

SECTION A

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 1 ☒ Question 2 ☒

The ~~First~~^{Second} Crusade and Third Crusade were called in 1145 and 1187. The Second Crusade was called by Eugene III after the fall of the city of Edessa into the hands of Zengi. The Third crusade was called in order to get back the Holy Land that was under Muslim rule. The poor preparation was not the main reason why both crusades failed to attain their goal, as the leaders Conrad III and Louis VII in the Second Crusade planned and started the campaign together as well as Philip II and Richard I in the ~~Second~~ Third Crusade. However, the relationship they had with the Byzantine Emperors, Manuel I and Isaac, greatly influenced the outcome of each crusade, as well as the fact that the leaders were political rivals and did not manage to work together like it was done in the First Crusade.

The Second Crusade was called after the city of Edessa was taken in 1145 by Zengi, a powerful Muslim ruler. Conrad III ~~and~~ took the route through Hungary as he could not go by sea since



(Section A continued) he had a ~~very~~ poor relationship with Roger of Sicily. Louis VII, however had that opportunity as Roger proposed to let him navigate with him. As Louis had just made truce with Conrad he did not want to make an alliance with one of his rivals and decided ~~then~~ to take a similar road to Conrad. Conrad III was to be married to Alice, Louis VII's sister, however he caused great embarrassment to Louis when his marriage to Berengardia was announced publically. This was a political decision as this marriage would bring him more power against his rival, Raymond. This caused a strained relationship between the two crusade leaders who now took two separate ways and therefore reducing the power of the crusaders. Their biggest mistake was that they failed to contact the leaders of Outremer, and found out in 1147 that their goal was unrealistic, as Zengi had completely destroyed the city of Edessa as punitive act and so there was nothing to be recaptured or saved. This caused a delay of 4 months to the Second Crusade, while they were trying to find a new goal. It was later in June 1148 at the Council of Acre that they decided to attack the city of Damascus and proceeded the campaign. Conrad did not ~~wait~~ ^{wait} for the French crusaders and decided to depart ~~to the~~ from Nicaea.



(Section A continued) ~~He~~ on his own. He left with his army with ~~an~~ 8 days of supplies, strongly believing that Manuel I ~~with~~ ^{would} help them through the Byzantine Empire, allowing them into the markets. However, his overconfidence in Manuel led yet to his failure as the Byzantine Emperor had made a peace treaty with the Turks and controlled very little of the areas. This also led to further attacks from the Turks as the crusaders location was continuously given to them. This contrasts greatly to the First Crusade, as Alexius I had actually asked for the crusaders' help and provided them with food and logistical supplies, a general, ~~named~~ named Taticius that guided them through the lands.

Frederic Barbosa, the German Emperor during the Third Crusade was the wealthiest and strongest leader. They were in the same situation as just like Manuel, Isaac had not invited them either. In fact, he had made an arrangement with the Muslims in order to delay the crusaders arrival to Jerusalem. Frederic had to fight the Byzantines in order to go through their empire and finally Isaac gave up. However, the German leader soon died of shock in the cold waters of a river, ~~and~~ leaving behind his ~~army~~ army with very low morale. ~~The~~ The ones who had survived chose to leave.



(Section A continued) and go back home. Frederic's death negatively impacted the outcome of the Third Crusade. Neither of the two crusades got to Jerusalem. However, in the Third Crusade Richard I ~~made a~~ negotiated with Bur ad-Din in order to keep all the coastal towns and ~~to~~ for the Muslim ruler to allow christian pilgrims to visit the Holy sites of Jerusalem.

~~(In conclusion, poor preparation was not the main reason why the Second and Third Crusades failed but rather the political rivalries)~~

In contrast to the First Crusade, the Second and Third had a much stronger and united Muslim force against them. By the end of his rule Bur ad-Din had control over Syria and Egypt and powerful alliances.

In conclusion, poor preparation was not the main reason why the Second and Third Crusades failed but it was rather the political rivalries and personal agenda of the leaders that led to its failure. Alongside with the lack of support from the Byzantine Emperors, Manuel I and Isaac. Furthermore the lack of communication, especially in the Second Crusade, with the leaders of Outremer. Finally the very strong and united Muslims did not help their journey.

