



GCSE HISTORY

Paper 2/B: Medieval England: the reign of Edward I, 1272–1307

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretation A for use in answering Question 01

Interpretation A An interpretation of Edward I's use of castles in Wales.

Adapted from an article by Alan Rogers, in 'History Today', 1969.

The castles of North Wales, with their defensive strength, were strongholds deep in enemy country but they had wider aims than just keeping down a hostile population. Although castles had military importance as permanent footholds, they were also safe places in a country where trouble could break out at any time. They were part of a process of civilisation, of changing the way Wales looked, and the minds of her people.

END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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