalry between the Montmorency, Bourbon and Guise families surfaced, which coloured French politics for the next 40 years. After 1559 many nobles lost their *raison d'être* and turned to domestic violence. Henry II was also a staunch Catholic who persecuted Huguenots through the *Chambre Ardente* but failed to suppress their growth in the 1550s. His unexpected death in 1559 left four young sons and an Italian queen mother in charge of France, which proved a recipe for disaster. Candidates should be aware that the power of the monarchy had been steadily growing since 1516 and with it many centralising features. Henry, however, lacked interest in administration and much resentment developed as a result of his heavy-handed dealing with the Paris *Parlement*, nobles and provincial estates. Candidates should focus on the main developments of Henry's reign and set them in the context of the period before 1547 and after 1559. They should compare his reign with other turning points, such as the reign of Francis I, the outbreak of civil war, or perhaps the restoration under Henry IV, before reaching a judgement.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

14 Assess which social groups in France benefited most and which suffered most in the period from 1498 to 1610. [60]

Candidates are likely either to organise their response thematically according to those groups that benefited most and those that did not, or to take a chronological approach and look at society as a whole at different periods between 1498 and 1610. Synoptic analyses are possible in both routes although the former may be easier to achieve and sustain. In general the social groups that benefited most were the aristocracy, nobility, bourgeoisie, merchants and clergy; and those that suffered most were the urban poor, peasantry, persecuted religious minorities, and anyone caught up in the civil wars after 1562. Some candidates may attempt to define 'benefited' and 'suffered', and may do so in terms of living and working conditions, religious freedom/ uniformity, economic circumstances, political stability and personal prosperity. Better answers are likely to explain their comparative selections and point out that benefits were not consistent or uniform. For instance, many aristocrats and nobles exercised limited political power under Francis I but enjoyed far greater independence when the government was de-centralised and weaker in the years between 1560 and 1598. The peasantry on the other hand suffered for much of the period either at the hands of their seigneurs and crown officials, or as a result of foreign and civil wars or from the recurrent plagues and famines that beset French towns as the population grew.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

- 15 'There was more continuity than change in the way the French Church influenced the development of the nation state.' How far do you agree with this view of the period from 1498 to 1610? [60]

Candidates are likely to discuss some of the following ways in which the French Church influenced the development of the nation state during this period:

- (1) The condition of the French clergy: attempts at reform were made by individual bishops throughout the period and by the state in 1551 and 1561 when a national council was held at Poissy but it failed to achieve a consensus, and the Tridentine Decrees were not recognised until the 17th century. Only in Henry IV's reign were real improvements evident eg. the social and spiritual work of the Jesuits and the Visitandines. A lack of uniformity of reform weakened the nation state.
- (2) Official doctrine: it stayed Catholic in spite of the popularity of humanism before the 1530s and Huguenotism and Calvinism thereafter. The University of Paris and the Paris and regional *parlements* rigidly opposed any deviation from traditional practices and beliefs, and were reluctant to acknowledge Nantes in 1598. The Catholic faith was a powerful unifying force in the French nation state.
- (3) Growth of Protestantism: the popularity of Huguenotism and Calvinism continued until the 1560s in spite of persecution. 1559 saw the first national synod and at least 10% of French people and many nobles were converted to Calvinism. Thereafter, persecution led to massacres which persisted until the 1590s. The rise of Protestantism and the absence of toleration until 1598 were divisive elements.
- (4) Papal relations: they remained stable if uneasy and there were moments of crisis. In 1516 the Concordat restored papal influence in France on Francis I's terms but the Paris *Parlement* condemned it. A Gallican crisis arose in 1551-2 but was appeased by Julius III, and the Ordinance of Orleans in 1561 enforced Gallican rights over bishops. Henry IV had the best relationship with the Papacy following his conversion. Disputes with the Papacy frequently united the nation behind the state but proved problematic for the government from time to time.

Candidates may argue in favour of continuity, change or a mixture of both but with specific reference to particular developments.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

- 16 How far were French kings absolute monarchs in the period from 1610 to 1715? [60]

A definition of 'absolute monarchs' would be helpful since neither Louis XIII nor Louis XIV was totally absolute. Polemicists like Loyseau and Le Bret wrote of Louis XIII's absolutism; Richelieu weakened the nobility; recalcitrant Estates and Huguenots lost their privileges; *intendants* grew in number and authority; the Paris *Parlement* was instructed to register edicts; uncooperative bishops were dismissed; and a *chambre de l'arsenal* (political tribunal) operated from 1631-43. But the monarchy was hedged with limitations. The king and his ministers could not do as they wished; magnates remained strong and the Estates-General showed their power in 1614; Richelieu failed to raise revenue to meet war costs or stop corruption among tax farmers; he had to negotiate with the *pays d'état* to extend taxes, and they resisted his use of *élus*. Candidates may suggest that the French monarchy became 'more absolute' under Louis XIV: his demi-god status at Versailles; the writing of Bossuet; Louis' control over national and regional assemblies, *parlements* and royal councils; his highly developed administration, salaried *intendants* (agents of absolutism) and bureaucracy of *officiers*; his largest standing army in Europe; state censorship; treatment of Fouquet, Huguenots, Gallican Articles. However, his power was also limited by corrupt officials and a failure to reform royal finances; *parlements* that obstructed royal edicts; religious dissenters that survived persecution; aristocratic governors that still acted independently; corporate bodies that retained privileges; and seigneurial and church courts that impeded a uniform legal system.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

17 Assess which minister contributed most to the development of France's economy in the period from 1610 to 1715. [60]

Colbert had several distinctive qualities which set him apart from Richelieu, Mazarin, and other ministers [Le Tellier, who does not appear in the Spec, may also be referred to], but candidates are likely to regard Colbert as the minister who made the greatest contribution. All ministers were confronted with financial difficulties, and each tackled them in similar ways i.e. they tried to cut expenditure, increased existing taxation, borrowed money, sold offices, introduced and then reversed reforms, so that revenue increased but the tax and administrative system remained largely unchanged. Richelieu had limited success in keeping finances in order and, though he encouraged overseas trade and colonies, he was largely unsuccessful. Mazarin also tried to tackle the crown's financial difficulties but his policies precipitated the Fronde, and he took little interest in the wider economy. In contrast, Colbert in the 1660s cut court expenditure, abolished sinecures, lowered interest rates, amalgamated tax farming, reclaimed royal lands, increased the taille paid by landowners and by 1672 had balanced the budget. Colbert also had a far wider view of the economy. He pursued mercantilist policies aimed at acquiring gold and silver bullion at the expense of the Dutch and English. He regulated industries, founded trading companies, established colonies in Canada and the West Indies, expanded the royal navy, maritime fleet and arsenals and naval stores. None of his predecessors since Sully and Henry IV had developed the economy so broadly. As a result, he enabled Louis to wage wars in the 1670s and to become the most powerful man in Europe by 1683. Nevertheless, although Colbert strengthened the economy, there was a limit as to how long the economy could sustain Louis' wars, he failed to reform the fiscal system and to establish permanent trading companies. Candidates should compare several ministers and are likely to focus on Richelieu, Mazarin and Colbert.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

18 To what extent did fighting wars hinder the development of French power in the period from 1610 to 1715? [60]

Candidates might begin by considering what constituted 'French power' and how fighting wars abroad affected France's international standing and domestic condition. Some candidates might discuss whether internal wars hindered the development of French power and this should be credited. Arguments in favour of wars hindering France include:

- (1) The state was financially crippled: costs of waging war rose from 16 million livres in the 1620s to 120 million in the 1640s to 2 billion in 1714 and bankruptcy. War generated heavy taxation in the 1630s and 1640s, which led to revolts and civil war.
- (2) The economy was adversely affected: the Code Michaud was abandoned; Richelieu's financial and commercial reforms were destroyed; Colbert abandoned his policy of protectionism and encouraging trading companies after 1672; agriculture declined and famine occurred.
- (3) Wars after 1680 led to the formation of powerful coalitions (League of Augsburg and Grand Alliance) and it was the Dutch, English and Germans who ultimately defeated France.

To achieve a balanced argument, candidates should also consider how far wars may have helped France become more powerful. Arguments in favour of wars helping France include:

- (1) France increased its power in Europe. Winning lands at Westphalia strengthened its frontiers and weakened its enemies. The Pyrenees gave it a claim to the Spanish throne. Spain and the United Provinces were weakened, and the security of the H. R. Empire threatened.
- (2) War strengthened royal absolutism by acquiring a 'monopoly of violence' through military reforms, naval improvements and administrative changes.
- (3) War was popular with the nobles, who were kept occupied and rewarded, and with the people who enjoyed the kudos of continuous victories until the 1690s.

Weak essays are likely to focus too much on the events of particular wars without relating them to the development of France and only consider one side of the argument. Better responses should consider wars from across the period as a factor that both helped and hindered France.

Examiners must be open to alternative approaches. If in doubt, they should consult their Team Leader.

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