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Examiners' Report June 2009

GCE

GCE History 6HI01 Option A

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6HI01 - General Comments

Centres are to be warmly commended on the good preparation of their candidates for the examination. The range of knowledge deployed was quite substantial overall, and most attempted an analytical approach to the question. Answers were in the main relevant and substantial, particularly in relation to the time allowed. The main problems occurred when candidates did not read the question correctly or ignored or misunderstood the set timescale.

The quality of written communication was generally good across the whole range of scripts. Most answers were organised into coherent paragraphs and candidates made a real attempt to shape their answers into a balanced argument. Key marker words and phrases, such as 'however' and 'on the other hand' were regularly used in answer to those questions which invited a comparison. In most cases candidates did attempt a conclusion to their answers, though these were sometimes not very explicit. It was also encouraging to see many students jotting down some sort of plan before beginning their answer. Sometimes, however, these were very detailed indeed and covered two sides of the booklet; on occasions extensive planning seems to have worked to the detriment of the second answer.

Analysis was implicit in many cases. Candidates need to make sure that the points they are making are supported with sufficient historical knowledge to make the points stand up. There is a case for centres providing more guidance on the difference between choosing relevant examples and generalising. Above all, evidence has to be focused on the question, which means explaining the significance of the examples used. Although most candidates' knowledge was broadly accurate and relevant, there were many, even those who showed evidence of a sophisticated argument, who lapsed into tracts of descriptive free-standing material. In many answers, however, there were examples of very significant inaccuracies. In A12, some believed that Richard III came to the throne after defeating Edward IV in battle, while many in A13 and A14 were convinced that, since Henry Tudor had spent much of his life abroad, he was a foreigner. Several answers to D6 believed that Nicholas II was a leading opponent of the Bolshevik government, while others enrolled Martin Luther King as a member of Black Power. Some candidates in F7 were of the firm belief that the Wall St Crash occurred in 1924, and that hyper-inflation continued through the whole period of 1924-29.

Several answers were weakened by candidates' uncertainty as to the meaning of words and phrases in the question. In particular, there was a lack of understanding of key words and concepts commonly used by historians, such as 'economic', 'social' and 'political'. Many were unsure about the 'economy of mid-fourteenth century England' in A7, 'social change' in D4, 'personal dictatorship' in D8, and 'power and prestige' in D14. There were a small but significant number of candidates in E/F2 who failed to understand the concept of Bismarck's diplomacy, referring to his ability to be tactful with other politicians or his inability to maintain a calm situation.

Many candidates had been well trained to consider a range of relevant factors which contributed to a situation or outcome. It has been very pleasing to see that most candidates were able to access Level 3 which requires some attempt at analysis. However, there were several questions where such an approach was inappropriate and where considering other factors proved counter-productive. Question A14 required a focus on the significance of Spain and Scotland in strengthening Henry VII's security. Some answers dealt with these two factors, only to consider others, such as relations with Burgundy, tackling noble power and improving royal finances. Question D10 asked candidates to consider the extent to which Black Power hindered Black civil rights in the 1960s. Again, the significance of Black Power was considered, but other points were also mentioned, such as King's failures in the north and the growing alienation of white people and successive presidents. The relevance of these points was marginal. In question E/F1 candidates often penalised themselves by writing excessively long answers through assessing the positive and negative influences of the Catholic Church on Italian unity and then producing a list of other factors which hindered Italian unity when only the first part was necessary; this in turn led to less time being spent on the second question.

In questions where the focus of the question was based on relative importance many good responses were unable to achieve high Level 4 or Level 5 because of a lack of balance with reference to the given and other factors. In the majority of cases this occurred when the candidate dismissed the given factor as being unimportant and produced a list of relevant of other factors without assessing why these factors were more important than the factor given. In question E/F4 candidates often wrote a generalised statement about Republican divisions within the Spanish Civil War before giving a detailed account of the contribution of foreign intervention (which was the question set in January). A smaller number of responses referred exclusively to the given factor with little reference to other causal reasons.

One way in which centres might be able to improve candidate performance is to familiarise students with the different types of questions which can be asked in Unit 1. For example: 'How far do you agree that the Black Power movement hindered Black civil rights in the 1960s?' is a question focused entirely on the role of Black Power. However, 'How far do you agree that the Black Power movement was the most important reason for the failures of the civil rights movement in the 1960s?' is a question requiring consideration of a number of different factors, including Black Power.

Equally, the following examples require a consideration of several relevant factors:

How far was Harald Hardrada's invasion of the north responsible for William of Normandy's success at Hastings? (A3)

To what extent were disputes over religion responsible for the Dutch revolts? (B5)

To what extent were the weaknesses of their opponents responsible for the survival of the Bolshevik government in the years 1917-24? (D6)

However, the following examples require a narrower focus on the issue raised in the question:

How far did Henry II exercise effective control over his many territories? (A5)

To what extent did Luther's challenge to the Catholic Church change in the years 1517-21? (B1)

How far did the position of Black Americans improve in the years 1945-55? (D9)

An understanding of chronology is an essential quality for historians to display and this is perhaps the area of most concern in regards to underperformance of candidates. Many seemed unaware that 1489 saw both the Yorkshire rising against Henry VII and the conclusion of the treaty of Medina del Campo (A14); or that 1521 saw the Edict of Worms issued against Luther (B1). However, it was in Options C-F that there were many startling misunderstandings of the given timescale. D3 referred to the years 1949-57, but too many went on deal with the Cultural Revolution to no effect. A remarkable number failed to notice that D6 addressed the years of the Bolshevik government between 1917 and 1924. Candidates appeared to notice 'weaknesses of their opponents' and 'Bolsheviks', and wrote exclusively on the period of the Provisional Government. For D8 several wrote about Stalin's elimination of his opponents in the years 1924-29, though the question focused on 1929-39; and many answers to D9 went beyond 1955 to consider the outcome of the Montgomery bus boycott and the events at Little Rock in 1957. In the E/F Option many candidates failed to take into consideration the time parameters set in E/F1, E/F2, E/F3 and E/F6. There were a significant and worrying number of responses to Question E/F 13 which displayed little understanding of the chronology of events in Weimar Germany in the years 1924-29. There were also many examples of a lack of chronological security when using supporting evidence within paragraph construction. Candidates often gave different supporting examples out of chronological order with no references to dates and so undermining the contextual security of their responses.

Candidates should be reminded that they are assessed on their quality of written communication. It is important that as well as writing legibly, with accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar, the style

of writing is appropriate within the context of a history examination.

The best responses were those that answered the question set and made direct reference to key words or phrases in the question with clear understanding. For example, in question E/F5 the best candidates were able to address directly the 'appointment of Mussolini as Prime Minister'; in question C5 the 'effective operation of slavery'; and in question D7 the 'essential contribution' of collectivisation to Stalin's transformation of the Russian economy.

Interestingly there was often little difference between the quality of the first and second answer, particularly with stronger candidates. Most candidates answered the questions in chronological order even if they were less sure of their first response and as a result many of the second answers were stronger than the first. Very few candidates obviously ran out of time and it is commendable that so many candidates were able to apportion appropriate time to each question.

6HI01 – Option A

Question 1

How accurate is it to describe Anglo-Saxon England as stable and prosperous in the years before the arrival of the Great Army in 865?

Very few candidates chose this question.

Question 2

Why were the Viking armies so successful in England in the years 865-877?

The level of knowledge displayed in almost all answers was impressive and was well deployed on the question. Candidates were aware that a 'why' question requires consideration of a number of different factors, and these were dealt with in some depth. Answers explored the weaknesses of the English kingdoms, and the failure to present a united front against the Great Heathen Army of 865. Edmund of East Anglia's decision to pay a Danegeld did not save his throne, and the divisions within the Northumbrian ruling house gave the Vikings an easy conquest. Burgred of Mercia's alliance with Wessex achieved little, as their combined forces were no match for the large Danish army. Candidates also noted the strong leadership of both Ivarr the Boneless and Guthrum, pointing out that before 878 the Anglo-Saxons had nobody of comparable ability. There were many interesting references to the mobility of the invading force, not only on land but also because the design of Viking ships allowed them to ferry men up rivers. Most notes that the sheer size of the initial invasion, coupled with its subsequent reinforcement by the Great Summer Army of 871, suggested that the Vikings intended to settle in England, and that displacing them would prove extremely difficult. Answers which considered these and other relevant factors as free-standing points accessed Level 4. Those who were able to establish links between factors moved into Level 5. Such answers often pointed out that the leadership, size and mobility of the Viking forces made them formidable opponents.

Question 3

How far was Harold Hardrada's invasion of the north responsible for William of Normandy's success at Hastings?

Question 3 was easily the more popular question in this option. Several answers had a narrow focus and dealt only with the given factor. Candidates described Hardrada's invasion in the north and his victory at Gate Fulford, Harold's march north and his crushing success at Stamford Bridge, the exhausting march back to London and then to Hastings, and the almost inevitable defeat that followed. Such answers were firmly rooted in Level 3.

Most candidates, however, offered a range of relevant material. Harold Godwinson's leadership qualities were questioned, with many pointing out that his impetuous decision to rest in London for only a few days before marching to Hastings meant that reinforcements from the north and midlands arrived too late to influence the outcome of the battle. In contrast, most were impressed by William's leadership and argued that this was the most important factor in explaining his victory. Candidates were aware of the detailed preparations he had made for the invasion, and discussed his leadership skills during the battle. Fewer referred to William's rule in Normandy, where he had already developed significant military skills. The quality of the opposing armies was often mentioned, especially the fact that Harold had lost some of his best men at Stamford Bridge, and relied on an ill-equipped fyrd in the face of William's mercenaries and, crucially, of his cavalry. A large number of answers examined the importance of the papal banner flown by the Normans

and suggested that, in a deeply religious age, it may have contributed to the demoralisation of the English forces.

The following example was marked at mid Level 3.

Indicative content

The question is focused on the twin invasions by Harald Hardrada and William of Normandy in late 1066, and the extent to which Hardrada's invasion contributed to William's success at Hastings in October. Answers may refer to Hardrada's landing with a substantial force and his hard-won victory at Fulford Gate, with the loss of thousands of English soldiers. Harold Godwinson's rapid march north led to his victory at Stamford Bridge, but again with the loss of valuable troops. William's landing at Pevensey forced Harold to return to London and then to the south coast, which depleted his forces and exhausted the rest. Candidates may refer to the course of the battle of Hastings, and the reasons for William's success. These may include the different qualities of the opposing armies, with the largely peasant army from Sussex and Kent opposed by well disciplined knights used to military service: the excellent generalship of William of Normandy; and papal support displayed via the papal banner. A simple outline of events during 1066 is unlikely to go beyond Level 2, and progression will be based on relevance and range of accurate material. Answers which begin to provide an analysis of some of the military factors at work will access Level 3, though there may be some sections of narrative material. At Level 4 there will be an explicit attempt to assess the reasons for William's success, though the answer may lack balance. At Level 5 there will be some attempt to evaluate the relative significance of a number of factors which were influential in contributing to William's success, perhaps including Godwinson's disbanding of the fyrd armies in September and his reckless haste in forcing a showdown with William of Normandy.

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- Question 14

How far was Harold Godwinson's invasion of the North responsible for William of Normandy's success at Hastings?

In 1066, William of Normandy faced Harold Godwinson at Hastings in what is remembered as a fierce and brutal battle which lasted the majority of the day. When the dust had settled, William stood victorious and could now complete his invasion of England. ~~Harold's~~ William's victory is portrayed as being down to his great general skills. However before William landed in England Harold and his troops were facing another invasion from ~~the~~ the mighty Harold Godwinson and Godwinson's exiled brother Tostig. Although ~~Harold~~ Godwinson won this battle, ~~he took~~ a lot of his troops were left tired, wounded and dead and now had to march back down south of England to fight William. This clearly



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Examiner Comments

This is a long and descriptive introduction which might have made its points more efficiently. However, at the end of the paragraph is a reference to other relevant factors.

benefitted William in his success at Hastings, but there are other factors that need to be taken into consideration also in understanding his success. William's early life was a major factor in shaping him into the fighter he was, the church also played a vital role as well as ~~does~~ Godwinson himself and the mistakes that he made.

Harold Godwinson knew that an ~~attack~~ invasion from William was going to happen. In preparation, he called upon the fyrd, part-time soldiers, and his housecarls. Godwinson was in the stronger position, he had more troops, he could afford ~~to~~ a draw, as he was on home soil and could restock and call upon more soldiers. William had only one option, he had to win. On paper, ~~to~~ Godwinson was stronger but ended up the loser. Days before William's invasion, Godwinson heard news of an invasion from Harold Godwinson and his ~~exiled~~ ^{water} ~~king~~ ~~king~~ Godwinson from North. Harold reacted by ordering his troops up to Stamford bridge where he defeated Godwinson and Godwinson. This victory cost ~~to~~ Godwinson a lot. He was weakened and tired from the march up to Stamford bridge.

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Examiner Comments

Refers to the preparations made by both sides, but the points made are not well supported by detailed information.

moral with his troop was low after hearing news of Williams invasion. The battle of ~~the~~ Stamford bridge had benefited Harold in no way except perhaps him keeping his pride. ~~It~~ Would of Harold Godwinson been more successful at Hastings if this had not happened? Or was Williams skills as a general the ~~most~~ vital factor that led to his success?



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Examiner Comments

Refers to William's early life. The answer shows an understanding of William's military ability, displayed from an early age, though in a generalized way in places.

William of Normandy had a tough childhood. His father died when he was 6 and this left William the responsibility (with help of his advisors) of maintaining and defending his duchy, Normandy. William was under constant threat of invasions, with others seeing Normandy as an 'easy take'. This meant William had to toughen up in order to survive which he did. This was the foundation to William developing his fighting and general skills. Without them, he may of not been successful at Hastings.



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Examiner Comments

Briefly notes what happened at Stamford Bridge, but the significance of the battle's outcome needs more development.

If his father had not died ~~and~~ William would not ~~or~~ needed to fight as much. Would William even think about invading England with little experience in battle, it isn't likely. For me, William's early years are an vital factor in his success at Hasting.

Once William had entered Manhood he was seen as an excellent fighter. William began to secure the coastline around Normandy as these were his biggest threats. He managed to get direct ~~control~~ ^{control} of Brittany and indirect control over Maine. William also gained support from surrounding areas such as Flanders and Bourges. This is a key factor in his success at Hasting. William's army at Hasting was a multi-national army filled up of Britons, Normans and more. If William had not secured the duchy by the time of Edward the Confessor's death he wouldn't or even considered to invade England as he could or been destroyed. However, to William's gain he had secured ~~his~~ ~~the~~ the coast in 1064 ~~to~~ before Edward the Confessor's death.

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Examiner Comments

More developed statements here on William's domestic concerns, in particular the need to ensure that Normandy was secure from attack while the Duke was in England.

The church also played a decisive role in the battle of Hastings. William sent an envoy to the pope asking for his support. William claimed that ~~Harold~~ Harold Godwinson was a usurper because he had broken his oath of the throne that was ~~apparently~~ made on holy relics. This was enough of a reason for the pope to give his support to William, and was given a papal banner to show that he was on the side of God. This factor is very important in understanding William's success at Hastings. This because at the time people were very religious and were afraid of ~~going~~ going to hell. People believed if children were not baptised then they would be possessed by demons. As William had the papal banner (support of the pope) people joined him as they wanted to be on the side of God. This meant William had a large multinational army and people were leaving Godwinson's army. If William ~~didn't~~ didn't have the support of the church his army would of been smaller and Harold's bigger, resulting in a Godwinson victory instead at Hastings.

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Examiner Comments

Understands the importance of papal support, though dwells on this factor at some length, and perhaps overstates the significance of the papal banner.

When evaluating Williams success at Hastings it is clear that Harold ~~Hadra~~ Hardrada's invasion did play a part in Williams success. It weakened Harold Godwinson dramatically and decreased his chance of a victory. However, Hardrada's invasion alone did not give William the victory. ~~Securing the~~ Williams early years shaped him into the fighter that he was. ~~Because~~ Because of this, he was able to secure the French coast allowing him to call upon a much bigger army to face Harold Godwin. Also securing the support of church is also responsible for his success as it


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Examiner Comments

Attempts an overview in the conclusion, though essentially repeating points made earlier.

gained him more supporters and damaged Godwinson's army. Hardrada's invasion is just as important as these other factors but any of these factors alone would not have been enough for William.


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Examiner Comments

The answer displays Level 3 qualities. There is a real attempt to maintain an analytical approach, and a number of factors are considered. The significance of Hardrada's invasion of the north is understood, but explanation and support are not very secure. Other factors are noted, especially William's position in Normandy, but the candidate might have explored the importance of the crossing to England, William's leadership at Hastings, and Harold Godwinson's actions and motives. Communication skills are appropriate for Level 3.

The range of material considered suggests a mark in mid Level 3 of 16.

Question 4

The apparent accessibility of Question 3 meant that only a few candidates answered Question 4, which covered the fourth bullet point in the specification. Several answers were aware of the broad sweep of changes within the church but were unable to relate this to specific examples, or to place the changes within context, or to explain the political significance of these changes. Stronger answers were focused on William's reform of the church, whether in replacing English bishops with Normans or in carrying out an extensive building programme of new churches and cathedrals, with the latter relocated in large towns and cities. The reorganisation carried out by Lanfranc was not known in more than outline in many cases, and there were surprisingly few references to the deposition of Stigand, or to the contest between Canterbury and York.

Question 5

There were many answers which dealt almost exclusively with Henry's government in England. These were often impressive in terms of content, with answers explaining how Henry re-established the authority and power of the monarchy after the civil conflict between Stephen and Matilda. Candidates noted the vigorous action taken against overmighty subjects, the restoration of royal finances and the importance of Henry's itinerant style of kingship. Such answers, although only a partial response to the question, could access marks in low Level 4. The best answers framed a confident overview, though inevitably strongly focused on England. Candidates noted the special case of Normandy, where Henry did homage to Louis VII of France; the establishment of strong control in Anjou, Maine and Touraine; and the weaker control exercised within Aquitaine. At high Level 4 and Level 5 were those who noted the changes in royal power over time, and the challenges Henry faced from his sons in the later years of his reign.

Question 6

Some of the best answers pointed out that Henry II had established royal power so securely in England that Richard's long absences barely affected the operation of effective government at all. They noted that Henry had spent less than half his reign in England, but that royal government was maintained by professional administrators, notably the justiciars. As evidence of strong government, many referred to the relative ease with which Richard raised money to finance his crusade, and that later Eleanor of Aquitaine was equally successful in paying off Richard's ransom. Candidates also explored some of the difficulties experienced by the government during Richard's absence, notably the increasing disloyalty of John, especially in 1193. Less secure answers suggested that, since Richard was absent for so long, efficient government must have suffered, but candidates were often unable to back up this point in detail. They were aware of the ousting of William Longchamp, but only a few noted that Hubert Walter proved to be a very successful replacement. Some went beyond the terms of the question by trying to consider how Richard's absence affected the government of the various territories which formed the Angevin Empire.

Question 7

The question required candidates to focus on the economic impact of the Black Death. While most made some reference, however fleeting, to economic matters, many were diverted into more general comments on the effects of the plague on medieval society as a whole. These answers tended to focus on the effects on the Church, on isolated villages, and on the power of the crown. Most of these answers were places in Levels 2 and 3, depending on the range and depth of material deployed. Stronger answers focused securely on economic matters. Many noted that the economy was already in decline in the aftermath of the 1315 famine, but that the Black Death was a major shock to the economy. Candidates were aware that those peasants who survived were usually in a far stronger economic position than before and would demand,

and receive, far higher wages than before 1348, despite the Statute of Labourers. Few noted the impact on towns, notably on markets and on the number of skilled craftsmen, and more might have been made of the fall in exports. Most noted the weakening of royal finances, linking the poll taxes to the Peasants' Revolt. There were only a few Level 5 answers to Question 7, largely because candidates failed to establish links between the many points which they were making.

Question 8

Most dealt with a number of effects which the fall in population had on the economy, society and government, linking these, with varying degrees of effectiveness, to the outbreak of the Peasants' Revolt. Rising wages, and the growing independence and mobility of the peasants featured prominently in many answers. In considering other factors which contribute to the revolt almost all answers noted the growing opposition to successive poll taxes. Stronger answers pointed out that the tax of 1380 was the trigger, rather than the underlying cause, of the Peasants' Revolt. Candidates also noted the growing opposition among the peasants to the remnants of the feudal system, and to the importance of the Hundred Years War as a conditional factor. More might have been made of the significance of Wycliffe and the Lollards, and of the egalitarian ideas of John Ball.

The following example was marked at low Level 5.

Indicative content

The question is focused on Peasants' Revolt of 1381, and the significance of the decline in population as a causal factor. Candidates can consider the effects of the fall in population on the manorial system, resulting in the granting of freedom to peasants and paying them to work on estates. The placing of greater value on labour led to a general rise in wages which the Ordinances and Statute of Labourers did little to check. The peasants were given increased employment options and more mobility, leading to significant urban migration. Candidates can also consider other reasons for the outbreak of the revolt. These include growing opposition to the feudal structure of society and a general dissatisfaction with the Church and its power which was popularised by Wycliffe and the Lollards. A simple description of the general economic effects of the Black Death will be marked within Levels 1 and 2, depending on the range and depth of relevant material. At Level 3 answers will begin to focus on the causes of the Peasants' Revolt, but answers will include significant passages of narrative or descriptive material. Responses at Level 4 will clearly address the stated factor, and may well consider other relevant factors, especially the poll taxes of 1377-80, but the answer may be unbalanced. At Level 5 will be those who explain the role of depopulation along with other factors within a reasonably balanced response, which may include reference to conditional factors such as the social and economic impact of the Hundred Years War.

It is clear that the steep population decline of the fourteenth century and the resultant economic changes contributed significantly to the outbreak of ~~the~~ ^{general} unrest in 1381. Nevertheless, it must also be argued that factors such as heavy taxation, military defeat in France, ~~and~~ reactionary economic

measures and a perception of governmental corruption played an important role in causing the ~~peasants~~ Peasants' Revolt

The massive demographic shift which took place in the mid-fourteenth century due to recurrent bouts of plague, ~~which~~ the mortality rate of which includes estimates from ~~and~~ 30% (Russell) to 50% (Potsdam and others),



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Examiner Comments

This is a promising and focused introduction, which introduced a number of factors which may be considered in the body of the answer.

was without doubt responsible for stirring up economic grievances. Reduced availability of labour should have ~~and~~ resulted in higher wages and lower rents for labourers and tenants. However, the seignorial reaction was to attempt to prevent this - the Ordinance and Statute of Labourers, passed in 1349 and 1351 respectively, ~~the~~ enshrined inflated rents and the depressed wages of overpopulated, pre-plague England in law. ~~the~~ ~~the~~



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Examiner Comments

Addresses the given factor with confidence, noting the impact of the reduced population on both labourers and their lords. Good supporting detail.

Notwithstanding this reactionary law, and the Sumptuary Laws of 1363 restricting the consumption habits of the lower classes, 'it was not possible to hold up the economic weather indefinitely' as Keen puts it, and attempts to do so caused widespread resentment. Further economic pressure applied to the peasantry in the form of heavy and regular taxation to pay for the unsuccessful war against France, merely added to the ~~resentment~~ ^{popular anger} at the government and the landed classes.



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Examiner Comments

Develops the point further by mentioning the Sumptuary Laws, growing taxation, and makes a good link to the war in France.

The Good Parliament of 1376, under ~~and~~ Speaker Peter de la Mare, and its campaign of impeachments against royal officials served to add to a growing sense of corruption and maladministration amongst the king's ministers. The fact that the revolt claimed the lives of Archbishop Sudbury and Treasurer Hales is testament to the resentment of particular officials stemming from the precedent set by the parliament.



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Examiner Comments

A further factor is addressed, popular grievances against political corruption. Mentioning Sudbury and Hales here strengthens the point.

Whilst the traditional 'fifteenths and tenths' levied throughout the 1360s were unpopular, ~~the~~ it was the introduction of the poll tax which served to catalyse unrest. The first was collected in 1377, the same year as ~~these~~ raids ~~by~~ the French fleet on the English South Coast, and compounded popular resentment. ~~However it was~~
The true catalyst of the revolt was undoubtedly the extortionate tax of 1381, ~~the~~ attempts to collect which roused the Essex and Kentish rebels to action.



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Examiner Comments

A very secure paragraph on the importance of the poll tax in sparking the Peasants Revolt. Good supporting detail which is well deployed.

~~The~~ ~~case~~ There can be little doubt that demographic decline set in motion the changes which would eventually lead to the Peasants' Revolt, ~~the~~
However the pattern of heavy taxation, repressive seignorial reactions,

military frustration and vulnerability, as well as a general perception of governmental maladministration and speculation were significant contributing factors.



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Examiner Comments

A secure conclusion, which might have been stronger if there had been some attempt to weigh the relative significance of the factors discussed.



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Examiner Comments

The answer considers the given factor in some detail before turning to other factors which contributed to the Peasants Revolt. The use of detail is effective, with enough material offered to allow the points made to stand up well. Communication is very secure. Thus, the answer is in the form of an analytical response which directly addresses the question. There is a clear understanding of several key issues, and supporting information has both range and depth. Level 5 overall, 26 marks.

Question 9

Most answers focused effectively on the divisions within the French ruling elite. Candidates were aware of the long-running feud between the Armagnac and Burgundian factions, and the sporadic outbreaks of civil conflict between the two sides. Many linked this with the growing insanity of Charles VI. Candidates thus suggested that the divisions within the French government and elite had become so serious that they gave Henry V the ideal opportunity to assert his claim to the French throne so soon after his accession in 1413. In dealing with other factors, most noted that conditions within the British Isles were favourable to a French campaign. The Welsh revolt had been suppressed and the Scots posed no threat as long as their king remained in prison. An important consideration for many candidates was that Henry sought to extinguish any lingering doubts over the legitimacy of the Lancastrian dynasty caused by Bolingbroke's usurpation of 1399.

The following example was marked at high Level 5.

Indicative content

The question is focused on Henry V's renewal of England's claim to the French throne in 1415 and the significance of divisions within the French ruling elite in making that demand. Henry V's accession marked a decisive break with the past in Anglo-French relations. He negotiated simultaneously with both the Armagnacs and the Burgundians, exploiting and maintaining their divisions, and extended his demands to include virtually the whole of the former Angevin Empire. Both sides wanted a settlement with England. For John of Burgundy it would prevent a hostile alliance aimed at his large dominions; while the Armagnacs wanted a solution based on the Treaty of Bretigny in 1360. Henry used this period of abortive negotiations to prepare for invasion, and parliament granted a double subsidy. The embassy at Winchester in June 1415 led to the collapse of negotiations and the invasion later that year. Responses at Level 1 and Level 2 are likely to offer simple description of events, perhaps focused on the weakness of the French monarchy and the intermittent insanity of Charles VI, and progression will be based on relevance and range of accurate material. At Level 3 candidates will begin to focus clearly on the divisions between Armagnacs and Burgundians, though there will be significant passages of descriptive or narrative material. At Level 4 candidates will offer reasonable range and depth of accurate material, and will address arguments both for and against the stated view to some degree. They may set Henry's diplomatic skills against the weaknesses and the divisions within the French leadership, though there may be imbalance between the arguments. Those who can develop alternative arguments in a broadly balanced response will access Level 5, with the best considering other factors, such as Henry's intention to establish Lancastrian legitimacy once and for all, and the importance of the ending of the Welsh revolt and the imprisonment of the Scottish king.

9) How far were the divisions in the French ruling elite responsible for Henry II's decision in 1415 to assert his claim to the throne of France? 2.9

- Armagnac/Burgundian rivalry - John the Fearless murdered Louis d'Orleans 1407.
- Greed/Power = 1413-1414 - Burgundy invaded
Armagnacs got as far as ~~the~~ ~~was~~
- Felt he had a claim
- Possibility of Scotland - Albany ruling Scot. 1406-1424, James I in prison along with his son.
- Justice
- He could - no one threatening him at home.
- Incompetence of Charles VI - mad as ~~mad as a hatter~~
- Virtual civil war on at home
- wanted to expand his empire: himself from HV, rebuffed
- Parliament - previously was the prince of Wales. ~~in~~ Edward III
- ~~1415~~ September 1415, set sail from Southampton
- Good leader - competent - chivalrous king "idea, ~~medieval~~ medieval monarch
- on side of God

In September 1415, Henry set sail to France from Southampton ~~ready~~ ready to claim what he thought was rightly his. This campaign was made possible due to a number of reasons however as stated in the question, the divisions in the French ruling elite ~~was~~ was a main reason why his invasion was made possible. The Armagnac, Burgundian divisions in the French ruling elite had come from in 1407 when John the Fearless murdered Louis d'Orleans. John the Fearless then ruled Paris until in 1414 he was forced into

exile when Charles d'Orléan-Louis son move over Paris.
~~There~~ This rivalry caused huge divisions in the
 country at the time and ~~was~~ for a huge period of
 time afterwards. However this split in the nobility was
 not the only reason why Henry decided to invade in
 1415 but it did have a big role to play in it.

Henry before he became king Henry V had been the
 prince of Wales and had a good relationship with
 parliament and his nobles. This meant they were
 willing to give him money for the campaigns he
 wanted to run. When he asked for money in ~~the~~ 1415,
 they gave him money straight away. When the
 English people were taxed they did not hesitate
 to give him the money and he had no problems.
 This meant that it was much simpler for him to
 launch an attack on France with the support of his

country. This compared to the government in France
~~and the fact that~~ shows that since Henry
 didn't have a divided government unlike in
 France with the Armagnacs and Burgundians
 meant it was simple.

The issue surrounding greed and power is
 important. Henry felt that he had the "divine
 right" to invade France and to seek his justice
 by invading. Linked with this the idea that
 "God" was on the side of the English - shown in
 the Battle of Agincourt 1415, meant he felt he must
 invade. Henry had been concerned with all

fact he was related to Henry IV - his father. Henry IV had usurped the throne from Edward III and Henry felt ashamed of this. He instead reborn Edward III in the early years of his reign. He felt threatened at home and felt if he could invade and conquer parts of France and instead raise the throne that he would be safer. He wanted to expand his empire and could do this with France. Since the divisions in France existed and the situation at home in England remained stable this was the best time for him to invade. It can be argued that if there were not such strong divisions in the French nobility, then would Henry

have decided to invade in 1415? However Charles VI king of France at the time was so inadequate that the answer would still be yes. Henry was very ambitious so when the situation arose that he could invade he took it.

The passivity of Scotland meant that England would remain in peace and that Scotland did not pose any threat to England. James I ~~to~~ was the king of Scotland however Henry had appointed Albany to rule it. James was kept alongside his son in prison from 1406-1424. This was a major reason why Henry decided to invade in 1415, it meant that he did not have to be concerned with Scotland. Scotland when they had been under the control of James I did pose a threat since they could easily launch an

invasion from the north. Later on, Susan passed a treaty with France that when ever England posed a threat towards France, Scotland would invade and France men back Scotland. The passivity of Scotland and the divisions of the ruling French elite means that Henry did not face much opposition in invading. However this was linked largely to Henry for placing Albany in charge of Scotland, since if James had remained as the throne, the situation would have been completely different.

Linked to the divisions within the French monarchy and the Armagnac-Burgundian divide was the ruling

of Charles VI and his inadequacies. Charles VI was ~~was~~ suffered from ~~schizophrenia~~ catatonic schizophrenia. This meant that he spent long periods of time sitting in silence and would not be able to recognise members of his own family. On one occasion he believed he was made of glass and attempted to murder two of his advisors. If France had ~~had~~ had a suitable king who could have governed the country correctly then the situation would have been different. The inadequacies of Charles VI had a huge role to play in the battle of Agincourt in 1415, when the French had no obvious leader, unlike Henry V who was on the battlefield commanding his troops. Henry's troops had complete faith in him however this could not be the case with Charles' troops. The Armagnacs in 1413-1414 had also invaded Burgundian ~~territory~~ territory ~~which~~ ~~meant~~ ~~it~~ ~~caused~~ they got as far as Arets however

had to withdraw after the Burgundians "hit" back. This also meant that in the following year ~~both~~ both sides were not in a capable state to fight back against the English. It was even reported that the Duke of Burgundy did not even try to defend himself against the English troops since he wanted them to fight against the Armagnacs instead.

The divisions within the French ruling elite were the main cause of Henry being able to invade in

1415 and him wanting to invade in 1415. However as I have explained points such as he wanted justice for himself and he felt he had the right to take the throne remained important. The fact that England was under control and Scotland remained passive were huge factors but in the end since there was the divide of the nobility between the Armagnacs and the Burgundians and Charles VI was no suitable for the throne it meant he could take the throne as he wished.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

The answer is included in the report as an example of a response which gained maximum marks. The plan suggested a wide ranging answer might be offered, and that is what the candidate produced. A focus on the question is sustained throughout the answer, and a wide range of points offered, each supported by detailed and relevant information. There are no descriptive passages here; rather, there is a confident and thoughtful attempt to weigh the importance of a number of factors, and to communicate these in a logical and convincing way.

High Level 5, 30 marks.

Question 10

Most candidates were familiar with the origins of the Burgundian alliance in 1419. Answers noted that Burgundian support was essential for maintaining the security of Lancastrian possessions in the north while at the same time allowing English troops to concentrate on attacking the Dauphin's positions in the south of France. Candidates were also aware that it was essentially the self interest of both sides that held the alliance together and that Philip the Good's notorious duplicity meant that it was likely to end at a time of his own choosing, as indeed it did at Troyes in 1435. There was also much effective and detailed exploration of the rule of the Duke of Bedford after Henry V's death in 1422. Candidates were mostly aware of his strong and effective leadership and his intelligent use of English military power, whether defending the northern territories or attacking the Dauphin's forces. Overall, the majority of candidates for Option A5 were well prepared and able to support the points they made with extensive, detailed and relevant knowledge.

Question 11

Most answers to Question 11 attempted to consider a number of factors in explaining the outbreak of civil conflict in 1455. However, the given factor of local rivalries among the nobility was not well covered. Most could state that there were disputes between the Percys and the Nevilles in the north, and between the Courtenays and Bonvilles in the west country, but were unable to explain why these feuds became so serious. Others believed that noble rivalries referred only to disputes between Richard of York and Margaret of Anjou. Better answers mentioned Henry VI's policy of handing out substantial rewards to a handful of favourite nobles, though the implications of this were not always brought out. A more popular explanation for the conflict was the inadequacy of Henry VI as king. Candidates noted the striking difference between Henry and his father, and suggested that excessive religious piety and a reliance on his wife and a small noble faction were not qualities that a medieval king should possess. The king's bouts of insanity and catatonic schizophrenia were well documented. A few strong answers broadened their focus by noting the traumatic effect which defeat in France had brought. Some candidates linked the English defeat at Castillon in 1453 with the king's insane interlude of that year and the growing demands of the Duke of York. The best answers took an overview and noted the complex web of factors, and how these linked together to cause the breakdown of 1455.

The following example was marked at low Level 4.

Indicative content

The question is focused on the outbreak of the Wars of the Roses in 1455, and the significance of local rivalries among the nobility in explaining the origins of the conflict. The growing divisions among the nobles were linked to the rising power and ambition of York in the early 1450s and Henry VI's collapse in 1453. A number of separate disputes became serious. Attacks on Suffolk were linked to the disastrous military setbacks in Normandy and the Crown's bankruptcy, and to the growing strength of Somerset. In 1453 disagreements between the Nevilles and Percies in the north led to armed conflict, and the Nevilles joined with Warwick in attacking Somerset's position, leading to his imprisonment on charges of losing Normandy. In 1454 York's opponents, notably Wiltshire and Bonville in the west, Exeter and Egremont in the north, began to collect private armies. Growing tension and divisions, coupled with York's obvious ambitions, led to the first major battle of the Wars of the Roses, at St Albans in May 1455. A simple descriptive outline of events, perhaps focused on the activities of the Duke of York, will be assessed within Levels 1 and 2, depending on the range and depth of material offered. Those who offer some consideration of noble divisions will access Level 3, though there may be passages of narrative. At Level 4 there will be an explicit attempt to assess the significance of divisions among the nobility in causing the outbreak of conflict. At Level 5 there will be an attempt to evaluate noble divisions, perhaps setting these against other factors such as the birth of Henry VI's son, the weakness of Henry VI, and the disintegration of English power in France by 1453.

The local rivalry of the nobility was a key reason for the outbreak in 1455 but the rivalry may also be because of Henry's mistreatment of certain nobles 1440-5. Richard duke of York was appointed Lieutenant-General in France, however John Beaufort (Somerset) was then appointed Captain-General in France which gave him more power than Richard of York (RoY). ~~Later~~ ~~and in 1444~~ when Edmund replaced York in France and RoY was promoted lieutenant of Ireland York must have felt betrayed. I also know that RoY had used his own money to help in the war efforts and he was owed large sums of money, where as Somerset received expenses for his effort. When both were given tallies RoY found that his were bad and Somersets were good, this infuriated RoY and so he became head of the campaign for better rule.


ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

A targeted introduction is not offered, and the given factor is not initially addressed. Instead the candidate prefers to assess the importance of Henry VI's treatment of Richard Duke of York, which is, of course, a relevant point.

→ However private feuds in the North can be partially blamed as it was private feuds that got escalated for other peoples personal gain, the Percys and the Nevilles were important families in the North and when the feuds happened they called

to higher nobles to help. This separated the nobles into groups and when nobles become divided there is always going to be something that will happen as the nobles had been brought up with the idea of war and were trained as fighters.


ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

The given factor of local rivalries among the nobility is addressed, but the only example is the Percy-Neville feud. The existence of the feud is stated but not explored.

Another reason may have been the failure of France during the reign of Henry VI because during Henry VI's reign much of France has been claimed and in 1450 England lost Normandy which was another devastating blow for the English not just the nobles. This is backed up because Henry also gave Maine and Anjou back as a ^{gesture} ~~gesture~~ of good faith which was ~~a~~ peace without honour, and Margaret of Anjou was unpopular in England and was later known as 'the Queen who brought nothing, but took much away' due to Maine and Anjou being returned.


ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

England's failures in France are mentioned as a reason for civil conflict, with sufficient supporting material offered.

Henry VI is also a reason for the outbreak because he could not handle the situation. His father died within his first year so he would not have had him to aspire to be only the help of others, people often say his head was too small for his father's crown. But when he was in power from 1437 straight away he did not look the part. He wore no extravagant robes and jewelry, only a tattered one. How can you expect to rule without people's respect, but he also did not have that presence of a strong ruler, as he once protested and hid his face when a man bathed in the river nude. History tells us that when young children inherit the throne, people are reluctant to accept them.

Even though the rivalries amongst the nobles is a key factor to why England broke out in this civil conflict, this author believes that a strong king would not let the nobles' disputes turn into a downwards spiral for the country. 'Only a weak king had anything to fear from overmighty

**ResultsPlus**

Examiner Comments

The inadequacies of Henry VI are mentioned, but supporting material is not very effective, and there is no mention of the king's increasingly frequent bouts of insanity.

Subjects Henry was financially weak from his fathers efforts in France and misguided. His mistreatment of RoY was ultimately his own undoing because this brought whole families of nobles at war with each other with no real figure of authority, which leads to years of violence until Henry Tudor ends the wars. Henry VI was more suited to cloister than crown.


ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

The conclusion mentions one new point, the king's financial difficulties, but this is a throwaway point made only in passing.


ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Consideration of a number of factors does not automatically allow entry to level 4, but this answer reaches the entry point for that level. There are some detailed points made, notably on the king's treatment of York, and on the failures in France. Other points are less secure, especially perhaps the role of Henry VI in the outbreak of civil conflict. Communication skills are secure, though the use of RoY as an abbreviation for Richard of York was commented on in the January report.

Thus, an analytical approach which displays the qualities of level 4. The uneven quality of material offered means that a low Level 4 mark of 19 is appropriate.

Question 12

Many candidates answered the question by considering just one factor which promoted Richard's insecurity; the princes in the Tower. They were generally aware that Edward V and Prince Richard fell under Gloucester's control soon after the death of Edward IV, that they were housed in the Tower, and that they quickly faded from public view. Those who focused on this one point tended towards repetition and on speculating about what happened to the princes, and who was responsible for their disappearance. Most suggested that Richard had to order their killing because of their strong claims to the throne. They were not apparently aware that, if the princes were indeed dead, then Elizabeth of York had the strongest hereditary claim to the throne. Other answers inevitably referred to the princes but also investigated a number of other factors which promoted Richard's insecurity. The nature of the usurpation of 1483 was discussed, along with the growing importance of northerners at Richard's court, Buckingham's rebellion and the death in 1484 of Richard's wife and his infant son. Few noted the residual power of the Woodville clan and the threat which they might pose, while a surprising number failed to assess the challenge posed by Henry Tudor. Only a handful of answers considered Tudor's aborted invasion of 1483; or that his threat to Richard's security changed over time as disaffected Yorkists flocked to join him in France; or that French assistance in 1485 allowed him to make a second, and successful, challenge for the throne. It was noticeable that most candidates appeared to hold a negative view of Richard III and held the king entirely responsible for his own insecurity. The reign of Richard III forms a complete bullet point, and future candidates are advised that they might profit from studying the king's short reign in some detail.

The following example was marked at high Level 3.

Indicative content

The question is focused on the problems facing the English monarchy in 1483-85 and the extent to which Richard III was responsible for his own insecurity. The sudden death of Edward IV in 1483 and the accession of the young Edward V led Gloucester to exploit the divisions between the Woodvilles and leading nobles, question the legitimacy of both Edward V and his father, and carry out his usurpation with the help of Buckingham in the summer of 1483. The latter's rising was easily suppressed, Henry Tudor's attempted invasion in 1483 failed, and Richard's serious approach to government, coupled with his obvious political skills, helped to re-establish some stability by 1485. However, events abroad conspired to destabilise Richard's throne. The French court feared a possible English invasion and gave military and financial assistance to Henry Tudor's invasion of 1485. The failure of the Stanleys and other nobles to give Richard their full support at Bosworth contributed to the king's defeat and Henry's successful usurpation. A simple descriptive outline of events, perhaps focused on 1483, the Princes in the Tower, and Bosworth, will be assessed within Levels 1 and 2, depending on the range and depth of material offered. Those who offer some consideration of Richard's insecurity will access Level 3, though there may be passages of narrative. At Level 4 there will be an explicit attempt to assess Richard's role in the development of his own insecurity, perhaps focused on the usurpation of 1483 and its effects in strengthening his opponents. At Level 5 there will be an attempt to evaluate the nature of royal power in this period, perhaps with a challenge to the suggestion that Richard was responsible for his own insecurity, or questioning the extent to which royal power was unstable throughout these three years.

12) Richard III came to the throne in 1483 after his brother Edward IV suddenly died. There are many theories concerning the fact if Richard was the rightful king or not, but more so there are many arguments on his reign and it's stability.

In 1483, Edward IV died leaving behind 12-year-old Edward, Prince of Wales as his heir. That same year his uncle, Richard of Gloucester was named protector and it was his job to help his nephew ^{now Edward V,} rule. Even so, Richard's main goal was to become king as he knew this was the only way he could ^{secure} ~~protect~~ his safety. The Woodville family posed a great threat to the protector as

they were enemies but to ^{take his} ~~get rid of~~ nephew off the throne ~~there effort~~ ~~attempt~~ was going to be a challenge as Richard's claim was weak and even if he managed to disinherit Edward V there was still his younger brother, Richard Duke of York, who had a stronger claim than Gloucester. In the end Richard of Gloucester made a fatal error and put both princes in the tower. For years after speculation rose around

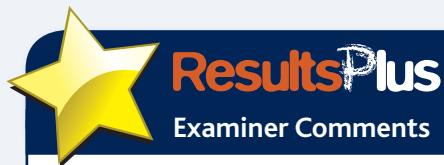
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Examiner Comments

There is extensive discussion here on Edward IV's two sons and their fate (this was a feature of many answers to Question 12). The information offered is correct and relevant, but in the end it is not securely linked to the question of Richard's security.

Gloucester claim that the brothers were illegitimate. He ~~stated~~ ^{stated} this as he saw his brother's marriage to Elizabeth Woodville as fake due to the fact Warwick ^{the kingmaker,} had already arranged a French marriage for the king. Therefore if his marriage was illegitimate then so were the children born by his wife. The princes were put in the tower in 1483 and never seen again. The fact that Richard who had now been crowned Richard III, kept quiet over the boys disappearance led people to believe that he had killed his nephews in order to get the throne. Even back in the 15th century this was considered a ~~big~~ ^{embellish} crime and from then on his subjects never looked upon him well and it could be argued that due to this, the king's subjects never fully trusted him.

Another reason for ~~was~~ Richard's insecurity as king was his ~~was~~ unpopularity. During the reign of his brother, Edward IV, Richard had been effectively made king of the north as he had permission from the king to raise an army without consulting him. As a result he became popular and was well respected. When he became king he was obviously placed in London and, not surprisingly, his popularity in the north was not mirrored in the south. They didn't see him as a rightful king and only got support of leading nobles due to their want of peace. The king's household was dominated



A second developed point is made, on Richard's power base in the north, and on the fact that the king relied on several northern lords rather than the traditional elites based further south. The point is made that Richard thereby became unpopular, but the link to insecurity is not strong.

by northerners which also proved unpopular with southerners. Even so, if Richard III was unpopular during his 2 year reign there were a limited number of rebellions - Buckingham's rebellion in 1484 and the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 - but ultimately his unpopularity persuaded people to side with Henry Tudor. When he came along to challenge the throne

Moreover, his loss at Bosworth could also be partially blamed on himself. If he wasn't so unpopular maybe the Stanleys wouldnt have deserted him to join Henry Tudor and ~~been~~ maybe the leading nobles who did not join the battle would have but I believe the main ~~reasons~~ reason behind Richard's III insecurity as king was his own fault. He created a hostile environment with many of his subjects, including Yorkists, when he apparently killed the princes in the tower. His

**ResultsPlus**

Examiner Comments

Continues the theme of Richard's unpopularity by considering the role of the Stanleys at Bosworth

Usurpation was unpopular and left many people wanting a rightful heir on the throne so when Henry Tudor came along in 1485, it gave anti-Richard subjects the chance to remove him from the throne.

**ResultsPlus**

Examiner Comments

The conclusion tries at last to consider the king's insecurity, but only briefly.

**ResultsPlus**

Examiner Comments

This answer operates at high level 3. Three points are addressed: the Princes in the Tower; Richard's northern base; and the role of the Stanleys at Bosworth. There is some understanding of the focus of the question, but the candidate is more concerned with Richard's unpopularity rather than his insecurity. Material is accurate but lacking in depth overall; and the answer is unbalanced by the strong focus on the princes.

High Level 3, 17 marks.

Question 13

A number of candidates appeared unsure of the course of events between 1485 and 1489 and displayed only a vague understanding of ways in which Henry VII consolidated his hold on the throne. The reason for the terminal date of 1489, the year of the Treaty of Medina del Campo and of the Yorkshire rising, was often not known. Some answers went out of the timescale set with a general consideration of Henry's relationship with the nobles, financial developments and the establishing of respect for law and order; these matters could be considered as of marginal relevance at best. One feature of many answers which was definitely irrelevant was the career of Perkin Warbeck. Better responses were able to operate within the given timescale. Candidates noted the steps which Henry took in 1485 and 1486, and in particular the order in which he took them. They were aware of the significance of the coronation taking place before the meeting of parliament and before the king's marriage to Elizabeth of York, and several noted papal approval of Henry's title which was received in 1486. The Simnel affair featured extensively, though few noted that his threat was so severe that Henry was forced to engage Simnel's largely Yorkist forces in battle at Stoke in 1487. It must be recorded that even some answers which gained Level 5 marks were unsure of the full significance of 1489. This reinforces the point made in the general comments of the importance of chronology and of an accurate understanding of the course of events.

The following example was marked at low Level 3.

Indicative content

The question is focused on the steps taken by Henry VII to secure the Tudor dynasty in its early years, and the extent of the king's success by 1489. Henry's position after Bosworth was by no means secure. Although Richard III was dead and no powerful kingmakers emerged, the king had little noble support and there were several Yorkist claimants to the throne, including Warwick, Lincoln and Elizabeth of York. Parliament supported Henry's claims through victory in battle, and the king's position was strengthened by his marriage and by papal confirmation of his title. While the rising of Lovell and the Staffords in 1486 was not very serious, the Simnel rebellion, involving many Yorkists and supported by Margaret of Burgundy with both troops and money, was a major threat which forced Henry to lead his troops into battle at Stoke in 1487. The Yorkshire rebellion in 1489 demonstrated that Henry's support in the north of the country was not secure, and highlighted the problems of raising unpopular taxes. A simple description or narrative of some of these events will be assessed within Levels 1 and 2, depending on the range and depth of material. At Level 3 candidates will begin to focus on the steps which Henry took to secure his throne, though the answer may include significant passages of descriptive or narrative material, possibly focused on Simnel. At Level 4 answers will consider the strength of Henry's position, but the response may lack balance. At Level 5 there will be a clear evaluation of the extent to which Henry had established his position by 1489, perhaps with some consideration of the lingering Yorkist threat.

Question 13



Question 14



In the first few years of his reign, it was important for Henry VII to consolidate his hold on the throne since it was an introduction of a new dynasty and after the loss of the Roses the English crown had been significantly cheapened.

~~On the one hand,~~ On the one hand, by 1489 Henry VII had successfully consolidated his hold on the throne, ~~however he was not able to do~~ ~~less~~ ~~successful~~ for example, he was safe from invasion, eliminated all threats from pretenders to the throne and was establishing his own laws and policies. However, in some aspects it was less successful, for example, the



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

A fairly generalised introduction which suggests that Henry was well established by 1489, but does not explain why this was so.

Existence of the pretenders and that people were willing to believe and support them, ~~as well as the fact~~ ~~that trade with Burgundy was~~ ~~embroidered~~ ~~pieces~~ ~~the~~ ~~magnus~~ ~~intercessus~~

One reason Henry VII had successfully consolidated his hold on the throne was that there was no threat of invasion, France and a few other countries abroad had just helped him to the throne and ^{hence} were unlikely

to try and push him off again, the truce of Ayton meant peace with Scotland, and Ireland, one base of Yorkist support, were less skilled at fighting and thus unlikely to invade.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Some incorrect statements here thanks to an insecure grasp of the chronology of events. The Scottish truce came in 1497, and the Irish showed their fighting skills at Stoke in 1487.

Another reason was that even when his hold on the throne was threatened by the pretenders i.e Lambert Simnel and Perkin Warbeck (as well as de la Pole and Warwick) he successfully eliminated over threat, for example, making Simnel a royal



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Simnel is mentioned only briefly; reference to Warbeck is out of period.

turncoat to show he was not threatened, and the execution of Warbeck.

Also, he was already establishing his own laws and policies, such as keeping magnate power under the King's pleasure, with absolute loyalty as the prerequisite, he also

controlled, ^{and limited} the use of retainers and made sure Yorkist nobles did not get too powerful, i.e. Nevilles.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

There are some attempts to bring the nobility under more control in the given timescale, but the point made is not supported with specific information.

However the mere existence of the pretences showed that he was not popular with everyone and the fact that he had to go extreme lengths to stop them, for example embargoes made with Burgundy; *magna intercursus* 1496 (to stop Warwick), *magna intercursus* 1506 (to stop de la Pole) this showed that he was clearly a ~~man~~ threatened by them and need to do ~~anything~~ what was necessary to stop them. Also the support that they gained showed



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Examiner Comments

This material is out of the given timescale.

that quite a few powerful people were willing to go against Henry

Overall, the successes of his ~~1485~~ reign show that by 1489 Henry VII had consolidated his hold on the throne and was not easily at risk despite the attempts from a few nobles who could not gain enough support and power to overthrow him. There are weaknesses to his hold but he eliminated threats successfully.

**ResultsPlus**

Examiner Comments

The answer has some shape and attempts a focus on the question; and there is some understanding of the focus of the question. However, the points made are not supported with very much information, and the insecure grasp of the timescale of 1485-89 has led to the inclusion of irrelevant material. It is the fact that the historical information offered is not convincing that points to a mark within low Level 3, 13 marks.

Question 14

The question was focused on Henry's relations with Spain and Scotland and on the extent to which these features of his foreign policy strengthened the king's security. Some candidates, apparently believing that they had to address a number of factors, dealt with both Spain and Scotland, but also with France and Burgundy, and even in a few cases with Henry's relations with his nobility. It is worth emphasising the point raised in the general comments. The question as it stands required consideration of Anglo-Spanish and Anglo-Scottish relations throughout Henry's reign. If other factors were required, the question might have read 'To what extent were relations with Spain and Scotland the most important way in which Henry VII strengthened his security during his reign?' Some answers reached only Level 2 because they deployed a limited amount of information, noting only that both countries became linked to England by marriage. Better responses outlined the terms of both the Treaty of Medina del Campo and the Treaty of Perpetual Peace, suggesting that both treaties implied recognition of Henry's title and thus strengthened his security. Answers which reached Levels 4 and 5 often considered change over time. Candidates noted the importance of Medina del Campo, which strengthened Henry's security by banning Yorkist pretenders from Spain and by arranging a dynastic marriage between Arthur and Catherine of Aragon. This could only take place when the dynasty was more secure, that is, after the execution of both Warbeck and Warwick in 1499. Answers went on to note the difficulties which the alliance experienced following the deaths in rapid succession of Arthur, Elizabeth of York and Isabella of Castile, and its declining value to 1509. Some of the best answers noted James IV's early hostility and his support for Warbeck, the importance of the 1497 truce and of the 1502 treaty, and Margaret Tudor's marriage to the Scottish king in 1504. This ensured the stability of Anglo-Scottish relations for the rest of Henry's reign.

Grade Boundaries**6HI01 A**

Grade	Max. Mark	A	B	C	D	E
6HI01 A grade boundaries	60	47	41	35	30	25
UMS	100	80	70	60	50	40

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