



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level History A

Unit Y104

England 1377–1455

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



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|----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 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**Richard II 1377–1399**

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 those involved in the Peasants' Revolt wanted to overturn the established social order.

[30]

Source A: A Medieval French Chronicler, who wrote about events in the fourteenth century, comments on John Ball and his preaching.

A crazy priest, called John Ball, who for his absurd preaching, had been confined three times in the prison of the archbishop of Canterbury, was greatly instrumental in inflaming them. He was accustomed, every Sunday after mass, to preach in the market places and assemble a crowd around him; to whom he would say,

'My good friends, things cannot go well in England, nor ever will, until everything shall be in common; when there shall be neither vassal nor lord, and all distinctions levelled; when the lords shall be no more masters. How ill have they used us! And for what reason do they hold us in bondage?

'They are clothed in velvets and rich stuffs (clothes), while we wear poor cloth. They have wines, spices, and fine bread, when we have only rye and the refuse of the straw; and if we drink, it must be water. They have handsome manors, when we must brave the wind and rain in our labours in the field; but it is from our labour they support their pomp.'

Jean Froissart, Book II of the Chronicles, 1388

Source B: John Ball explains his view of the social order.

When Adam delved and Eve span, who was then the gentleman? From the beginning all men by nature were created alike, and our bondage came in by the unjust oppression of naughty men. For if God would have had any bondmen from the beginning, he would have appointed who should be bond and who free. And therefore I exhort you to consider that now the time is come, appointed to us by God, in which ye may cast off the yoke of bondage, and recover liberty.

John Ball, sermon at Blackheath, 1381

Source C: The Archbishop of Canterbury Simon Sudbury gives his view about John Ball's activities.

John Ball slunk back to our diocese like a fox that evades the hunter, and feared not to preach both in churches and churchyards (without permission or against the will of the parochial authorities) and also in markets and other places. There beguiling the ears of the laity by his invectives*, and putting about scandals concerning our own person, and other prelates and clergy, and (what is worse) using concerning the Holy Father himself dreadful language such as shocked the ears of good Christians. He there tried to influence the lay people, by his ranting and by telling lies about me.

*insults or abuse

Archbishop of Canterbury, Chronicle, c1381

Source D: A monastic chronicler comments on the attack on the Archbishop's Palace.

For at that time they considered that no name was more honourable than that of community, nor according to their stupid estimation, were there to be any lords in the future, but only the King and Commons.

The Walsingham Chronicle, written by a monk of St Albans in the late fourteenth century

Section B

England 1399–1455

Answer **ONE** question.

EITHER

2* Assess the reasons why there was so much unrest during the reign of Henry IV.

[20]

OR

3* How successful was Henry V's rule of England?

[20]

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Copyright Information:

Source A: Adapted from Sir John Froissart's *Chronicles of England, France and the adjoining Countries*. Translated by Thomas Johnes. Vol.II Hafod Press, 1804.

Source B: John Ball, Sermon at Blackheath. As found at the National Archives: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/humanrights>.

Source C: Adapted from *Concilia Magnae Britanniae v.iii*. Found in: Oman, C.W.C., (1910), *The Great Revolt of 1381*. Oxford University Press, UK.

Source D: The Walsingham Chronicle, written by a monk of St Albans in the late fourteenth century. Transcription found in: *The Hollow Crown: A History of Britain in the Late Middle Ages* The Penguin history of Britain, Miri Rubin, Penguin UK, 2006, 9780140148251, p125.

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