



A Level History

7042/1C The Tudors 1485-1603

Report on the examination

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General guidance on question types

Question 1: The 'Extract' Question

- Identify, understand and evaluate arguments in each extract in relation to the focus of the question.
- Deploy contextual knowledge selectively and relevantly to assess how convincing the arguments are.

Qualities seen in more successful responses

- Evidence of careful reading of each extract before committing pen to paper.
- Identification of key arguments in each extract in relation to the question set.
- Contextual knowledge deployed appropriately to challenge or corroborate the arguments in relation to the question.
- Balanced assessment with focus on the extent to which arguments are convincing in relation to the question.
- Focus on omissions/ what is not in the extract is very limited - or is avoided altogether – and is only referred to if directly relevant to an argument identified in the extract.

Qualities seen in less successful responses

- Limited understanding of the arguments expressed in each extract, often showing little evidence that the whole extract has been read fully before beginning the answer.
- Tend to either paraphrase the extract with limited evaluation, or to focus on random sentences or phrases.
- Where it is offered, evaluation of arguments may not be focused fully on the question.
- Contextual knowledge sometimes deployed without focus on the question, or without linkage to arguments in the extracts.
- May contain inappropriate and irrelevant references to author provenance and tone.

Questions 2-4: Essay questions

- Demonstrate a clear and full understanding of the question and its demands.
- Provide a balanced, analytical response which reviews the issues raised by the question.
- Provide appropriate and full coverage of the breadth of the question, with appropriate supporting evidence.
- Substantiate judgements on the issues, throughout the answer and/ or in an extended conclusion.

Qualities seen in more successful responses

- Evidence of careful planning seen in the structure and organisation of the answer.
- An analytical approach which avoids lengthy narrative passages.
- Appropriate range, both in relation to chronological coverage and of issues to be considered.
- Balance of treatment, used to advance an argument and with appropriate judgement of the issues.
- Use well selected supporting information.
- Provide an effective introduction which sets out the argument to be advanced and an effective conclusion demonstrating overall judgement.

Qualities seen in less successful responses

- Limited evidence of effective planning and structuring.
- Tendency towards partial responses to the question asked, either in terms of chronology or range of issues to be considered.
- Inclusion of descriptive passages not clearly linked to the question.
- Over-lengthy introductions which do little more than provide contextual information.
- Inclusion of conclusions which repeat points already made
- Issues with, or an absence of, sustained analysis and judgement.
- Occasional use of inappropriate language, such as overuse of first person etc.

Individual questions

Report on Question 1

There was a significant number of responses to this question placed in either Level 4 or Level 5. These answers demonstrated a clear focus on the extent to which each extract was convincing in its argument about the aims of Henry VIII in the years 1527-1547. Particularly strong were those responses which emphasised how Henry VIII's aims changed over time. The vast majority of responses were able to present an answer which, overall, assessed how the extracts were both convincing and not convincing, supporting their judgements about Henry VIII's aims with contextual knowledge. There were some who picked up on elements of an extract without making it directly relevant to aims. For example, much was written in response to Extract A about Thomas Cromwell, the main events of the Pilgrimage of Grace in their answers to Extract B and the Battle of the Spurs in commenting on Extract C. This material was often descriptive.

Extract A

The majority of students were able to identify that Loades argued that Henry VIII sought to resolve his Great Matter, and not to do so threatened the stability of the country. The attempt to achieve his Great Matter forced him to challenge the power of the Papacy. There was much relevant contextual knowledge used to illustrate this point; the best of which explained why Henry VIII was forced to challenge the power of the Papacy. The less convincing responses provided a descriptive account of the process without linking it to the point made by Loades.

The argument that, having triumphed over the Church, Henry sought to sweep away further limitations on his power, was not addressed by many students. Where this was done, it was usually done well with some interesting material, not only on the Palatinate of Durham, but also the incorporation of Wales and the extension of control in Ireland.

The sub argument that Henry did not wish to challenge the doctrine of the Church led to a range of responses, the strongest arguing that to declare himself Head of the Church was a doctrinal change. There was much written about the Six and Ten Articles (sometimes in the correct order), the Bible in English and the Injunctions. These were sometimes listed without an explanation as to why they did or did not represent a radical change to the doctrine; the higher scoring responses were able to make this link.

Extract B

The responses to this question were much lower scoring than those for Extracts A and C. The main reason was that students seem to have started to comment on this without having read the full extract. The first sentence states 'that it is easy to assume... Yet this is only part of the story'. Many students started writing at great length about Henry VIII's ambition and greed without reading that the main focus of this part of Lucy Wooding's argument was about Henry VIII's religious aims.

Where students did read the whole extract before starting to write, there were some interesting discussions as to whether Henry was motivated by a moral duty to impose his authority over the Church. There were some links back to Humanism contrasted with Henry VIII being Defender of the Faith, and his exposure to the Supplication of the Beggars. Some considered the motivation to purify corrupt monasticism. Removing superstition was correctly linked to pilgrimages, statues and relics, less convincingly to witchcraft. There was some confusion as to what the King's Book actually was, frequently it was confused with the Bible, although where this was the case, it was often used to show how Henry conducted his religious role.

A fairly broad definition of 'division and challenge.... Adopt increasingly defensive policies' was accepted. These ranged from Henry VIII's aim to placate Charles V and Francis I by passing the Six Articles to the

crushing of the Pilgrimage of Grace. There was some very good material on the persecution of religious offenders and political enemies alike. This was better when it was Anne Askew, John Lambert and the Earl of Surrey, but Thomas More, Elizabeth Barton and the Carthusian Monks were accepted, even though these were not in the last ten years.

Extract C

This was often the best response. Henry VIII's need of money is well known, particularly where it is linked to foreign policy aims. Most students were able to include considerable contextual knowledge to support a convincing verdict on Hoskins' arguments. There was much material included about the two stages of dissolution and how Henry was motivated by the gains made by the dissolution of the smaller monasteries.

The sub point about being encouraged by the nobility was often challenged; the main beneficiaries of the sale of monastic property was not often recognised. Alternative reasons for the looting of the shrine of Thomas Becket, for example, were not often considered. However, there was some valid discussion as to whether the dissolution of the monasteries had enabled Henry to return to his longstanding ambition of defeating France and Scotland. It was acceptable to argue that Henry VIII did not actually want to defeat Scotland, but a stronger challenge came from those students who argued that the financial gains made by the dissolution were insufficient in themselves.

Question 1 - Exemplification of Level 5 qualities

In extract A, Loades argues that in the last twenty years of his reign, Henry VIII's primary aim was to ensure stability and consolidate his authority over England, which involved ~~for~~ a pragmatic approach to taking control of the Church and ~~for~~ semi-independent regions, with all reforms focussed on power, not religious beliefs.

The extract may be convincing as Loades argues that stability and securing the succession were the King's "most pressing" aims with the King's "Great Matter" - Henry had been married to Catherine of Aragon since ~~1500~~ June 1503 engaged, then married but lacked a male heir and so sought a divorce, which was denied by the Pope (controlled by Catherine's nephew Charles V) and so after Wolsey's Blackfriars Legatine Court failed, Henry turned to "the great administrative genius, Thomas Cromwell". His 'Break with Rome' allowed the Act in Restraint of

Appeals, Feb. 1533, to bring a quick divorce by declaring England an Empire and so the 'Bishop of Rome' had no power there. Thus, succession was Henry's key priority as he was willing to bring major change just to secure it. Loades

is also convincing in arguing that Henry was concerned with "~~some~~ sweeping away ~~the~~ further limitations on his power" as he took control over regions not "traditionally... under the control of the king" and by 1536 Lancashire, Cheshire and "the Palatinate of Durham" were well under control, as was Wales following the 1536 Laws in Wales Act which brought in ~~to~~ the English County system and Welsh MPs in Parliament. Thus Loades is convincing in arguing that Henry's main motivation was the succession and ~~stability~~ authority.

However it may be argued that the extract is not convincing in arguing Henry "sought to challenge the authority of the Pope" as historically he had been very loyal, being named 'Defender of the Faith' after writing 'In Defence of the Seven Sacraments' and in reality, the Pope had little say "over the Church" in England, limited to just consulting with Henry on key Bishops appointments. Moreover, the view that Henry "did not plan" to "radically" reform the church can be questioned as he deliberately backed key reformers in Gov throughout the latter half of his reign, such as 1532 appointing Cromwell as Archbishop of Canterbury and later defending him from the 1543 Prebendaries' plot, as well as allowing reformers like Hertford and Sir Anthony Denny to gain

Control at the end of his reign e.g. became Chief Gentleman of the King's Chamber, suggesting Henry had strong sympathy for the Protestant cause.

In conclusion, overall the extract is convincing as ultimately it is clear that all Henry's actions during this period were aiming to increase the crown's authority and the security of his dynasty.

This response presents a summary of the argument in Extract A, focusing on Henry VIII's key aims. It corroborates key points. The Great Matter is analysed to establish the key element – the lack of a male heir, and links this to the Break with Rome. The response also identifies the extension of royal authority to the regions.

The second section of the response focuses on the challenges to Extract A. This examines the relationship between the Church in England and that in Rome and argues why Loades is misplaced in his view.

The response is supported with selected contextual knowledge and demonstrates clear breadth and understanding.

Report on Question 2

This was by far this most popular of the essay questions and attempted by approximately 8000 students.

The issue of the security of Henry VIII's royal authority is well known by the majority of students and there were some excellent answers which provided a balanced response. These considered change over time; Henry's authority was weak at the start of his reign, more secure by the turn of the sixteenth century but weak again at the end of his reign. Others considered areas of authority to make their judgement, for example Henry's authority with the nobility or the extent to which his authority was challenged by foreign powers. Some considered Henry's own view of his security, identifying his increased paranoia by the end of his reign. The knowledge of Henry's royal authority was very impressive and in most cases the knowledge was secure.

There were a number of approaches which undermined the strength of the answer which were particularly evident in this question:

- Responses which had contradictory paragraphs, such as those which stated '...so Henry VII's authority was never secure' followed by paragraphs which stated, 'so Henry VII's authority was secure' and the subsequent one 'so Henry VII's authority was never secure.'
- Dismissive statements which do not reflect the situation at the time. Mostly, in this question, these referred to the ease at which Henry VII overcame obstacles. For example: the threat of Simnel was *easily* dealt with – whereas Henry was faced with a battle in the East Midlands which was as potentially dangerous as Bosworth... The Cornish Rebellion was *easily* put down... whereas the Cornish rebels reached the outskirts of London and forced Henry to withdraw troops from the Scottish border and face a pitched battle ...

Question 2 - Exemplification of Level 5 qualities

When Henry VII came to the throne as a usurper in 1485, he faced a number of significant challenges to establishing his authority - from Yorkists, nobility who had grown powerful during the Wars of the Roses, local level refusal to obey him and ~~other~~ rival claimants. But by 1502 it seemed he had resolved all of these and was secure in his authority, and yet in the few his final years this began to slip away as his authority and power came into question.

Once Henry had won the crown, he took a number of immediate steps to secure his authority. He dated his reign as one day before the Battle of Bosworth to allow beginning of him to treat Yorkists as traitors (21st August 1485) e.g. imprisoned the Earl of ~~War~~ while rewarding allies to key positions in government e.g. his uncle Jasper Tudor was made Duke of Bedford and oversaw Wales, Sir William Stanley appointed

Lord Chamberlain. Moreover he had a quick coronation to secure approval from God, meaning rebellion ~~was~~ become a major sin, and united York and Lancaster houses by marrying Elizabeth of York in January 1486, both strengthening his claim and gaining support from Yorkists with the birth of heir Prince Arthur in August 1486. The progress in securing his authority is highlighted by the lack of support for Viscount Lovell's rebellion in 1486 where no key Yorkist nobles joined the cause and so the rebellion was easily crushed with Stafford executed and Lovell fleeing abroad, thus suggesting Henry had significantly enhanced his authority by unifying York and Lancaster.

It can further be argued that Henry had secured his authority by 1502 as he had successfully restored the position of the crown over the once-dominant nobility. He ended the ~~practice~~ keeping of private armies through retaining laws ~~which~~, requiring licenses ~~or~~, and enforced with harsh fines e.g. 1506 Lord Burgavenny fined £70 000 - paid £5000, a financial bond and limited access to his lands. Moreover, Henry passed Acts of Attainder through Parliament to target ¹³⁸ nobles whose loyalty was in question, finding them guilty of treason without trial, though he also successfully gained support and gratitude by reversing them e.g. former Yorkist Earl of Surrey crushed the Yorkshire Rebellion in 1489 for Henry and became key to his control of the North. Thus, clearly by 1502 Henry's ~~sign~~ authority was significantly more secure.

Another key area in which Henry sought control was in the regions at local level. He successfully exerted his authority through ~~local~~ Justices of the Peace - local gentry who implemented his policies. Henry

deliberately chose men of 'lower' social status as this ensured total loyalty because they relied ~~on~~ on keeping the king's favour to maintain their ~~of~~ wealth and status, unlike if he relied on regional nobles. The success of this approach is shown by the lack of local support for pretender Lambert Simnel (posing as the imprisoned Earl of Warwick), who had to rely on 2000 German mercenaries paid for by Margaret of Burgundy at the Battle of East Stoke ~~in~~ June 1487, having failed to build local support. Similarly, the only real

challenges to Henry came off over local opposition to his tax, not his dynasty, suggesting that while his authority was not totally secure at local level in Cornwall, Devon or Yorkshire, most people were obedient as neither rebellion built up enough local support to present a major threat. Therefore, after the Cornish rebellion was crushed by Lord Daubray in 1497, it appears Henry VII's authority was secure at a local level also.

Initially, Henry's ~~power~~ steps to secure authority were helped by his foreign policy, gaining recognition from key European powers like Spain, with the 1489 Treaty of Medina del Campo and marriage alliance, and Treaty of Etaples with France in 1492 where Charles VIII agreed not to support rival claimants, however after 1502 events abroad served as part of the decline in Henry's authority over the final years. Once Elizabeth of York died in 1503, Yorkists like Edmund de la Pole considered making a challenge to the throne, and Henry's authority took a hit after his plan for a Burgundian bride and alliance collapsed with the death of Philip of Burgundy. Moreover he was left isolated when King Ferdinand took control of Castile and wider in Europe from 1504, to the point where England was left out of the 1508 League of Cambrai against Venice. This international isolation only worsened the

~~loss~~ loss of authority in England after the succession was ~~was~~ at risk with the death of Prince Arthur in 1502. Moreover, Henry became less and less popular as he was forced to use controversial methods to keep control - by 1509 32/36 noble families were under financial bonds, now worth £35000, up from £3000, showing the

threat from the nobility was growing - the unpopular Empson and Dudley had replaced Sir Reginald Bray in 1503 and were using the ~~Court~~ Council Learned in Law to keep control but stirred rebellious feelings through their methods. Thus, in the final years of Henry's reign his authority was clearly not secure.

In conclusion, Henry VII enjoyed only a brief period where his authority was secure, from the late 1490s where local regions were finally under control and all rivals had been removed e.g. Warwick and Warwick executed in Nov. 1499, until the succession was at risk from 1502 onwards, his authority declining as his popularity fell until his death in 1509.

This answer is fully analytical and demonstrates a very good understanding of the extent to which Henry VII's royal authority was secure. The response is well organised; it presents a three-stage assessment showing how Henry VII dealt with the immediate challenges, then in establishing his royal authority across different spheres where there was potential for undermining his security: nobility, localities and foreign affairs, and in finally facing significant threats to his position. There is good conceptual understanding about the nature of potential challenges; the response uses well-selected and appropriate evidence to construct a balanced argument rather than including material in a descriptive manner.

Report on Question 3

This was the second most popular of the essay questions and attempted by approximately 6200 students. There were some very strong responses which showed a clear understanding of the successes and failures of the religious policies of the three monarchs. A number of students approached the question holistically and addressed the focus of the question comparatively. This produced a high-level response, but it was not required to reach the higher levels. It was sufficient to examine the religious policies of the monarchs sequentially if there was an informed analysis and conclusions drawn.

There was a reasonable basic knowledge of the religious policies of Edward, although too often the focus was on the differences between the 'good Duke and the bad Duke'. The higher scoring responses, in considering the religious policies of all three monarchs, focused on a distinction between the legislation passed, and the impact on the laity. In the case of Edward, the former was seen to be a success and the latter a qualified failure: the 20% of protestants in London was often quoted. Assessment of the success of Mary Tudor in re-establishing Catholicism varied widely, or even wildly in the numbers of martyrs quoted ranging from 300 to 16,000. Credit was given to both those who followed a more traditional interpretation of Mary's success and those who were more familiar with the recent historiography. There are some basic issues, however, even when the more up-to date view of Mary isn't followed: 'Bloody Mary' was a sobriquet used firstly in Foxe's Book of Martyrs, it was not used during her reign. Foxe's Book of Martyrs first published after Mary's death was used by Elizabeth for her own purposes. Those burned at the stake were condemned by church courts, they were not murdered. Depending on whether the traditional view

of Mary's religious policies was posited, or the revisionist view, Mary's policies were either a brutal failure or a limited achievement curtailed by her death, The assessment of Elizabeth was generally much stronger with a clear understanding of Elizabeth's aims and her legislative success. The challenge of the Vestarian Controversy was frequently discussed. Some responses went beyond the dates of the question to include the Northern Rebellion and the growth of Puritanism.

Report on Question 4

The responses to 04 were generally lower scoring and this was attempted by fewer students- approximately 3020. An issue in the responses was that a number of students misread the question and rather than assessing how significant a threat Mary, Queen of Scots was to Elizabeth I, assessed the extent to which Mary, Queen of Scots was the most serious threat to Elizabeth I. Where the latter approach was taken, the responses were limited to the lower levels as the response was partial in relation to the question set.

There was some very good knowledge of the plots and the response of Elizabeth's ministers, although too often the response was a descriptive account of these and of Mary's execution. A number of responses were aware of the whole trajectory of the threat to Elizabeth and were able to present an informed assessment which considered Mary's position as an alternative, Catholic, heir and the viability of her position and varied supporters. These supported their argument with material linking back to her marriage to Darnley, the significance of the Rebellion of the Northern Earls and contrasted her heir with Elizabeth's refusal to marry.

Often this question was the last attempted and too often students ran out of time.

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