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A LEVEL

Examiners' report

# HISTORY A

H505

For first teaching in 2015

Y102/01 Summer 2024 series

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### Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. A selection of candidate answers is also provided. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from OCR.

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## Paper Y102 series overview

Y102 is one of thirteen units in Paper 1 for the A Level examination for GCE History. This unit tests an extended period of History of about fifty years through an Enquiries or source-based question and a traditional essay question. The paper is divided into two sections. In Section A, candidates have to answer a compulsory source question based on four written primary sources. The question requires them to use all four sources to assess the validity of a view. In Section B, candidates are required to answer one essay question from a choice of two.

To do well on Section A, candidates need to be able to consider both provenance of the sources and apply contextual knowledge to them in order to reach a judgement about the sources in relation to the issue in the question. The judgement should be based on an evaluation of the reliability of the evidence given, not on the topic or contextual knowledge. To reach Level 6, a judgement should be made at the end of the analysis of each source, with an overall judgement in the conclusion.

To do well on Section B, candidates need to address the issue in the question, using detailed supporting knowledge. In order to reach the higher levels, candidates will need to assess the issues they discuss and reach a supported judgement at least in the conclusion. To reach Level 6 candidates should also make an overall judgement as well as interim judgements when assessing each factor.

# Candidates who did well on this paper generally:

- considered the provenance of the source(s) and used relevant contextual knowledge
- clearly linked the contextual knowledge to the source being discussed to show whether the view of the source was valid or not
- reached an overall judgement as to the extent to which the sources supported the view in the question
- discussed at least two issues in depth in answering the essay question
- gave supporting detail that was both accurate and relevant to the question set, not just the topic
- reached a supported judgement about the issue in the question
- made a series of interim judgements about the issues discussed in relation to the question.

# Candidates who did less well on this paper generally:

- did not consider both the provenance and use contextual knowledge to evaluate the sources
- wrote an unbalanced response in their treatment of the sources, with very little consideration of one of the sources
- reached a judgement based on their knowledge rather than the sources
- showed a poor understanding of the major issues relevant to the essay
- were unable to support their response with relevant material
- did not focus on the precise wording of the question
- made unsupported comments about issues which were assertions.

### Section A overview

There is one compulsory question in this section. This question requires candidates to critically assess evidence and reach judgements. The critical evaluation of sources is the central theme in this section with all marks given against AO2.

The Enquiry section in Paper Y102 is focused on the role of Ranulf Flambard in William II's government.

#### Question 1

### Norman England 1087-1107

1 'Ranulf Flambard played the key role in William II's government.'

Use the **four** sources in their historical context to assess how far they support this view.

[30]

Candidates in general demonstrated an ability to link each source to the issue in the question. Source A was interpreted as evidence of William II's deep involvement in the governance of the kingdom, whereas Source C was seen as evidence of the centrality of Ranulf's position, in support of the view in the question. Source B made the point that others – such as William of Saint-Calais, bishop of Durham, and even Odo, bishop of Bayeux – held (or expected to hold) prominent governmental positions, but only some candidates recognised this, with others making a more general point about Ranulf's absence from the text. In relation to D, some candidates noted that however powerful Ranulf might have been in secular affairs at one point, his ability to interfere in ecclesiastical matters, despite holding the episcopal office at Durham from 1099, would always be circumscribed by the authority of the archbishop of Canterbury. Some candidates even drew out the broader significance of Eadmer's view as evidence of the need for a partnership between the king and archbishop in effective governance.

Knowledge cited usually focused on the more sensational elements of Ranulf's biography (for example, his exploitative tax measures and his eventual imprisonment by Henry I – even his escape from the Tower of London), as well as his purchase of the see of Durham. Other knowledge included examples of the ecclesiastical positions sold by Rufus, his need for funds to secure Normandy from Robert Curthose, and his turbulent relationship with Anselm. Knowledge tended to be less developed and in a few cases Rufus was confused with his father.

Provenance tended to be handled less effectively. Eadmer in Source D was well known as a confidant of Anselm and so someone who would be likely to express partisan views in the archbishop's favour. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (A) was known reasonably well, although some candidates confused the origin and identity of the version (E, the longest maintained one, written at Peterborough from a Canterbury exemplar). Attempts at evaluation of the provenance of William of Malmesbury (B) and Simeon of Durham (C) were often less developed, restricted to general comments about the authors' monastic identity and the comparatively late date of the writing of each source. Simeon's view is particularly interesting in this context, since, as some candidates noted, he was a member of the Benedictine community at Durham, was associated with William of Saint-Calais, and he almost certainly had personal experience of dealing with Flambard. However, few candidates raised these issues in their assessments of the source.

There is some evidence of the evaluation of provenance in Exemplar 1. Its mark is reflective of the balanced use of knowledge and provenance, as well as the inclusion of a judgement based on the provenance of the sources. This may be seen in the final paragraph.

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### Exemplar 1

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	pruhileit suggests flamband had a role in
	the ckooning of archorshops, he the source
4	conservable focuses mainly on
	his exchange with Anselm and also loses
	commences when considering the author
	Of the some who was inherently biased.
	Eouro Fadmer also siggested Ramufhada
	tole as he proposed to consenate Thugod
	at Yok" although the prospertie archbishop
	of York had not been conservated himself!
	This show that Flambard had a see
	hallenge the enhant of Canterbury  primate. on church issues. Contextuating
	challenge the myphilhop of Canterbury
	prinate on church issues. Confermation
	However, the soune is highly morning
	as histop Ramolf he Eadner had all the
	However, the source is highly morning as highly knowning leadner had attelled teasons to exagger with the a companion, admirer of Anselm, would have written to
	admirer of Ahselm, would have mitten to
	Dievale the status of Angelm . So had to
	dininish the role of Flambard by sarry shows Arrelm's solid was assured uply in
	Arselm's solid was assured uply in

9

Sayy "I porthuly borbid it to ke done"
Also, the Eadmermay have written to jevlapor
the como my Ramust who purchased the
histophic of Duran Francis 1099/or 1100
to Anackay and who had been improved
micfly by Henry I in the Tower of Lordon
against Anselm who was rett showers
his work at Berto do so that the second
tout the some Avantation from all the
the ist of flandbard Fistead at is enough This,
in outrattout the souse May har outrally
deminicat House Attributing this lange
role to Hambard also looks very badlyon
Ruhs, again another pupose of Eadmer's
with for Kinshad heated Anselming
hadly, eg not letting him have all of
Lanhanis lands, as new as the Comit of
Pockisham which som heavy disputes. Thy
 have overemphasised Rannelt's role to make
It blem very outrageous that he would vertep
his role lite that with the buried consigning
It is the shores there he are the vice the
Kanut played a key role to an een smaller
lafert.
Wife U.
Laste Congo Compate Hanni Laste
many sover supports ineview pro
grafut extent, now arrest ruiso comingly
Lastly, Sovie Csupports the new to the greatest extent, Por albeit not so comingly. This simeon son organised Ranulf

f		
		had so great of a role that he as a "tax
		collector cend "administrator" that he
		. Seized their property and lands evrywhere
	·	throughout England: While he did
, '		exploit the finances of Canterbury and
		Workster after Wulfstan's death in 1095,
	_	ging the foure some support, "everywhere
	~ <b>,</b> ,	Amorghout England " was most definitely
		an exaggeration for most backopping hong
		remained bades as they were inder
		the Conqueror and Peles's penue was
		allowed to coapine under Rubis, Showing
		that the exploitation of churchwendes
		was not as great as Simeon is ruggeray
		This is expected of simeon, for he ass
		being of Durham, saw how Ramulfhad
		disrupted the peace by purchasing the bishoppie in 1 1099 with £ 1000 and
		tainishing the reputation of himeun's and
		be Durham wither by herry hupnorned
		by tenny in 400 when he astended.
		by tenny in 100 when he astended.  Consequently, it is untroprior of that he
		exaggrated the matile of flambardage
		rendent tuis source uncomming
	- ""	consexually and interms of provenances.
		despire the level of supportation to the
		to exert so much conholoer church knamer's
-		to exert so much conholoer church knamer's

Intonumen, the sources all varied in une of support to the view while Sources A and B place almost no
in une of support to the view while
1 000000 H and B place activost vo
significance on the role of panut in
Missam 11's government, Sovae Osygest
he did, in that he was able to challenge
Ineprimate and source conferm
harthorin suggestate he sex exploited
manues, but both watch a tolkay
extro margely unonmorphist
as Eadner and Dineon never loyal to
Drivelm and Duham, both offerded by
etner Ribis oc Ramilt so had clear
mobiles to make against Ranulf, Frenchort
Overall the sources undermining the
commissioness of both sources. This overal
the 4 EULINES only support the view that
Ranust frampard played the key whing
William 11's government to a very limited
extent.

Exemplar 1 is a Level 5 response, with some use of provenance and relevant knowledge of the historical context relating to each source. However, comments are less developed. There is some judgement in the final paragraph which refers to the provenance of C and D (Simeon of Durham and Eadmer). This judgement is sufficient to push the response into Level 5.

### **Assessment for learning**



Candidates should focus on how far the sources support the view in the question rather than simply explaining each source in light of the issue.

#### **Assessment for learning**



Judgements need to reference the provenance of each source if they are to be developed fully, rather than simply noting whether each source supports the view or not.

### Section B overview

Candidates are required to answer one essay from a choice of two. Each question is taken from a different Key Topic and requires candidates to weigh up the importance of a range of factors or issues.

#### Question 2\*

### Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1035-1087

2\* 'Disputes over the succession were the main reason for instability in England during the period from 1035 to 1042.'

How far do you agree?

[20]

This question was not as popular as Question 3. Candidates in general had some knowledge of the succession arrangements made by Cnut, as seen in Exemplar 2. Complications occurred because the king had sons by different unions: Harold Harefoot by Ælfgifu of Northampton and Harthacnut by Emma of Normandy. Matters were complicated further because Emma had sons from her first marriage to Æthelred, king of England, who eventually laid claim to the throne: Alfred and Edward (the Confessor).

More candidates focused on the rival claims of Harold Harefoot and Harthacnut, as well as the scheming of Emma to secure the throne for her son (Harthacnut). Indeed, the involvement in the succession dispute of individuals like Emma and Earl Godwin was presented by some candidates as another reason for instability. Godwin's changing of sides and his participation in the brutal murder of Edward's brother, Alfred, probably at the behest of Harold Harefoot, was surprisingly overlooked by some candidates.

Another reason often mentioned was the relatively unsuccessful rule of first Harold Harefoot and then Harthacnut. Tax riots were often cited as evidence of the latter. In support of stability, some candidates made good use of numismatic evidence.

Exemplar 2 addresses these factors with relatively detailed knowledge. A judgement is attempted, although it is less developed, and so the response only just falls into Level 5. For a mark higher in the level, more detailed discussion of the factors is needed, as well as a more developed judgement. At Level 6, the response would have needed a final judgement, as well as further judgement throughout the essay.

13

### Exemplar 2

· ·	
2	Dusputes over the succession were the main reason for instability in England during Penad from 1035 to 1092?
	for instability in England during Period from 1035 to 1092?
	following the Deall of Chut in 1035 the Pollowell
	a long period of instability within England. The Main
	reason was le dispute of over succession due to
	the two marriages could had However all Richers
	ellected the & threatered stability within the country aswell
	such as the actions of Emma of Hormany & seconds
	the policies Harthachut implemented once bym.
	The follows marketing inclinations and olive
	The dest are accounted to the life of
	The dispute over encoserion was the most impachful
	Contribution to instability within England from 1035-92
	This was put into making by the fact can had two
	Marriages to Aefgila at Dortamphon & Enma of Hormany.
	of which talk produced here to the thouse the initial cause
	I melubidily was the agreement chul taile with Emma
	which we that it sie produced an her he'd be the
	Successor to the Above this meant though therefor head
	essentially been at all from succession. However, despite this
	reyerls to leading nobility in England Elected him to be regent
	In 1037 due to the gruing absorber of Holleand in Donmark
	caused by layers of Horney. This caused cutrous among
	Emma's supportus & Hattheante as she sow this as a direct
	challege to be sone claim which was bound to ause political
	Unrest. This can be seen in the Roof that Abbility in bescex.
	V

	including Fart Queen, appared the obscision of allowing Finna
	to look all vesses in hopes she could protect and
	boop alive he song claim. Rober more she protected this
	claim will a book of thescards. This created unrest & animosity
	will'n England presently possibility for worst to the shoul.
	This animosity came to a least lat in the year when
	Horald Harefool drove Emma from he sent at windester
	where she sat on the treasury. Later on within the period
	anoth potential dispute over succession arose when thatteent
	recognised Edward as his hour at court in 1042. This threated
	Stability fuelle as in doing so tartheoned had broken agreement
	he made with they what allowed two to seare the throng.
	In conclusion it is ended that succession posed the
	most real threat to shakits as the was the root came of
	unrock at the beginning of the period that bick stocked the instribility.
	hope factor that opposes the wew of the question is
	the actions Emma of Sormany look and how by Horalund
	Stability symboanty. This can first be seen in how Finna
	of Mormand Started a pospaganda campayon against Harald
	Hareford . This propaganda entailed her telling people & sending
	out letters that Harvild was an illegitimate son of count
	due to the het delapher was unable to concreve children.
	Enma went as her b suggest his been smule into conte
	bed whilet he was aclosp. This had massive impacts on
	Stability as it made the people of England oppose Harald
	succeeding even more than by already did and his
	presence was sure to antiquente the people of England.
	Its elects can also be seen in the Auch that Pope

	Pine IX refuel to handover Harald the coronation regalice
	on account of such rumours given the desired efect
	France could Enne took butter actions in 1036
	which thould Englande political stability by calling on the
	Sons of L brook larges to Achell Edward & Albel to
	towards England in Lopes of securing claim of Hartleant
	her him. # Edward landed at southlangton & was freed
	6 abacilon his campage housing be alid maye coul coast
	below bearing which created hints wheel. Albed however was
· ·	cayle on arrival of Dover and his Head to instability was
	Knuled although his death & Reduces impleation in it possel
	theat to shakely in 1083 wen Edward came to the Home.
	dioral Emmis actors del serious Hools shilly
	about hat as symbout as succession.
	Losts the actors of Hurband also Healmad
	shouly will the \$ proval for loss to 92. This
	was dishinctively the case when he came to those
	In 1080 as his trop from Denniel ha Boyes
	to there Enjand hed cool him 32,000 pounds.
	upon his coronalon he implemented a harsh has in
	the people in order to pay for the expense the med
	about thoushoul England. This instability was him
	increased by the fool that a fax collectors were
	killed in wooder which resulted in Harnecoul
	ordern the Fails of over to fay work to bown /c/h.
	Attack habel 5 de and should rubber effe &
	garany. He also graded Rich week it his
	darenning. in one clothed some messe if the
	Roboral of Endwall who he had promied sale

passage. This has events placed must in
Harborand & caucal people thoughout England to
 resoul les rile - avoid les confibulion was the
imported however he disput to over succession
bos I for greet important.
In conclusion the disput over succession
theatened shabily the most as it was the post
Cause & all othe Richer All Collaved and
was prevolud Applaced. Former & Hattlecouls achons were
 also prompted by resons of succession.

Exemplar 2 is a Level 5 response which sets out (with a tendency to list) some relevant factors and reaches a less developed but substantiated judgement. There is generally detailed knowledge, but it is the judgement which is sufficient to push this response into Level 5.

### **Assessment for learning**



Candidates should provide a judgement in response to the question which is focused on the key issue and substantiated with a convincing explanation.

#### Question 3\*

3\* How seriously was William I's consolidation of his power in England threatened by the rebellions of 1067–1070? [20]

Candidates had reasonable knowledge of the main rebellions that took place during this period, including at Exeter in 1068, the revolt of Eadric the Wild at a similar time, the northern rebellion, usually dated 1069 to1070, and the initial stages of the rebellion associated with Hereward the Wake. Some candidates also referred to the attack on Dover by Eustace II of Boulogne in 1067 and the separate attacks on south-west England by Harold's sons based in Ireland, while in a few responses the local revolt centred on the castle of Montacute, usually dated to 1069, was mentioned, an uprising swiftly dealt with by Geoffrey de Montbray, bishop of Coutances. Knowledge of each rebellion varied.

Some candidates confused different rebellions, with Eadric, for example, appearing at Exeter. The role of Gytha, Harold's mother, in the Exeter rebellion was not always well known, while the albeit complex sequence of events in the north was sometimes confused. Nevertheless, the role of external influences was often commented on, particularly the supporting role of Swein Estrithson in the 1069 rebellion. Candidates usually noted the seriousness of the northern rebellion, as reflected in the drastic actions taken by the king in the following year, the so-called 'harrying of the north'.

Other measures taken by the king were also mentioned by candidates who played down the seriousness of the rebellions, such as the use of castles. This point was often less effectively supported. It had greater impact when candidates cited specific examples of the castles built by the king, such as those like Warwick and Nottingham associated with the earliest stages of the Conquest. Other candidates highlighted the localised nature of each rebellion, which worked against their chances of success. Those candidates who attempted to argue that the defeated Anglo-Saxons lacked a suitable figurehead to rally around neglected to mention Edgar Ætheling and the strength of his claim to the throne.

In Exemplar 3, there is explanation of the rebellions with reasonably detailed knowledge. It includes a less developed judgement which allows for a mark in the lower end of Level 5.

### Exemplar 3

3	1. The same 14 Agreed alote and a second second
	withiam 15 cansolodation of perver in England
· <del>-</del>	in 1067 and 1068 as well as the neverties
	of Edwin Marca and Herewood the Water in
	1070 ghandre transfer especially un
	comparion to the much larger threat of
	1085 grom Crut, san of Sween of Denmah.
	Havever, one could expre that he was growth
	se his consordation of part was mare
	serousing kneatened in 1069 due to his
	harsh response with the Hamping on the
	Nath. mus he rebellions of 1067-1070 were not
	a completely unsenous Kneat.
	One could certainly arome that williams
	cardolidation of power was only middly
	realand by the early resolution in his
	reign of 1067 and 1068. This can be seen in
	the success of wollow's regents (odo of Bayeux
	and witham the Orben) ruccessfully
	putting dans the rebelias in both kent,
	incorded his Burtace of Boulone's attach an
	parer and the midlands by badne the wild!  The fact that william Stand was not
	the fact that william Stand was not
	reguised in putting dann mese relieurais
	hoghlights their what water only mild theat
	to his pave. This is justice congerned in
	the record redoning or reading the wild
	que reselva ju red been a mare
	Livous prest, he would not lave been allared
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

to somme. The success of williams response to
 the rebellion of 1068 can be taken as evidence
forther law of sevious threat. William
 successfully besieged breeter for 18 days in
1068 and thus subdued the rebels
their . Smotaly, wolwar was able to very an
the levering of snylish support against the
threat from the three illestinate sons or
 Mood on the south coan - suther highlighting
melach of Threat there as the contain most
Bylesun remained in support of him.
William's swift and agile response to the Nather
threat of 1068 can be seen through his
shategic use of cartle building at
Nottinfran Warrich, You Incoln
Comprède and Huntingdan in orde to
Supplis me rebels. These early meats
were Thus clealy a relatively mid
Aveat. Puis is especially clear then
camparis them to the threat of 1085 from
Court of Denman. The unnearity of this threat
Carse seen in Wolliam's poursed calling on
a was council in Gloricester as well as his
brigne og 'a larger jære man ever begare
 wito no country, according to the Angle-forcar
Charicle:
The mild threat of the early resolvious in
comparison to the much more serious threat

<u> </u>	
	in 1085 can be timened to the similarly
	mid wear of 1070. Although Mercar,
	Hereword me wake and swean caused some
	Bres to William 5 pare in that they
	made bly nier base and variaged the lands
	around, the desoumen of the street is
	diminished by the jack that william was
	able to pay of hvein of kennah in 1070
	as well as the jack that Hereward the
	Ware ningly disappeared wito he fews
	ago william's nicessful nege of bly. Again
	in campaisan to the theat of 1085, me rebellion
	of 1070 is negligable. When company both the
	early weats of 10.67-8 and the threat 01070
	to me there rebellian of 1075,
	green at see that their threat are can
	also see that their Mreat is less significant as
	in 1075, Williams om barans, led ky Roger de
	Brenter were in revolt, not just songlish
	eorces.
	Mavener, one could argue that the rebelliar or
	1069 was quite a very canaderable threat to
	William I's consolidation of parer as seen in
-	his response to the rebellion though the
	Hanging of the Wart (1069-70). This threat was
	ensually severy due to the combined tweat
	of Edurin Marco, Malcolin, Bleddyn (on the Welth)
	and Svein of Remmak, Mall contributed in
	I MAY WALL THE TOTAL TOT

T
Some james me rebellion. The nagnitude of the
 meatwould cerainly have been a great is me
 gor william. Her me seriousness on the threat of
 rebellion con be deen in to me mineure destastation
of william's Hamping of me wath from Vah.
As a carequence of the Harrying which was
carried out over the write of 1069 to 1070,
100,000 people died of jamene and the
population of York was trated holyed trated
reduced by half. The Domesday Book also
records that the today &0% on the
(and was still wastelend by 1086, again
underlining the deventation caused by
William , who was even supposedly
recorded souring heat he sent quilty about the
hamping lateringe - described himsely as
a gravagne han". Wolliam's minnense response
to the rebellion of 1069, paired with his
construction of castles at Chester and Sheppeld
a me was to you carrein the magnitude of the
perceived west of the rebellian.
In conclusion, attach me early rebellians
of 1067 and 1068 and as well as those
 of 1070 did not seriously aveater wolliam 15
consolidation of powers, as surrased by his
swift and successful vespouses as well as in
comparis nem to the later and mare servous
Invests of 10 85 and 1075. However, the

resellions of 1067-1070 we not a completely
unserous hweat to william I's consolidation
of pare as they shawn by the interesting
of willoam's response to the more
fenous presellar of 1069.

Exemplar 3 is a Level 5 response which has generally detailed knowledge and a substantiated judgement. Some elements of the knowledge are weaker, but there is reasonable understanding of the rebellions themselves and the issue in the question. Its judgement is reflective of a Level 5 response.

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