A-LEVEL
HISTORY

Component 1C  The Tudors: England, 1485–1603

Wednesday 6 June 2018  Afternoon  Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
• an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions
• Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
• Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The Paper Reference is 7042/1C.
• Answer three questions.
  In Section A answer Question 01.
  In Section B answer two questions.

Information
• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
• You will be marked on your ability to:
  − use good English
  − organise information clearly
  − use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice
• You are advised to spend about:
  − 60 minutes on Question 01
  − 45 minutes on each of the other questions answered.
Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

Elizabeth possessed great qualifications in government. She had a very masculine attribute – a forceful imperious personality. She used this ruthlessly to subordinate both Court and Council to her will. Elizabeth displayed two other qualities. The first was self-mastery which enabled her, at crucial moments, to put political goals ahead of personal preferences. The great testing time for this quality came in 1560–61 when she turned away from marriage with Dudley. But that mastery was not always complete. In her relations with Mary Stuart, for instance, personal biases alternated uncertainly with political calculation, and her ministers had always to reckon with the influence of these half-buried but intensely felt instinctive reactions. Secondly there was the keen political judgement which the professionals of her court came to appreciate. This professional admiration which the Queen commanded in the highest political circles stood her in good stead when her control of policy was seriously challenged in 1569.

Adapted from Wallace MacCaffrey, The Shaping of the Elizabethan Regime, 1969

Extract B

The direct personal interest which the Queen took in all aspects of administration and her ability to pick good ministers and delegate authority to them in routine matters were admirable qualities. However much she may have relied on ministers for advice and ideas, she alone made the final decisions. In the last analysis, credit for the triumphs of the period must therefore go to Elizabeth. There can be no doubt indeed that it was largely due to the personal and constant vigilance of the Queen that England escaped financial disaster. Fortunately, Elizabeth had admirable sense in money matters. This was evident during the last years of her reign when Elizabeth was conducting naval operations against Spain and fighting expensive wars in France and Ireland. In view of the enormous demands upon her purse it is astonishing that she managed to stay solvent. She was able to achieve this only because she cut ordinary expenditure to the bone.

Adapted from AGR Smith, The Government of Elizabethan England, 1967
Extract C

The politics of Elizabethan England were dominated by events which did not happen. The most pressing question of diplomacy and high politics – the Queen’s marriage – was eventually resolved by inaction, when it finally became clear that she would not marry at all. Elizabeth’s foreign policy was not quite so static, but its themes were consistent. She was poor, she knew it and she had no interest in crusades or military glory. She spent most of her reign resisting cries for intervention to defend her fellow Protestants, beleaguered in Scotland, France and the Netherlands and when she did succumb she did so to the minimal extent possible. Whether we call this stability, prevarication or paralysis, it was how Elizabeth liked to govern. On those rare occasions when real action was taken it was usually preceded by months of royal deliberation and obstruction. The political world of Elizabethan England was one of frustration at the Queen’s apparent refusal to act.

Adapted from Alec Ryrie, The Age of Reformation, 2009

0 1 Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to Elizabeth I’s style of government. [30 marks]
Section B

Answer two questions.

02  ‘Local issues were the most significant reasons for rebellion in the reign of Henry VII.’

Assess the validity of this view.  

[25 marks]

03  ‘The main aim of English foreign policy in the years 1509 to 1529 was to achieve peace in Europe’.

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

04  To what extent was poverty in England in the later sixteenth century the result of population growth?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS