



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level History A

Unit Y209

African Kingdoms c.1400–c.1800: four case studies

Sample Question Paper

Date – Morning/Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour



OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet

Other materials required:

- None



First name																			
Last name																			
Centre number											Candidate number								

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes above with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Choose either Question 1 or Question 2 and Answer all parts of the question.
- Write your answer to each question on the Answer Booklet.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **30**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended responses will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

Answer **EITHER** all of Question 1, or all of Question 2.

1 (a) Which of the following was more important in maintaining the power of the Oba in Benin?

- (i) Tribute
- (ii) Ceremony and ritual

Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).

[10]

1 (b)* To what extent was the leadership of Sonni Ali the main reason for the rise of the Songhay Empire?

[20]

OR

2 (a) Which of the following kingdoms was more successful in their relations with Europeans?

- (i) Kongo
- (ii) Benin

Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).

[10]

2 (b)* 'Use of cavalry was the main reason for the strength of the Oyo Empire'. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

[20]

BLANK PAGE

SPECIMEN

BLANK PAGE

SPECIMEN

Copyright Information:

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in the assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact the Copyright Team, First Floor, 9 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1GE.

OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group; Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.

...day June 20XX – Morning/Afternoon

A Level History A

Unit Y209 African Kingdoms c.1400–c.1800: four case studies

MARK SCHEME

Duration: 1 hour

MAXIMUM MARK 30

MARKING INSTRUCTIONS**PREPARATION FOR MARKING****SCORIS**

1. Make sure that you have accessed and completed the relevant training packages for on–screen marking: *scoris assessor Online Training*; *OCR Essential Guide to Marking*.
2. Make sure that you have read and understood the mark scheme and the question paper for this unit. These are posted on the RM Cambridge Assessment Support Portal <http://www.rm.com/support/ca>
3. Log–in to scoris and mark the **required number** of practice responses (“scripts”) and the **required number** of standardisation responses.

YOU MUST MARK 10 PRACTICE AND 10 STANDARDISATION RESPONSES BEFORE YOU CAN BE APPROVED TO MARK LIVE SCRIPTS.

TRADITIONAL

Before the Standardisation meeting you must mark at least 10 scripts from several centres. For this preliminary marking you should use **pencil** and follow the **mark scheme**. Bring these **marked scripts** to the meeting.

MARKING

1. Mark strictly to the mark scheme.
2. Marks awarded must relate directly to the marking criteria.
3. The schedule of dates is very important. It is essential that you meet the scoris 50% and 100% (traditional 50% Batch 1 and 100% Batch 2) deadlines. If you experience problems, you must contact your Team Leader (Supervisor) without delay.
4. If you are in any doubt about applying the mark scheme, consult your Team Leader by telephone, email or via the scoris messaging system.

5. Work crossed out:
- where a candidate crosses out an answer and provides an alternative response, the crossed out response is not marked and gains no marks
 - if a candidate crosses out an answer to a whole question and makes no second attempt, and if the inclusion of the answer does not cause a rubric infringement, the assessor should attempt to mark the crossed out answer and award marks appropriately.
6. Always check the pages (and additional objects if present) at the end of the response in case any answers have been continued there. If the candidate has continued an answer there then add a tick to confirm that the work has been seen.
7. There is a NR (No Response) option. Award NR (No Response)
- if there is nothing written at all in the answer space
 - OR if there is a comment which does not in any way relate to the question (e.g. 'can't do', 'don't know')
 - OR if there is a mark (e.g. a dash, a question mark) which isn't an attempt at the question.
- Note: Award 0 marks – for an attempt that earns no credit (including copying out the question).
8. The scoris **comments box** is used by your Team Leader to explain the marking of the practice responses. Please refer to these comments when checking your practice responses. **Do not use the comments box for any other reason.** If you have any questions or comments for your Team Leader, use the phone, the scoris messaging system, or e-mail.
9. Assistant Examiners will send a brief report on the performance of candidates to their Team Leader (Supervisor) via email by the end of the marking period. The report should contain notes on particular strengths displayed as well as common errors or weaknesses. Constructive criticism of the question paper/mark scheme is also appreciated.
10. For answers marked by levels of response:
- To determine the level** – start at the highest level and work down until you reach the level that matches the answer
 - To determine the mark within the level**, consider the following:

Descriptor	Award mark
On the borderline of this level and the one below	At bottom of level
Just enough achievement on balance for this level	Above bottom and either below middle or at middle of level (depending on number of marks available)
Meets the criteria but with some slight inconsistency	Above middle and either below top of level or at middle of level (depending on number of marks available)
Consistently meets the criteria for this level	At top of level

11. Annotations

Annotation	Meaning

12. Subject-specific Marking Instructions

INTRODUCTION

Your first task as an Examiner is to become thoroughly familiar with the material on which the examination depends. This material includes:

- the specification, especially the assessment objectives
- the question paper and its rubrics
- the mark scheme.

You should ensure that you have copies of these materials.

You should ensure also that you are familiar with the administrative procedures related to the marking process. These are set out in the OCR booklet **Instructions for Examiners**. If you are examining for the first time, please read carefully **Appendix 5 Introduction to Script Marking: Notes for New Examiners**.

Please ask for help or guidance whenever you need it. Your first point of contact is your Team Leader.

USING THE MARK SCHEME

Please study this Mark Scheme carefully. The Mark Scheme is an integral part of the process that begins with the setting of the question paper and ends with the awarding of grades. Question papers and Mark Schemes are developed in association with each other so that issues of differentiation and positive achievement can be addressed from the very start.

This Mark Scheme is a working document; it is not exhaustive; it does not provide 'correct' answers. The Mark Scheme can only provide 'best guesses' about how the question will work out, and it is subject to revision after we have looked at a wide range of scripts.

The Examiners' Standardisation Meeting will ensure that the Mark Scheme covers the range of candidates' responses to the questions, and that all Examiners understand and apply the Mark Scheme in the same way. The Mark Scheme will be discussed and amended at the meeting, and administrative procedures will be confirmed. Co-ordination scripts will be issued at the meeting to exemplify aspects of candidates' responses and achievements; the co-ordination scripts then become part of this Mark Scheme.

Before the Standardisation Meeting, you should read and mark in pencil a number of scripts, in order to gain an impression of the range of responses and achievement that may be expected.

Please read carefully all the scripts in your allocation and make every effort to look positively for achievement throughout the ability range. Always be prepared to use the full range of marks.

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINERS

- 1 The co-ordination scripts provide you with *examples* of the standard of each band. The marks awarded for these scripts will have been agreed by the Team Leaders and will be discussed fully at the Examiners' Co-ordination Meeting.
- 2 The specific task-related indicative content for each question will help you to understand how the band descriptors may be applied. However, this indicative content does not constitute the mark scheme: it is material that candidates might use, grouped according to each assessment objective tested by the question. It is hoped that candidates will respond to questions in a variety of ways. Rigid demands for 'what must be a good answer' would lead to a distorted assessment.
- 3 Candidates' answers must be relevant to the question. Beware of prepared answers that do not show the candidate's thought and which have not been adapted to the thrust of the question. Beware also of answers where candidates attempt to reproduce interpretations and concepts that they have been taught but have only partially understood.

	<i>AO1: Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.</i>
	Generic mark scheme for Question 1(a) and Question 2(a): Which of the following? [10]
Level 6 9–10 marks	Both factors are thoroughly analysed and evaluated using accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding of key features of the period, in order to reach a developed and substantiated judgement in relation to the question.
Level 5 7–8 marks	Both factors are analysed and evaluated using generally accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding of key features of the period, in order to reach a substantiated judgement in relation to the question.
Level 4 5–6 marks	Both factors are analysed and evaluated using relevant knowledge and understanding of key features of the period, however treatment of factors may be un-even with analysis and evaluation of one of the two being only partial. Analysis and evaluation is used to support a reasonable judgement in relation to the question.
Level 3 3–4 marks	Both factors are analysed and evaluated in a partial way, using some relevant knowledge of key features of the period, in order to make a basic judgement in relation to the question.
Level 2 2 marks	Limited and generalised knowledge of the period is used to attempt a limited analysis or evaluation of both factors, and this is linked to a very simplistic judgement.
Level 1 1 mark	Very limited and generalised knowledge of the period is used to attempt a very limited analysis or evaluation of one of the factors. The other factor is either not considered or there is very limited information or description of the factor with no attempt to use this knowledge. If there is a judgement, this takes the form of assertion.
0 marks	Nothing of any relevance to the factors.

	<i>AO1: Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.</i>
	Generic mark scheme for Question 1(b) and Question 2(b): Essay [20]
Level 6 17–20 marks	There is a consistent focus on the question throughout the answer. Accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding is demonstrated throughout the answer and is consistently evaluated and analysed in order to reach substantiated, developed and sustained judgements. There is a well-developed and sustained line of reasoning which is coherent and logically structured. The information presented is entirely relevant and substantiated.
Level 5 13–16 marks	There is a mostly consistent focus on the question. Generally accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding is demonstrated through most of the answer and is evaluated and analysed in order to reach substantiated judgements, but these are not consistently well-developed. There is a well-developed line of reasoning which is clear and logically structured. The information presented is relevant and in the most part substantiated.
Level 4 10–12 marks	The question is generally addressed. Generally accurate and sometimes detailed knowledge and understanding is demonstrated through most of the answer with evaluation and some analysis, and this is used appropriately to support the judgements that are made. There is a line of reasoning presented with some structure. The information presented is in the most-part relevant and supported by some evidence.
Level 3 7–9 marks	The question is partially addressed. There is demonstration of some relevant knowledge and understanding, which is evaluated and analysed in parts of the answer, but in places knowledge is imparted rather than being used. The analysis is appropriately linked to the judgements made, though the way in which it supports the judgements may not always be made explicit. The information has some relevance and is presented with limited structure. The information is supported by limited evidence.
Level 2 4–6 marks	The focus is more on the topic than the specific demands of the question. Knowledge and understanding is limited and not well used, with only limited evaluation and analysis, which is only sometimes linked appropriately to the judgements made. The information has some relevance, but is communicated in an unstructured way. The information is supported by limited evidence and the relationship to the evidence may not be clear.
Level 1 1–3 marks	The answer relates to the topic but not the specific question. The answer contains only very limited relevant knowledge which is evaluated and analysed in a very limited way. Judgements are unsupported and are not linked to analysis. Relevant knowledge is limited, generalised and poorly used; attempts at argument are no more than assertion. Information presented is basic and may be ambiguous or unstructured. The information is supported by limited evidence.
0 marks	No evidence of understanding and no demonstration of any relevant knowledge.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
1	(a)	<p>Which of the following was more important in maintaining the power of the Oba in Benin?</p> <p>(i) Tribute</p> <p>(ii) Ceremony and ritual</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In dealing with Tribute, answers might comment that tribute gave the Oba personal wealth which he could then use for patronage. • Answers might suggest that the ritual tribute system emphasised the loyalty owed to the Oba from those he ruled. • Answers might also, however, suggest that tribute was more important to the power of the state overall rather than the power of the Oba personally. • In dealing with ceremony and ritual, answers might point to the large number of day-to-day and annual rituals designed to reinforce the Oba's power. • Answers might point to the importance placed on having physical possession of ritual objects, e.g. in succession struggles. • Answers might also, however, suggest that few people saw or participated in these ceremonies and rituals. 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Only credit material relevant to maintaining the power of the <i>Oba</i>. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to reach a judgement, or make take a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
1	(b)*	<p>To what extent was the leadership of Sonni Ali the main reason for the rise of the Songhay Empire?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In arguing the Sonni Ali was the main reason, answers might point to his personal ambition and vision for Songhay. • Answers might comment on his military leadership and may highlight his role in key battles e.g. capture of Timbuktu in 1468. • Candidates might also, however, comment that Ali was not universally respected within the Songhay ruling class and/or that he was working within a favourable context he was able to take advantage of. • In arguing that Sonni Ali was not the main reason, candidates should analyse other factors, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • military strength, including use of cavalry • importance of Sonni Ali's predecessors in strengthening Songhay e.g. Sonni Sulayman Dama • legal, administrative, cultural and intellectual strengths, in part due to Islam • geographical factors and advantages • weaknesses of neighbouring peoples and kingdoms • the decline of the Mali Empire. 	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • At higher levels candidates will focus on 'the main reason', but at Level 4 may simply list reasons. • At Level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the relative importance of each factor. • At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge the most important reason. • To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
2	(a)	<p>Which of the following kingdoms was more successful in their relations with Europeans?</p> <p>(i) Kongo (ii) Benin</p> <p>Explain you answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In dealing with Kongo, answers might suggest that the Kingdom was successful in maintaining a diplomatic relationship with Portugal which allowed them to negotiate on key issues like slavery. • Answers might point to the monarchy's enthusiastic adoption of Christianity and some European political customs. • Answers might suggest that over time it became harder to assert Kongolese independence in the face of growing European colonisation. • In dealing with Benin, answers might point to the wealth created in Benin through trading relationships with Europeans. • Answers might point to Benin's use of firearms, obtained from Europeans. • Answers might also suggest that in the long term Benin found it hard to resist increasingly active European colonisation. 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, mark as assertion. • Only credit material relevant to the success of each Kingdom in their relations with Europeans. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to reach a judgement, or make take a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
2 (b)*	<p>'Use of cavalry was the main reason for the strength of the Oyo Empire'. To what extent do you agree with this statement?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · In arguing that the use of cavalry was the main reason, answers might comment that this differentiated Oyo from many neighbouring Kingdoms and peoples. · Candidates might comment on the organisation and size of the cavalry. · Candidates might also, however, comment that cavalry was difficult and expensive to maintain, and not always used effectively, or might note they were not the only Kingdom to use cavalry. · In arguing that cavalry was not the main reason, candidates should analyse other factors, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · broader military factors – strategy and tactics, leadership, structure · culture and morale – bravery, warrior culture, military service, idea of honour · population growth · geographical factors and advantages · political and administrative factors – individual leaders, centralisation, administrative change · the imperial structure and tribute system · weaknesses of neighbours and/or the benefits that neighbouring states (e.g. Dahomey) could get from being in the empire found it hard to resist increasingly active European colonisation. 	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No set answer is expected. · At higher levels candidates will focus on 'the main reason', but at Level 4 may simply list reasons. · At Level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the relative importance of each factor. · At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge the most important reason. · To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. · Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

Assessment Objectives (AO) Grid

Question	AO1	AO2	AO3	Total
1a/2a	10			10
1b/2b	20			20
Totals	30			30

BLANK PAGE

SPECIMEN

BLANK PAGE

SPECIMEN