



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

# AS Level History A

Y143 Britain c.1930–1997

**Wednesday 18 May 2016 – Afternoon**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes**



**You must have:**

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet  
(OCR12 sent with general stationery)

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Answer **all** the questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.
- Write your answer to each question on the Answer Booklet.
- Do **not** write in the barcodes.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **50**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [ ].
- Quality of extended responses will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (\*).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

## SECTION A

## Churchill 1930–1951

Study the three sources and then answer **both** questions:

- 1 Use your knowledge of events of 1939–1940 to assess how useful Source A is as evidence for British military failings at the start of the war. [10]
  
- 2 Using these three sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that Churchill became Prime Minister in 1940 only because of parliament's doubts about Chamberlain's leadership. [20]

**Source A: Churchill writes about the Norway campaign of 1940**

Failure at Trondheim! Stalemate at Narvik! Such in the first week of May 1940 were the only results we could show to the British nation, to our allies and to the neutral world, friendly or unfriendly. Considering the prominent part I played in these events and the impossibility in explaining the difficulties with which we had been overcome, or the defects of our staff and the government organisation and our methods of conducting war, it was a miracle that I survived and maintained my position in public esteem and Parliamentary confidence.

Winston Churchill, *The Gathering Storm*, 1948

**Source B: A newspaper's diplomatic editor gives his view of events in early May 1940**

There is a drive against Chamberlain. I can't quite see who can advantageously take his place. Curiously enough what is really needed is that Winston [Churchill] should be made to take a rest. He is overdoing himself and taking the strain by stoking himself unduly with champagne, liqueurs etc. He doesn't resume work at the Admiralty till after 10 pm., and goes on till 1 or 2 am. He has got into the habit of calling conferences and subordinates after 1 am, which naturally upsets some of the Admirals who are men of sound habits. So there is a general atmosphere of strain at the Admiralty which is all wrong. Yet Winston is a popular hero and so much the war-leader that he cannot be dropped. But he ought somehow to be rested.

Leo Kennedy, *diary*, 4 May 1940

**Source C: Churchill records the parliamentary debate on the vote of confidence on the Chamberlain government's conduct of the war**

From the benches behind the Government Mr Amery\* quoted amid ringing cheers Cromwell's imperious words to the Long Parliament: 'you have sat too long here for any of the good you have been doing. Depart, I say, and let us have done with you. In the name of God, go!' These were terrible words coming from a friend and colleague of many years, a fellow Birmingham Member, and a Privy Councillor of distinction and experience.

Winston Churchill, *War Memoirs*

\*Mr Leo Amery – a leading Conservative opponent of Chamberlain

**SECTION B****Britain 1951–1997**

Answer **ONE** question.

- 3\*** 'The strength of Conservative leadership was the most important reason for their domination in the years from 1951 to 1964.' How far do you agree? **[20]**
- 4\*** How successfully did the Labour governments in the period 1964–1979 deal with the problems they faced? **[20]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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