

Examiners' Report
June 2015

GCE History 6HI01 A

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Introduction

Most candidates understood the importance of addressing the entire chronological period set in the question. Candidates should be aware of the possibility that the timescales set will have been covered in their studies, but perhaps not in their revision essays. Question A3 asked why the Norman campaign against England in the months September to December 1066 was so dramatically successful. Some saw this as a question on Stamford Bridge and Hastings only and failed to consider the aftermath of the Norman victory, including the long march to London, the submission of the nobility, and William's coronation on Christmas day. Some answers to D2 did not go beyond 1937, and many answers to D6 stopped in 1921. On the other hand, B7 asked about the outbreak of the European witchcraze in the late 16 century: many answers mistakenly included Hopkins and the East Anglian hunt of the 1640s. D9 covered the years 1945-56, but a significant number included Little Rock, Greensboro and the Freedom Rides.

Some candidates chose questions whose stated factor appeared to be outside their comfort zone, and delivered an answer which was only obliquely linked, if at all, to the question. A14 asked about the extent to which Henry VII's domestic policies strengthen royal power in England. Some candidates, perhaps hoping for a different question, wrote largely or even exclusively on foreign policy. Answers to D7 occasionally ignored differing views on the future of the USSR, but wrote exclusively on Stalin's role in the years 1924-28.

Questions which have a multi-factored focus are signposted by phrases such as 'most important'. Some of the most confident answers had an introduction, which either agreed with the role of the stated factor or proposed one or more alternatives. Many questions, of course, do not require the consideration of several factors. D9, for example, asked for a consideration of the extent to which the NAACP changed the status of African Americans in the years 1945-56. Many strong answers noted the Association's success in achieving de jure victories via the Supreme Court, but that these were not always accompanied by de facto success thanks to the opposition of Congress or of groups such as the White Citizens Councils. A number of candidates addressed the NAACP's successes, but went on to address other ways in which the status of African Americans was changed, referring to the impact of World War II and to the work of President Truman: these points were not relevant to the question set.

An integral part of the mark scheme is the quality of written communication displayed in an answer. This year there has been an improvement in candidates' communication skills, with much less use of abbreviations and colloquialisms. However, the quality of handwriting on the small number of scripts weakened communication overall.

Able candidates wrote articulately and coherently, demonstrating a logical mind as well as strong linguistic skills. Weaker answers were characterised by poor sentence construction and writing skills, which was a limiting factor in some answers where candidates clearly knew their history, but struggled to produce a coherent and readable response.

Question 1

Many candidates were well prepared to examine the economic strength of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. They identified one or two sources of wealth, usually taxation and the wealth of the monasteries. Good answers discussed with some confidence the development of trading patterns between England and Europe, and the value of the mints in ensuring a stable currency. In some cases answers displayed only modest information on political divisions, usually referring only to the civil conflict in Northumbria between Osbert and Aelle, or the difficulties faced by Burgred of Mercia. However, Offa was frequently cited as an example of political strength to challenge the premise of the question.

Question 2

Several answers were unbalanced, focusing more on the successes of Alfred's reforms after 878 than on his failures before that time. Better answers considered the whole of the King's reign, with detailed information on the events of 871, and on the difficulties which Alfred faced against superior Viking numbers and battle tactics, though few referred to the attempted coup against the King at Chippenham in 877. Alfred's reforms were well-known overall, especially the creation of the network of burhs and their value in the campaigns of the 890s, though more might have been made of the first steps taken towards the development of a naval force.

Question 3

A significant discriminator was candidates' response to the timescale. Many were content to focus on the events of September and October, and thus failed to discuss the establishing of Norman power in the weeks before William's coronation in December. Most were aware of the development of William's military skills in the years before 1066, especially the steps he took to secure his duchy against French attacks. The strength of the invasion fleet was considered in some detail, and there were plenty of references to the importance of the papal gonfanon as a symbol of divine support for William's invasion.

This is a Level 4 response. The answer is analytical and understands the focus of the question, and some key issues involved. It is supported by accurate factual material which is reasonably well deployed. However, the narrow chronological range here means that the selection of material is lacking in balance overall.

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer .
If you change your mind, put a line through the box
and then put a cross in another box .

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Question 13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

(This page is for your first answer.)

Why *PLAN: (Norman Campaign Sept-Dec 1066)*

- ① William's military prowess - 1057 K. of F., Anjou 1064, Brittany
- ② Harold's mistakes - *not giving 10,000 more men, no fyrd bc summer* - not letting supplies run out
- ③* William's good planning/better weapons - *crossbow*
cavalry gave adv. feigned retreats
- ④ Stamford Bridge - *Edwin & Morcar rushed into it*

There were multiple reasons for the Norman's successful conquest of England during the year 1066 ranging from Harold Godwinson's mistakes which were later made worse due to Duke William of Normandy's military prowess and most importantly

his meticulous planning of how to overthrow the English monarch. Battles such as Stamford Bridge on 25th September also played a role in the Norman's successes.

The first factor that enabled the Normans (This page is for your first answer.) almost instant success was due to William's ~~an~~ previously military successes ~~gave~~ giving him an advantage and experience on how to win battles. Firstly William had managed to take over most of northern France by 1066 ~~over~~ in places such as Anjou in 1064 and also Brittany ^{the following} ~~the~~ years. ~~that~~ William had even defeated the King of France in 1057 and the previous King now gave homage to the new Duke William. This successes over the 10 years build up before the Norman Conquest of England gave William experience, power and more potential soldiers for upcoming battles thus making his conquest so successful.

A second factor the only enhanced the ~~likely~~ likelihood of an English defeat was the mistakes made by ~~that~~ Harold (King of England). These mistakes played a crucial role in the Battle of Hastings on 14th October 1066 and ultimately resulted in the success of the Normans. Firstly, had Harold waited longer, after the Normans landed at Pevensey in 1066, before travelling

to do battle with them then it's likely Norman supplies ~~would~~ would've run out and weakened the men. This ~~may have~~ ^{may have} given Harold an advantage over the Normans. In addition to this point

(This page is for your first answer.) It was in fact ~~the~~ Harold's men that became ~~the~~ weakened physically since his men had travelled from York over several days travelling roughly 25 miles a day. This only adds to the mistakes Harold made. Furthermore Harold's ^{the Battle of} ~~pyrd at~~ ^{the Battle of} Hastings had already fought in the battle of Stamford Bridge just a few days earlier on the 25th September 1066. Not only were those men weak but Harold also missed an opportunity to gain another potential 10,000 men, some ~~fact~~ historians argue, had he waited before rushing to Pevensey. ~~Since~~ Since the numbers of men on both Norman and Anglo-Saxon sides ~~at~~ were equal (10,000 men) at the Battle of Hastings this further 10,000 men could've led to a Norman defeat.

Although all previous factors ~~do~~ did contribute to the Norman's success it is Duke William of Normandy's well-planned ^{with more advanced battle techniques} invasions that ultimately led to the defeat of the Anglo-Saxons. William had special boats created just for the 3,000 cavalry he had to transport to England, along with others for his 10,000 ~~well~~ well-equipped,

trained and experienced army. The fighting style of the Normans was so different to anything seen by the Anglo-Saxons that there (This page is for your first answer.) was nothing Harold could've changed to gain a successful outcome at the Battle of Hastings. William's cavalry meant he was able to move around quicker and easier than any of Harold's ~~£~~ fyrd. William was able to charge uphill and perform manoeuvres such as feigned retreats which tricked the Anglo-Saxons. The equipment William's men had was also more advanced, ~~same~~ with ~~£~~ weapons such as crossbows since his army was experienced compared to Harold's fyrd which even contained peasants with mere rocks to use as weapons. Lastly, William's army's layout was better than that of Harold's since William had advisors or 'sub-leaders' such as Odo of Bayeux who commanded the Bretons in the Norman army ~~the~~ whilst William focussed on the Normans and Flemings. This made communication easier throughout battle and gave William an advantage thus leading to his success.

In conclusion it is clear to see that many factors had a contribution to the Norman's dramatic success, for example Harold's mistakes by not waiting and William's military

proWess. However it was William's planning that was most important since there was
(This page is for your first answer.) nothing Harold could've done to change the advanced ways the Normans fought compared to the Anglo-Saxon's.



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Examiner Comments

The introduction makes some relevant points which are developed in the body of the answer.

There is some useful contextual information on William's obvious prowess as a military leader in Normandy and northern France. The rest of the answer addresses some of Godwinson's mistakes made in the days before Hastings, and the course of the battle itself.

Question 4

Candidates were able to deploy a wide range of relevant information on castles and on other factors. The stated factor was well-known, with much detailed information on the rapid establishment of a network of motte and bailey castles and their subsequent development into stone keeps. Other relevant factors that were considered include the destruction of most of the English ruling class at Hastings, the growing severity with which William put down rebellions, and the creation of a new and often harsh land settlement, including the forest laws. The best answers reached a concluding judgement which evaluated the significance of castles against other factors.

Question 5

Most students were able to recognise the ways in which Henry sought to re-establish royal authority after the civil war and the reign of Stephen. Legal changes, including the replacement of sheriffs and the Assizes of Clarendon and Northampton, and a number of financial reforms, were both well addressed. The balance in the arguments was often provided by Henry's failure to assert authority over the church, exemplified by his penance at Canterbury after the conflict with Becket. The best answers provided a good range of material with a clear focus on the power of the English monarchy, but weaker answers were driven by description. Other ways of answering the question involved comparing the power of the monarchy with the relative strength of the early Norman monarchs, not just the weaknesses inherited by Henry II. Some answers included material on Henry's lands in France, but usually failed to link this to the power of the English monarchy.

Question 6

Most answers were well-balanced between the financial weaknesses caused by Richard's involvement in the third crusade and his ruinous campaigns in France, and the difficulties which John faced from the outset of his reign. While many failed to criticise the huge financial demands made by Richard, candidates condemned John's pursuit of his traditional feudal rights and the increasing demands he placed on the nobility. Other reasons for the baronial revolt included the murder of Arthur and John's unwise marriage, though few commented on the significance of the interdict of 1208 or the growth of the so-called Angevin despotism.

Question 7

Many candidates deployed some detailed information on the devastation caused by the Black Death in both town and countryside. Several conditional factors dating back to the famine of 1315 were also addressed, with candidates suggesting that the black death of 1348-50 simply accelerated trends which had been established in the early years of the century. Answers also noted some of the plague outbreaks of the 1360s and 1370s, notably the Children's Plague, which carried off young men and changed the long-term age distribution of the male population.

This is an analytical response at Level 5. The candidate addresses the question directly, and considers a number of key issues with relevant and accurate supporting material which has been appropriately selected. Communication skills and deployment of material are coherent and logical.

Put a cross in the box indicating the FIRST question you have chosen to answer .
If you change your mind, put a line through the box
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Question 13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Question 14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

(This page is for your first answer.)

Pop changes BD.

BD → human impact

J

P

E →

R clerical recruitment ✓

M HW → death toll of young men → less children ✓

O → recurring plagues. → 1461 → children's plague ✓

recurring plague.

→ mortality rate.

↓ young men & children

→ low birth rate.

↓ clerical recruitment.

The population changed ~~for~~ dramatically after the Black Death. With 30% of the entire English population being wiped out. ~~The~~ However, the Black Death ~~was~~ was not the only cause of population change.

With the presence of religious recruitment and and women's ordination military wars, also contributing to the population change.

• The Black Death itself contributed significantly to the decline in population between years ~~the~~ 1348-49.

Many cities such as London experienced a $\frac{1}{3}$ mortality rate. The plague had an initial human impact, which caused the population to fall very significantly.

~~The short term impact of the Black Death was~~ suggesting that the Black Death had a ~~large~~ significant impact on population change.

~~However,~~

• However, it cannot be ignored that due to the great famine of 1346, ~~g~~ caused by the "little ice age". The population was already decreasing in 1348 before the Black Death. Suggesting the extent Black Death had in the short run. As monks were starving on the eve of the arrival of the Black Death. As monks was multiple villages

being forced into cannibalism to survive.

(This page is for your first answer.) • However, the initial Black Death was not the only plague to attack the population. Recurring plagues such as the 1361-2 'Childrens Plague' drastically caused the population to have both a short term mortality, population drop, caused by high mortality rates, 10%, but also long term population stagnation. As the 1362 plague targeted children it is clear that there was a gap in the population cycle with a smaller generation of young adults. This caused a lower birth rate as there were less ~~many~~ young mothers to have children ~~and so~~ and so recurring plagues had a huge long term impact on the ~~the~~ population. Potentially outweighing the significance of the Black Death as the plagues of 1361 → 67 created a constant flow of population keeping population low. As shown by the ^{England} ~~England~~ taking around ~~30~~ ⁵⁰ years to get to pre Black Death population levels.

• Another crucial factor which contributed to the change in population was religious clerical recruitment. As shown by Winchester's 'Voice of Rama' speech, after the Black Death there was a lack of clergymen and so the bishop ~~was~~ ^{asked} "anyone would ~~be~~ ^{be} a hear confessor, even women". ~~single~~ As many men joined the clergy they didn't have

children as priests had to remain celibate.

(This page is for your first answer.) ~~Suggest~~ ~~show~~ This shows that because more men joined the clergy this further hindered the birth rate contributing towards the population change. This is shown by the town of Winchester itself which took 200 years to recover ^{and Winchester received so many priests due to late dating from Black Death} suggesting that the Black Death contributed towards population decline in the long run as the Black Death caused the initial clergy decline.

In addition however military wars, such as the Hundred Years War contributed to further to the population decline. As many young men were ~~with~~ ~~staying~~ dying out in France ~~causing~~ the population had the short term impact of an initial population decline, especially during the 1370s when England experienced multiple failures, causing high rates of casualties. Furthermore, the Hundred Year War further reduced the presence of young men in England, ~~and~~ in which combined with the lack of children from the 1362 plague had ~~the~~ negative affects on the birth rate.

In addition ~~that~~ many more women became independent and wealthy during the years after the Black Death. One example is Christina Cooke who obtained up to 20 acres of land after the Black Death. This led to the rise of women, which

(This page is for your first answer.) led to many women having less marriages as they ~~rem~~ their independently for multiple years. This caused many ~~to~~ women to contempt having children later which had negative impacts on the birth rate. Also ~~this~~ when linked with recurring plagues, the psychological affect of having children reduced the rate even further as many mothers saw their children die.

~~Conclude~~ Therefore, it can be concluded, that the Black death ~~plague~~ had both a long and short term impact on the population originally. But it was the recurring plagues ~~and~~ and the Hundred's year war which contributed the most over the time period as they stagnated population. The Black death caused the critical death toll and led to ~~event~~ ^{factors} such as clerical recruitment and the independence of women but these long term factors were only made worse ^{by recurring plagues}. If it had not been for recurring plagues the population would have had continued to grow as the abundance of ~~as~~ free women have led to better living standards. But the psychological and physical impact of the plagues especially the children's deaths, contributed most to the change as it ~~and~~ hindered population growth dramatically.



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Examiner Comments

The introduction notes a number of factors responsible for population change. The role of the Black Death is set into context with comments showing that the population had been falling for some time. The short- and long-term effects of later plagues are addressed, along with matters such as the growing number of men joining the priesthood, and the growing economic independence of women.

Question 8

Many had plenty of relevant knowledge to deploy on the causes of the Peasants' Revolt. The resentment felt at Edward III's attempts to hold down wages was addressed. Since the Ordinance and Statue of Labourers were both largely ignored by peasants and landowners alike, many concluded that these were not the fundamental causes of the revolt.

Other reasons for the outbreak of the revolt were offered, including opposition to traditional feudal rights and, especially, to the power of the church. Several candidates suggested that the poll taxes were the trigger rather than the fundamental cause of the revolt of 1381.

Question 9

There were many strong answers from well-prepared candidates who were able to focus directly on the question of leadership issues. Many noted Henry's military skills in the years 1415-20, but few picked up on his ruthless behaviour, which was displayed on several occasions. Bedford's consolidation of English lands after 1420 was well-known, and the best answers noted the strength of his political and diplomatic leadership as well as his military prowess. In addressing other factors many noted the weaknesses of the French monarchy and nobility, and the importance of the Anglo- Burgundian alliance in underpinning English power.

Question 10

Several answers were descriptive in shape, focusing on a narrative of events rather than analysing reasons for the collapse of English power. Many considered the weakness of the English monarchy during the minority of Henry VI, contrasting this with the revival of French kingship under Charles VII, which led to the successful invasion of Normandy in 1449 and the final defeat of the English at Castillon in 1453. Only a few noted the significance of the French use of cannon.

Question 11

Most answers were able to offer some valid commentary on York's ambitions, referring to his treatment at the hands of Henry VI, since the latter reached his majority. His role as protector during Henry's illness was well-known, and the court's attempt to deprive him of influence when the King recovered was seen as the trigger for the events of 1455. In addressing other factors, several candidates were on less secure ground, referring in fairly general terms to Margaret of Anjou, and to Henry's weaknesses as King. There was some reference to regional conflicts among the nobility, but less well-known was the impact of military defeats in France and the subsequent loss of many nobles' private estates.

Question 12

Most answers successfully compared the opposition of the Earl of Warwick to a number of other factors. Reasons for Warwick's opposition centred on disagreements over foreign policy and marriage plans. Other reasons offered for the collapse of Edward IV's first reign included the influence of the Woodville clan after Edward's marriage to Elizabeth, the role of Clarence, and that Henry VI provided a figurehead for Lancastrians, despite his imprisonment. Material on these factors was provided in reasonable detail, although Warwick's escape to France, his negotiations with Margaret, and his subsequent return were not covered in such depth. Most, however, reached an overall judgement on the importance of Warwick's opposition when set against other factors.

Question 13

Four claimants to the throne are mentioned in the clarification of content, but many candidates were able to refer to just two. Simnel's rebellion was reasonably well-known, but some were uncertain about the strength of his support, which forced the King to lead his troops into battle at Stoke in 1487. The challenge posed by Warbeck was understood, though some were confused over the sequence of events in the years 1491-99. Stronger answers were able to refer confidently to the claims of both Warwick and Suffolk. Several candidates went beyond the terms of the question by considering the Yorkshire and Cornish rebellions, which were complaints about taxation, rather than challenges to Henry's throne. Many made effective use of foreign policy issues, noting the various treaties which Henry concluded and which limited the support claimants could receive from overseas.

Question 14

Most candidates understood that the question was focused on domestic policies. However, a significant number disregarded this focus and felt compelled to include information about claimants to the throne and about foreign policy. Almost all candidates were able to discuss Henry's policies towards the nobility, including acts of attainder and laws against retaining. Several noted that Henry placed crown finances and supervision of crown lands on an effective footing, but references to legal reforms, and the strengthening of government in the provinces, were much less securely developed.

Put a cross in the box indicating the **SECOND** question you have chosen to answer .
Your second question choice must be on a different topic to your first question choice.
If you change your mind, put a line through the box
and then put a cross in another box .

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(This page is for your second answer.) Henry VII's domestic policies significantly strengthened the royal power of England. The way in which he decreased the power of the nobility by condemning them to retain without consent decreased their power which in turn increased his. The way in which he took care of the councils also show perhaps to us that he very careful in giving power to certain nobles. Henry VII domestic policies are surely one of his greatest achievements.

The way in which he empowered the Justice of Peaces perhaps to us how he was able to consolidate his security within the country. In 1485 Henry increase the power of the Justice of Peaces allowing them to arrest Peaches and any suspicious individuals. In addition to this in 1487 he gave them the power to grant bail on those awaiting trial

and in 1495 gave them the power to reward others. This illustrates to me that Henry is putting trust into the leading gentry in carrying out reform tasks thus therefore (This page is for your second answer.) increases the chance of their loyalty. on the other hand Henry did still fail in not having an actual police force and there were accounts for the miss-use of gentry powers. Henry's use of the Justice of Peace's significantly strengthened his royal power but he had the Commons in check.

Henry ~~continued to keep the~~ ^{also kept} ~~his nobles~~ ^{in check} ~~the Commons~~ in check in the way he reformed retraining in 1487, adding to his royal power. In 1487 Henry passed a law claiming that in order to retain he would have to you would have to have consent from him. An example of him keeping to his word is that his friend and loyal advisor earl of Oxford ~~threw~~ ^{threw} on a show for Henry's arrival. After the show the earl was fined 10,000 crown in breach of his no retraining law this therefore proves to us that he was extremely strict influencing nobles to not copy the earl of Oxford in anyway, this ~~is~~ increasing his royal power in england.

~~The Council learned and show us was also a way in which Henry successfully increased royal power in england~~
~~The Act of re-ki~~

The king also increased the royal power in england by ~~retraining~~ ^{retraining} indirectly forcing the nobles to ~~keep~~ ^{stay} loyal.

The Act of resumption in 1486 meant that all the lands that have been distributed after the wars of the roses in (This page is for your second answer.) 1455-61 had been wrongly distributed so he took most of the land back ~~increasing~~ ~~his~~ ~~own~~ ~~increasing~~ his land 5x more than he previously had. Henry did give some land back as long as they remained loyal and he would give the land back in small doses thus increasing the amount of time he had in ownership of them. He was collecting profits of these lands in the meantime. This led to Henry increasing his power in ~~to~~ England.

The way in which Henry appointed his men to take control over councils further shows to us how successful he was in increasing royal power. ~~The~~ ~~was~~ Sir Reginald Bray from his Council (kings) was appointed to the north in order to keep an eye out for any bad behavior and Jasper Tudor was in control in Wales while in 1494 Poyning's was in Ireland. This increased his overall control of England as Poyning's passed a law stating that any law passed in England directly applied to Ireland. This is a clear example that Henry's domestic policy ~~highly~~ ~~strengthened~~ ~~increased~~ his power in England.

The Council Learned and Law played a huge part in Henry VII increasing his power in royal England. In 1495 the Council Learned became his most efficient method of financial extortion ~~to~~ ~~as~~ within the gentry and nobles Empson and Dudley were the two main agents

for this extreme ex-fortion. However this did lead to
(This page is for your second answer.) the Hatred of Empson and Dudley
and when they were provoked the hatred grew even
further an example is a recognizance for Henry amount of
Poultice that was fixed £10,000. Perhaps this did strengthen
royal power but to an extent some may say that the
hatred could have turned towards Henry decreasing his power.

Henry VIII use of bonds and recognizances also played a
huge role for ^{strengthening} ~~increasing~~ Henry VI over all power in
England. Henry VIII use of bonds and recognizances was a
way of punishing his nobles if they failed to do
something correctly. 55 people were in debt to Henry ranging
from £1000 for the earl of Kent to £50 to a merchant. This
proved to be a very efficient way of making sure his
nobles stayed loyal towards him as the feared a fine
of any sum. This fear Henry inflicted on his nobles
and gentry surely increased his power as they were
afraid to oppose it in fear of a fine, thus strengthen his
royal power.

The way in which he was opposed the church had a
huge part to play as well. He claimed that ecclesiastical
Sanctuary should only be the king's power in 1486. An example
is Lovell and Stafford and as they went into Sanctuary in
1486 they were forced out. Henry giving himself more power
undoubtedly increases his strength in his country.

(This page is for your second answer.) In conclusion this.....



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Examiner Comments

The answer examines four relevant points: the Justices of the Peace, measures concerning the nobility, the development of royal councils and relations with the Church. The candidate has run out of time, but this is a Level 4 answer which relates to the question and provides an effective investigation of several significant factors.

Paper Summary

Candidates for future examinations might profitably bear the following points in mind. Firstly, they would be ill-advised to restrict their revision by not giving the same weight to all four bullet points: such an approach may mean that they will only have one or two questions in each option to answer. Secondly, they must be aware of what the question is asking them to focus on, and especially of the timescale in the question. Finally, it is possible, indeed very likely, that the question they choose is not one they have seen before. They should always prepare for the unexpected.

Grade Boundaries

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