
HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/53

Paper 5c Special Subject: The Reign of Henry VIII, 1509–1547

May/June 2017

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer Question 1 in Section A.

Answer **one** Question from Section B.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.



Section A

Answer the following question.

Nominated topic: Opposition to the Henrician Reformation

- 1 Study all the following documents and answer all the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting upon the documents, it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

A *A contemporary writer offers an explanation of the nature of the unrest in 1536.*

There was an insurrection made by the northern men, who raised a great army of 40000 men. They declared that their insurrection should extend no further than the maintenance and defence of the faith of Christ and the deliverance of the holy Church, sore decayed and oppressed, and to the furtherance also of private and public matters in the realm concerning the poverty of many of the king's poor subjects. They called this a holy and blessed pilgrimage. They also had certain banners showing Christ hanging on the cross and a chalice with a painted cake (the holy wafer) on it. The soldiers also had a badge embroidered upon the sleeves of their coats, representing the five wounds of Christ, and used pretended signs of holiness only in order to delude and deceive the simple and ignorant people. When the king's captains and advisers approached the rebels and saw their number and how they were determined on battle, they worked with great prudence to pacify all without shedding blood. But the northern men were so obstinate that they would not be pacified.

Edward Hall, *Hall's Chronicle, Containing the History of England During the Reign of Henry IV and the Succeeding Monarchs to the End of the Reign of Henry*, 1548.

B *The king gives instruction to his commander in Yorkshire, the Earl of Derby, regarding the abbot and monks of Sawley Abbey.*

We have received your letters, the first stating that you have advanced towards Sawley against the rebels, the other signifying the delivery to you of a letter written by that villainous traitor Aske. If, when you arrive at Sawley, you find the abbot and monks have persuaded the people to restore them to their former positions, you shall at once cause the abbot and some of the chief monks to be hanged on long pieces of timber out of the steeple, and the rest to be executed in such places as you think fit. This will put the remainder of the people in no doubt of our mercy, by making it appear as though you only punished the ringleaders. Choose out of your own forces 2000 or 3000 of the best men, and with them meet us at Nottingham.

Henry VIII, Letter, 28 October 1536.

C *Henry VIII addresses the Lincolnshire rebels in October 1536.*

You have attempted this most traitorous and wicked enterprise, but lament your offences and now detest and curse those persons who, with their most false and untrue reports and suggestions, brought you in this most miserable state. You may deserve both at the hand of God and man most extreme and cruel punishment for the offence. Yet, considering that you are our natural subjects; considering you have by falsehood and untruth been brought into this rebellion; considering the great shedding of Christian blood that justice would bring, we have forced ourself to temper justice with mercy. Leave your weapons in the market place in Lincoln and depart peaceably to your houses. We shall then show more mercy, pity and compassion for you than you have deserved. If you continue with this treason, we shall take extreme measures against you, your wives and children without mercy.

Henry VIII, proclamation, October 1536.

D *Robert Aske's testimony at his examination in 1537.*

By the suppression of the smaller monasteries, the service of God is much diminished, great number of masses unsaid and consecration of the sacrament not now used, reducing spiritual comfort to men's souls. The ornaments and relics of the Church have been irreverently used; tombs of honourable and noble men pulled down and sold. No hospitality is now kept in these former abbeys and their profits yearly go out of the North, so that soon there will be little money. Many who were employed by the abbeys now lack meat, clothes and wages. Also, the abbeys were one of the beauties of this realm. Those monasteries were great maintainers of sea walls and dykes, builders of bridges and highways and other things for the common good.

A report in the records of Kirkby in Kendal, 1537.

E *A modern historian considers the nature of the Pilgrimage of Grace.*

The rebellious forces in October 1536 were part of a long tradition of so called 'risings of the commons' which aimed to put the government to right. The purpose was to identify the things that within the state were wrong and to propose some remedy that was thought to be beyond the capacity of England's rulers, and therefore unachievable in the normal way. Aske referred to 'our pilgrimage of grace for the commonwealth'. The meaning of this particular term was made evident in a subsequent proclamation, which declared that the purpose of the pilgrimage was to preserve 'Christ's Church and also this realm of England'. Neither the purpose nor the provenance of the term 'pilgrimage of grace' was simply religious.

M L Bush, *The Pilgrimage of Grace*, 1996.

- (a) To what extent does Document C corroborate the evidence of Document B as to how Henry VIII reacted to rebellion? [10]
- (b) How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that the unrest in 1536 was predominantly religious in origin and nature? In making your evaluation, you should refer to contextual knowledge, as well as to the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

Section B

Answer **one** of the following questions. Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied as well as contextual knowledge.

- 2 What best explains the fall of Thomas Cromwell in 1540? [30]
- 3 Assess the view that the dissolution of the monasteries was the most significant of the religious changes of the Henrician Reformation. [30]
- 4 Assess the view that Wolsey served Henry VIII better by his domestic than by his foreign policy. [30]

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