



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

# A Level History A

## Unit Y103

### England 1199–1272

#### Sample Question Paper

**Date – Morning/Afternoon**      Version 0.13

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes



**OCR supplied materials:**

- 12 page Answer Booklet

**Other materials required:**

- None



<b>First name</b>	
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<b>Centre number</b>					
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<b>Candidate number</b>				
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#### 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

### King John

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 the years 1202–1203 were a disaster for John.

[30]

#### Source A: John writes to the English barons about events at Mirebeau.

Know that by the grace of God we are safe and well and God's mercy had worked wonderfully with us. Before the feast of St Peter ad Vincula, we were on the road to Chinon and heard that the lady our mother was besieged at Mirebeau, and we hurried there as fast as we could, arriving on the feast of St Peter ad Vincula. There we captured our nephew Arthur, whom William de Briouze delivered to us. As well as Geoffrey de Lusignan, Hugh le Brun, Andrew de Chauvigni, the viscount of Chateleraut, and all our other Poitevin enemies who were there, being upwards of two hundred knights, and none escaped. God be praised for our happy success.

*John's letter was recorded in the account of a chronicler (Radulphi de Coggeshall Chronicum Anglicanum)*

#### Source B: An account of the death of Arthur.

King John had captured Arthur and kept him alive in prison for some time in the castle of Rouen. After dinner on the Thursday before Easter, when John was drunk and possessed by the devil, he slew him with his own hand, and tying a heavy stone to the body cast it into the Seine. It was discovered by a fisherman in his net, and being dragged to the bank and recognised, was taken to the priory of Bec for secret burial, in fear of the tyrant.

*An account from the chronicles of the monks of Margam, Wales. The Briouzes were patrons of the abbey and William de Briouze had captured Arthur*

#### Source C: A monk comments on John's situation in 1203.

When the messengers came to him [John] saying, 'The King of France has made war on your territory, he has taken such and such castles and dragged off the castellans tied to horses' tails, and he disposes of your property without anyone stopping him,' the king replied, 'Let be, let be, whatever he now takes I will one day recover,' and no one could get any other answer out of him.

*Roger of Wendover, writing in the early thirteenth century*

**Source D: A contemporary biographer of one of John's trusted advisors comments on John's decision to leave Normandy.**

The king stayed but a short time in Rouen and said that he intended to go to England to seek counsel and help from his barons, saying that he would return immediately. As he took the queen with him many feared that he would stay in England until too late. On the first night he slept at Bonneville, not in the town, but in the castle for he feared treason. Indeed he had been warned that most of his barons had sworn to hand him over to the king of France, and though he pretended to be unaware of their intention, he kept well away from them.

*The biographer of William Marshal, writing about 1219–1220*

**Section B**

**Henry III and Simon de Montfort 1216–1272**

Answer **ONE** question.

**EITHER**

**2\*** Assess the impact of Henry III's minority on the government of England.

**[20]**

**OR**

**3\*** 'The most important reason for the challenge to Henry III's power in 1258 was the reduction in power of local government.' How far do you agree?

**[20]**

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