
CE AT 13+

HISTORY

Specimen Paper

ISEB

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Examinations Board

Date

Time allowed: 60 minutes

Information

This paper is divided into two sections, each worth 30 marks:

Section 1: Unseen Evidence question

Section 2: Essay questions

Section 2 is divided into three time periods:

- Medieval Realms: Britain 1066–1485 (page 4)
- The Making of the United Kingdom: 1485–1750 (page 5)
- Britain and Empire: 1750–1914 (page 6)

Instructions

You **must** answer the evidence question.

You must also answer **one** essay question from Section 2.

You should spend 20 minutes on the evidence question and 40 minutes on the essay question.

Handwriting and presentation are important.

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SECTION 1: EVIDENCE QUESTION

Read the introduction and the sources and then answer the questions which follow.

INTRODUCTION

King Alfred of Wessex is remembered as the man who saved England from the Danes (Vikings). One famous story is that when Alfred had at one point been defeated and was hiding from the Viking invaders, he took shelter with a poor cow herder who did not recognise him. He was asked to look after the cakes cooking in the fire and he allowed them to burn.

SOURCE A: written by a modern historian and journalist after examining sources from the past

There is no contemporary evidence for the cowherd, the hovel, the wife or the cakes... the story was probably invented to make an unknown saint connected with Alfred's family look good. The first time it appears written down is in a 'Life of St Neot', which dates from around a hundred years after Alfred's death.

SOURCE B: written by Charles Dickens in the 1850s for a children's book, using the stories that had been passed down about Alfred

Being at work on his bow and arrows, with which he hoped to punish the false Danes when a brighter time should come, and thinking deeply of his poor unhappy subjects whom the Danes chased through the land, his noble mind forgot the cakes, and they were burnt. 'What!' said the cowherd's wife, ... 'you will be ready enough to eat them by-and-by, and yet you cannot watch them, idle dog?'

QUESTIONS

1. According to Source A, when and why was the story of the burnt cakes first written down? [2]
2. How far does Source B agree with Source A about the cakes? [4]
3. How useful are these sources about King Alfred? Explain your answer. [14]

SECTION 2: ESSAY QUESTIONS

MEDIEVAL REALMS: BRITAIN 1066-1485

Answer all three parts of **ONE** essay question.

1. (a) Describe two key events of the battle of Crecy. [8]
(b) What do you judge to be the most important consequence of Edward I's victory at Crecy and why? [8]
(c) 'Edward I's brilliant tactics won the battle of Crecy.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]
2. (a) Describe two key events in the reign of Edward II. [8]
(b) Give an example of a key event in Edward II's reign. Why was it important? [8]
(c) 'Edward II was a failure as a king.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]
3. (a) Describe two key points about how the Domesday Book was produced. [8]
(b) What do you judge to be the biggest problem in creating the Domesday Book, and why? [8]
(c) 'The threat of Viking attacks was the reason that William I ordered the Domesday Book.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]

THE MAKING OF THE UNITED KINGDOM: 1485-1750

Answer all three parts of **ONE** essay question.

4. (a) Describe two key events of the battle of Marston Moor. [8]
- (b) What do you judge to be the most important consequence of Marston Moor and why? [8]
- (c) 'Without Oliver Cromwell the battle of Marston Moor would have been a Parliamentary defeat.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]
5. (a) Describe two key events of the reign of Edward VI. [8]
- (b) What do you judge to be the main consequence of Edward VI's early death and why? [8]
- (c) 'Without Edward VI there would have been no Protestant England.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]
6. (a) Choose an important scientist of this period and describe two main achievements. [8]
- (b) What do you judge to be the reason this scientist became a member of the Royal Society and why? [8]
- (c) The creation of the Royal Society showed how science was shaping the world at that time.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]

BRITAIN AND EMPIRE: 1750-1914

Answer all three parts of **ONE** essay question.

7. (a) Describe two key events of the battle of Bunker Hill. [8]
- (b) What do you judge to be the main cause of this battle and why? [8]
- (c) 'The battle of Bunker Hill was a great victory for the British army.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]
8. (a) What were two key events of William Gladstone's time as Prime Minister? [8]
- (b) For what act do you judge Gladstone most remembered and why? [8]
- (c) 'William Gladstone was a very successful Prime Minister.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]
9. (a) Describe two key reasons why canals were built in Britain. [8]
- (b) What do you judge to be the most important consequence of canal building and why? [8]
- (c) 'The building of canals started the Industrial Revolution.' How far do you agree with this statement? [14]

(Total marks: 60, to be expressed as a percentage)