

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 32: The Golden Age of Spain, 1474–1598

Sample assessment materials for first teaching
September 2015
Source Booklet

Paper Reference
9HI0/32

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Source for use with Section A.

From a report written in 1559 by Don Diego Ramirez to the Inquisitor General, Hernando de Valdes, and to the Supreme Council of the Inquisition. Ramirez was a member of one of the regional branches of the Inquisition centred on the city of Toledo.

Even without any special order, I shall never fail to submit a report whenever developments justify such action. Such action is, in the present circumstances, called for.

Last Saturday, the fourteenth of this month, five pamphlets were found in five chapels of our church here. I am herewith sending one of these pamphlets to you. There was no trace of the culprit. All were in the same handwriting and had the same content. It rained very heavily that night and more than thirty additional pamphlets were found at many doors, virtually throughout the entire town. They were all written by the same hand and again identical in content. Despite great efforts to identify and find the author, no trace has been found thus far. 5 10

We are carefully and secretly applying ourselves to this task.

The following has been done: all teachers were called in, one after the other, and were asked under oath if they knew the handwriting. They were given the first three lines, without the title, to enable them to get their pupils to identify the writing without knowing the reason for the inquiry. All inns and hostels in Toledo have been visited to learn who has stayed there during the past two months, from where they came and what papers they had in their possession. This search was also undertaken in the hospitals. All writers were sought out and messengers were sent into outlying villages to learn if perchance someone lives there and writes. Lawyers and letter writers were called to identify the handwriting. These and other methods were used in all secrecy, as the situation demands, for it seems that it is the intent of these manifestoes to cause public commotion. No trace of the author has been found. In light of the content of the pamphlets it appears that an heretical monk is the author. 15 20 25

Acknowledgements

Source taken from Jon Cowans, *Early Modern Spain: A Documentary History*, University of Pennsylvania Press 2003

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