



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

AS Level History A

Unit Y132

Anglo-Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1035–1107

Sample Question Paper

Version 0.16

Date – Morning/Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet

Other materials required:

- None



First name											
Last name											
Centre number							Candidate number				

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes above with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- 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 bar codes.

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 **8** pages.

Section A

Norman England 1087–1107

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

- 1 Use your knowledge of William II 'Rufus's consolidation of power to assess how useful Source A is as evidence for how William II 'Rufus' treated those who opposed him.

[10]

- 2 Using these three sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that William II 'Rufus' was totally ruthless in dealing with opposition to his rule.

[20]

Source A: The view of an English monk (who lived in Normandy) about how William II dealt with rebels.

He (the king) bided his time and waited for the right moment to take vengeance.

He punished some of the rebels with severe penalties and deliberately turned a blind eye to the guilt of others. He shrewdly spared the older barons, although the conspiracy had temporarily weakened their allegiance to him, out of love for his father whom they had served long and faithfully, and through respect for their grey hairs. In any case he knew that disease and speedy death would soon put an end to their activities. Consequently some of those who had gone furthest in their treachery obeyed him with all the more devotion in the years that followed and endeavoured to appease him with gifts and services and flattery.

Orderic Vitalis (1075–1142) Historia ecclesiastica

Source B: Part of an account, by a French poet, of the events leading to William II's death.

William Rufus, reigning over the land, and having a powerful army, conquered all his adversaries, so much so as to have brought all his foes under control. There was no one who dared in any way to murmur against his word or deeds. Ranulph, the bishop of Durham, was his especial adviser in affairs of state. Ranulph proved most cruel at taking property from the people, and being the most avaricious* and most abandoned of all men in the land, woefully oppressed the whole kingdom, and wrung it even to the drawing of blood.

*greedy

Peter of Blois (1135–1211) on William Rufus

Source C: Part of a narrative of key events during the reign of William II.

When the king understood all these matters and what treachery they were committing against him, he grew much disturbed in mind. Then he sent for Englishmen and explained his need to them and asked for their help, and promised them the best law that there had ever been in this country, and forbade every unjust tax, and granted the people their woods and hunting rights – but it did not last any time. But nevertheless the Englishmen came to the help of their liege lord the king. They marched towards Rochester and intended to capture Bishop Odo – they thought that if they had the one who had been the head of the plot they could the better get hold of all the rest.

Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (1042–1154)

Section B**Anglo–Saxon England and the Norman Conquest 1035–1087**

Answer **ONE** question.

EITHER

3* 'Edward the Confessor was an effective monarch.' How far do you agree?

[20]

OR

4* 'The military capability of the Normans was the most important reason for their victory at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.' How far do you agree?

[20]

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Source B: Adapted from: Peter of Blois. Ingulf's Chronicle of the Abbey of Croyland with the Continuation of Peter of Blois.

Freely Available at: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/blois1.asp>

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