



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

# AS Level History A

Y143/01 Britain c.1930–1997

**Wednesday 17 May 2017 – 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 the events of 1940 to assess how useful Source A is as evidence for Britain's military position at the time. [10]
- 2 Using these three sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that Churchill's speeches had a positive effect on morale in Britain. [20]

**Source A: An extract from a Ministry of Information Report after the evacuation from Dunkirk.**

The final evacuation of the BEF has brought with it a certain feeling of depression. There is a deflation of tension without a corresponding increase in resolve.

The grave tone of Churchill's speech made some impression and may have contributed in some measure to the rather pessimistic atmosphere of today. It should be remarked, however, that only the Daily Mirror and the Daily Worker gave Churchill's speech headline value ('We never Surrender', 'Not Blind to Colossal Military Disaster'). The contents of the speech were on the whole expected but some apprehension has been caused throughout the country on account of the PM's reference to 'fighting alone'.

Points from Regions:

Cardiff: Churchill's speech 'very impressive'.

Belfast: Criticism of reference in Churchill's speech to 'fighting alone'.

Manchester: Churchill's speech well received.

Birmingham: Churchill's speech has had 'excellent effects'.

Tunbridge Wells: Criticism of reference to 'fighting alone'.

*Home Intelligence Reports, 5 June 1940*

**Source B: An MP describes the effect of a Churchill speech.**

When we bullied him into speaking he just sulked and read the House of Commons speech over again. Now, as delivered in the House of Commons, that speech was magnificent, especially the concluding sentences. But it sounded ghastly on the wireless. All the great vigour he put into it seemed to evaporate.

*Harold Nicholson, diary, 19 June 1940*

**Source C: A left-wing critic of Churchill offers a view of the impact of his speeches.**

Churchill's greatest contributions were to persuade people not to look at facts. When the people of this country might have been depressed by the brute facts of Dunkirk, he was persuading them to think about Queen Elizabeth and the defeat of the Armada in 1588. He flung a Union Jack over five tanks and got people to behave as if they had been fifteen. He put the case of Britain to the world and the destiny of Britain to the British.

*Aneurin Bevan, Churchill By His Contemporaries, 1965*

**SECTION B**

**Britain 1951–1997**

Answer **ONE** question.

- 3\*** How successful were Thatcher's social and economic policies? **[20]**
- 4\*** How far did Britain maintain its position as a major power in the period from 1951 to 1997? **[20]**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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