



GCE

History A

Y311/01: The origins and growth of the British Empire 1558-1783

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for November 2020

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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Y311/01

Mark Scheme

November 2020

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning of annotation
BP	Blank Page
	Highlight
Off-page comment	
A	Assertion
AN	Analysis
EVAL	Evaluation
EXP	Explanation
F	Factor
ILL	Illustrates/Describes
IRRL	Irrelevant, a significant amount of material that does not answer the question
J	Judgement
KU	Knowledge and understanding
P	Provenance
SC	Simple comment
	Unclear
V	View
S	Synthesis
C	Continuity/Change

Y311/01

Mark Scheme

November 2020

Subject Specific Marking Instructions

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
1			Evaluate the interpretations in both of the two passages and explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the consequences of privateering during the reign of Elizabeth I. • In locating the Interpretations within the wider historical debate, answer might argue that Interpretation A puts forward the view that it helped develop English sea power and weakened English enemies as well as bringing profit. • In evaluating Interpretation A, answers might argue that this view is valid as the Virginia and Newfoundland Companies were opened during the reign of James I. • Answers might argue that Interpretation A is valid as attacks on Cadiz in 1587 weakened the Armada. • Answers might argue Interpretation A is valid as the impact of privateering was greater than the land war given the seizure of Spanish bullion, and led to bankruptcy. • Answers might argue that Interpretation A is valid as Hawkins' reforms meant English ships had 153 guns of long range compared to the Armada's 21. • Answers might argue that Interpretation A is not valid as the Spanish economy collapsed due to other factors, such as the war in the Netherlands and France. • In locating the Interpretations within the wider historical debate, answers might argue that Interpretation B puts forward the view that England became involved in the African slave	30	• No set answer is expected • At Level 5 and above answers will evaluate both interpretations, locating them within the wider historical debate about the issue and using their own knowledge, and reach a balanced judgement as to which they consider the most convincing about the issue in the question. • To be valid, judgements must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used to analyse and evaluate the interpretations, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme

Y311/01

Mark Scheme

November 2020

2*		trade which brought considerable profit, expanded its horizons to the New World and antagonised Spain • In evaluating Interpretation B, answers might argue it is valid as Cecil told the Spanish ambassador that the Pope had no right to divide the world. • Answers might argue Interpretation B is valid as England needed to expand its trade links and could not be reliant on Antwerp. • Answers might argue that Interpretation B is valid as in 1568 the Spanish attacked Hawkins at San Juan de Ulua. • Answers might argue that Interpretation B is valid as the Spaniards did view Hawkins as a pirate and hanged some of his crew. • Answers might argue that Interpretation B is not valid as not all the voyages were profitable. ‘The nature of British colonial exploitation remained the same throughout the period from 1558 to 1783.’ How far do you agree? • In arguing that the nature of colonial exploitation remained the same, it might be argued that exploitation relied on British maritime capability and the Royal Navy throughout the period. • Answers might consider that the dominance of the seas was a consistent which was enshrined throughout the period. • Answers might consider that throughout the period trading companies were used to exploit land and resources in both North America and India.	25	• No set answer is expected • At higher levels answers might establish criteria against which to judge • To be valid, judgements must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.
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Y311/01

Mark Scheme

November 2020

3*		• Answers might consider the use of Chartered Companies in North America. • Answers might consider the use of Slavery and the Plantation system which was a feature for much of the period. • In arguing that the nature of colonial exploitation changed, it might be argued that the use of privateers was limited to the start of the period. • Answers might consider that the Navigation Acts which asserted British control of all imperial trade began only in the 1660s. • Answers might consider that the methods used changed but not the aim. • Answers might consider the use and development of mercantilism • Answers might consider that slavery, indentured labour and the plantation system was a feature of the later period. • Answers might consider the development of cash crops. ‘The impact of British colonial rule on its colonies was largely negative throughout the period from 1558 to 1783.’ How far do you agree with this view? • In supporting the hypothesis that the impact of British rule on its colonies was largely negative, it might be argued that unrest in the slave economies of the Americas shows the negative impact. • Answers might consider the increase in direct control in the latter part of the period.	25	• No set answer is expected • At higher levels answers might establish criteria against which to judge • To be valid, judgements must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.
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Y311/01

Mark Scheme

November 2020

			• Answers might consider the increased desire to generate tax revenue, particularly after the Seven Years war. • Answers might consider that in the eighteenth century European rivalries were played out more on land than sea, thus involving indigenous peoples either voluntarily or involuntarily. • Answers might consider the opposition of the Mughals and Maroons. • Answers might consider that enumerated goods had to go to Britain first. • Answers might consider that Britain drained the wealth of Bengal. • Answers might consider the wars against the indigenous populations as in North America and India. • Answers might consider the impact on indigenous peoples, for example in the Caribbean. • In challenging the hypothesis that the impact of British rule was largely negative, it might be argued that Britain employed a 'light touch' government and administration and worked with existing rulers. • Answers might consider the economic development of colonies, the introduction of cash crops and the development of trade. • Answers might consider the impact of the slave trade on the American colonies (N.B. West Africa was not colonised at this time so comment on the impact on Africa is not relevant). • Answers might consider that there was little resistance to British rule until the American Revolution. • Answers might consider the policy of salutary neglect for much of the period in North America.		
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4*		• Answers might consider the economic benefits of a guaranteed market for colonists. To what extent did the causes of European imperial rivalry change during the period from 1558 to 1783? • In arguing that the causes changed, it might be argued that rivalry changed from discovery to ownership and control of new lands in North America. • Answers might consider that economic motives and securing resources were important to European rulers, but what these motives and resources were did not remain constant. • Answers might consider the desire to access spices and other goods in South East Asia and how far this changed. • Answers might consider that the development of the Caribbean plantation economy became a cause of conflict. • Answers might consider that privateering and the competition for plunder was a cause at the start of the period. • Answers might consider that the causes of imperial rivalry varied from power to power. • In arguing that change was limited, it might be argued that taking land for strategic importance to protect trade routes remained a constant. • Answers might consider the desire to control the seas. • Answers might consider the desire for pre-eminence in trade.	25	• No set answer is expected • At higher levels answers might establish criteria against which to judge • To be valid, judgements must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.
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Y311/01

Mark Scheme

November 2020

			• Answers might consider that imperial conflict was about the balance of power in Europe. • Answers might consider that rivalry in the New World with Spain was religious. • Answers might consider that rivalry with the Dutch was about trade and commerce. • Answers might consider economic rivalry was a factor throughout.		
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Y311/01**Mark Scheme****November 2020**

APPENDIX 2 – this section contains additional subject specific information

Use this space if you have extensive subject specific information that is inappropriate to include elsewhere.

OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations)
The Triangle Building
Shaftesbury Road
Cambridge
CB2 8EA

OCR Customer Contact Centre

Education and Learning

Telephone: 01223 553998

Facsimile: 01223 552627

Email: general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk

www.ocr.org.uk

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