



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level History A

Unit Y105

England 1445–1509: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII

Sample Question Paper

Version 0.14

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 Question 1 in Section A and either Question 2 or Question 3 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

The War of the Roses 1445–1461

Study the four sources and then answer Question 1.

- 1 Using these four sources in their historical context, assess how far they support the view that Henry VI was responsible for his own downfall.

[30]

Source A: Jack Cade gives his views about the government of England in an appeal to the people.

The king should have as his advisers men of high rank from his royal realm, that is to say, the high and mighty prince, the Duke of York, exiled from the service of the king by the suggestions of those false traitors the Duke of Suffolk and his followers.

Jack Cade, The Complaint of the Poor Commons of Kent, 1450

Source B: A chronicler records on a concern about the succession expressed in Parliament.

In Parliament Thomas Yonge of Bristol, apprentice in law, moved that because the king had no offspring, it would be necessary for the security of the kingdom that it should be openly known who should be his heir. And he named the Duke of York. For daring to do this, Thomas was afterwards imprisoned in to the Tower of London.

The Annals of the Kings of England (Annales rerum anglicarum), May 1451

Source C: A chronicler comments on the dispute between York and Somerset.

Soon after Easter 1455, another dispute arose between the noble Duke of York and the evil Duke of Somerset. For Somerset was plotting the destruction of the noble Duke of York. He offered advice to the king, saying that the Duke of York wished to depose the king and rule England himself – which was manifestly false.

Because of this, around the middle of May, the Duke of York and the Earls of Shrewsbury and Warwick approached London with seven thousand armed men. When the Duke of Somerset heard this news, he suggested to the king that York had come to usurp the throne. For this reason Henry sided with the Duke of Somerset.

The Anonymous London Chronicle, for the year 1455

Source D: A chronicler comments on the government of England in 1459.

The realm of England was not well governed for King Henry VI was child-like and influenced by greedy advisors. He was owed more than he was worth. His debts increased daily, but payment was there none; all the possessions and lordships that belonged to the crown the king had given away, some to lords and some to other lesser persons, so that he had almost nothing left of his own. And the money taken from the people was wasted, as all the taxes that came from them were spent in vain. The king did not have a proper household as a king should nor was he able to maintain any wars. The queen with her supporters ruled the realm as she liked, gathering innumerable riches. The queen was defamed and slandered. It was said her son, who was called the heir to the throne, was not her son but was an illegitimate child born as a result of her adultery; wherefore she, dreading that he should not succeed to his father's throne, allied unto her all the knights and squires of Cheshire.

A Chronicle of the reigns of Richard II, Henry IV, Henry V and Henry VI, c.1465

Section B

Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII 1461–1509

Answer **ONE** question.

EITHER

- 2*** 'The most important reason for Edward IV's failure to establish royal authority in the period 1461–1470 was the power of the Earl of Warwick' How far do you agree?

[20]

OR

- 3*** How successful was the foreign policy of Henry VII?

[20]

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Source A, B, C and D:

Ill John Benet's Chronicle for the years 1400 to 1462 G. L. Harriss and M. A. Harriss Camden Fourth Series, Volume 9 July 1972 , pp. 151-233 Royal Historical Society found in: Pickering, A. (2000), Lancastrians to Tudors: England 1450–1509. Reproduced by kind permission of Cambridge University Press, UK

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