

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1A: The crusades, c1095–1204

Sample assessment materials for first teaching

September 2015

Extracts Booklet

Paper Reference

9HI0/1A

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From Thomas Asbridge, *The Crusades: the war for the Holy Land*, published 2012.

During the first years of his pontificate, Innocent III set out to re-centre the machinery of crusading in Rome, hoping to turn holy war into an endeavour governed by the papacy. The indulgence offered to crusaders was reconfigured, so that those taking the cross were given a firm promise of 'full forgiveness of their sins'. Innocent also tried to create a new financial system that placed the onus for crusade funding on the Church. Donation chests were set up in churches across Europe, into which parishioners were expected to place coins in support of the war effort. Yet, despite Innocent's confidence in his vision, all his efforts produced only a muted response; the anticipated hordes of enthusiastic warriors did not enlist, and the donation chests failed to fill.

In fact, Innocent's conception of crusading was fundamentally flawed. Absolutist in tone, it made no provision for collaboration between the Church and the leaders of secular society. The pope imagined that he would simply bend the kings and lords of Christendom to his will. He probably believed that the aristocracy would flock to his cause of their own accord. But he was wrong, and this lapse of judgement would have tragic consequences.

Extract 2: From Marco Meschini, *The 'Four Crusades' of 1204*, published 2008.

Doge Enrico Dandolo subordinated the greater goals of the crusade to his own interests. Until September 1202 the Venetians were only partners in a commercial enterprise. For them the provision of shipping, which they took care of extremely well, was important. The Venetians took up the cross only *after* the proposition to attack Zara had been accepted by the commanders of the crusade. The vow of the crusade was for them a veil behind which they hid diverse interests. But these events had another consequence as well. The crusade became in a sense more 'Venetian' in terms of numbers and the effect that the men of Venice would have on its future. The question of Zara assumes the character of a test for the real crusading passions of the Venetians. Zara demonstrated how the demands of religion were subordinated to the goals of the Venetian Republic.

Acknowledgements

Extract 1 is from Thomas Asbridge, *The Crusades: the war for the Holy Land*, Simon & Schuster Ltd 2012;
Extract 2 is from Thomas F Madden (Ed.), *The Fourth Crusade: Event, Aftermath and Perceptions*, Ashgate Publishing Ltd 2008.

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