



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

AS Level History A

Y131/01 Alfred and the Making of England 871–1016

Wednesday 16 May 2018 – 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 answers in the Answer Booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.
- 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**Alfred the Great**

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

- 1 Use your knowledge of Alfred's administration to assess how useful Source B is as evidence for his priorities. **[10]**
- 2 Using these three sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that King Alfred depended on his officials in his administration. **[20]**

Source A: King Alfred makes financial provisions in his will.

There is to be distributed for me...two hundred pounds; fifty to priests throughout my kingdom, fifty to poor servants of God, fifty to poor men in need, fifty to the church in which I shall be buried. I know not for certain if there is so much money, nor do I know if there is more, but I think so. If there is more it is to be shared amongst all to whom I have bequeathed money and it is my will that my ealdormen and my officials...shall distribute it thus.

Alfred, Will, written in the 870s

Source B: Asser, a monk writes about how Alfred governed.

Once he had taken over the helm of his kingdom, he alone, by divine assistance, struggled like an excellent pilot to guide his ship laden with much wealth to the desired and safe haven of his homeland... He did not allow it to waver or wander from the course... For by gently instructing, cajoling, urging, commanding and in the end, when his patience was exhausted, by sharply chastising those who were disobedient,...he converted his bishops, ealdormen and nobles...to his own will and to the general advantage of the whole realm.

Asser, Life of King Alfred, 893

Source C: Florence of Worcester, a monk and historian, writes about Alfred's administration of justice.

The king made the strictest enquiries into the administration of justice, as well as into all other matters; reviewing with shrewdness nearly all the judgements pronounced throughout the kingdom, at which he was not present himself, with a view to consider whether they were just or unjust. If he perceived anything unfair in these decisions, he gently remonstrated with the judges, either personally or through trusty friends...inquiring whether they proceeded from affection or ill-will to others or from a greediness for money.

Florence of Worcester, Chronicle, written before 1118

SECTION B**The Making of England 899–1016**

Answer **ONE** question.

- 3*** How far was the success of Athelstan in expanding his kingdom due to his skill as a warrior? **[20]**
- 4*** How far does the establishment of greater stability in England account for the monastic revival under Edgar? **[20]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact the Copyright Team, First Floor, 9 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1GE.

OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group; Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.