



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 15 June 2023 – Morning

GCSE (9–1) History B (Schools History Project)

J411/32 Viking Expansion, c.750–c.1050
with Aztecs and the Spanish Conquest, 1519–1535

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Section A – Viking Expansion, c.750–c.1050: Answer Questions 1 (a–c), 2, 3 and **either** Question 4 **or** Question 5.
- Section B – Aztecs and the Spanish Conquest, 1519–1535: Answer Questions 6 and 7, and **either** Question 8 **or** Question 9.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **8** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Section A

Viking Expansion, c.750–c.1050

Answer Questions 1 (a–c), 2 and 3.

- 1 (a) Identify **one** important trading town within the Viking homelands in c.750. [1]
- (b) Identify **one** Anglo-Saxon kingdom that became part of the Danelaw. [1]
- (c) Give **one** reason for Svein Forkbeard's attacks on England. [1]
- 2 Write a clear and organised summary that analyses the role of gods in Viking society.
Support your summary with examples. [9]
- 3 What impact did the settlement of Volga Vikings have in eastern Europe?
Explain your answer. [10]

Answer Question 4 **or** Question 5.

- 4* 'The Vikings were successful in attacking western Europe between 793 and 879 because of the quality of their ships.'
How far do you agree?
Give reasons for your answer. [18]
- 5* How far do you agree that Viking settlers transformed the places they settled in western Europe?
Give reasons for your answer. [18]

Section B

Aztecs and the Spanish Conquest, 1519–1535

Answer Questions 6 and 7.

6 What can **Source A** tell us about the Aztecs and their system of tribute?

Use the source and your own knowledge to support your answer.

[7]

Source A

A list of the tribute that 13 towns had paid to the Aztecs. The list is from the 'Codex Mendoza' which was produced around 1541 in New Spain. The Codex was to be sent to the King of Spain. The tribute included cloaks, war-dresses, shields, bins of grain and beans, and planks of wood.



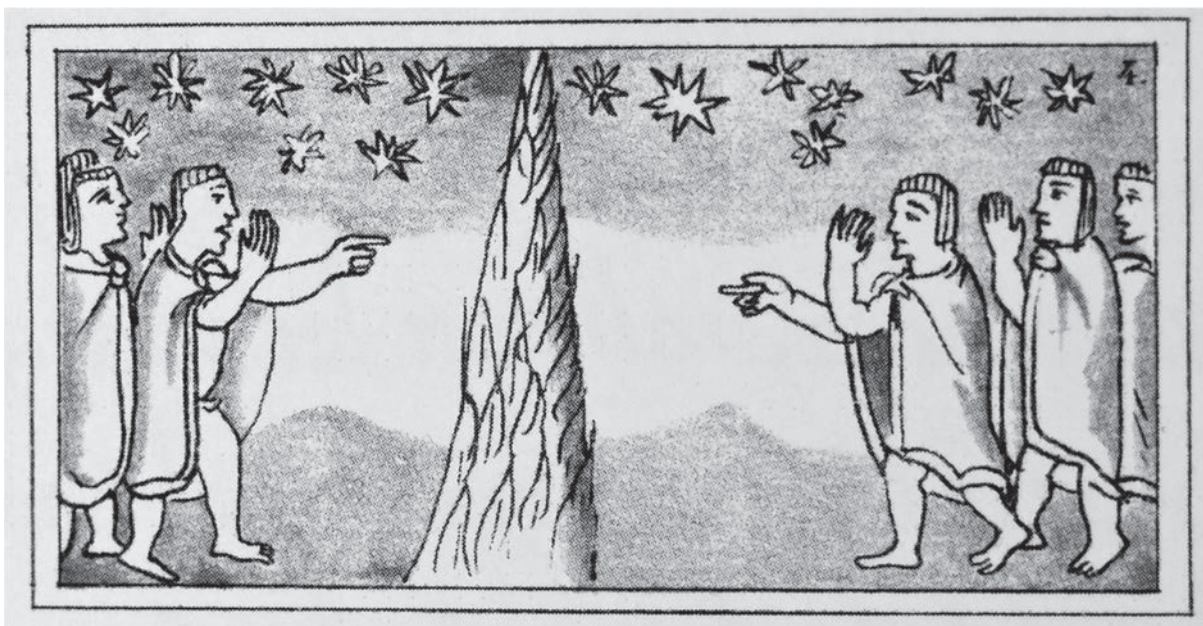
- 7 How useful are **Sources B** and **C** and **Interpretation D** for a historian studying the arrival of the Spanish in the Aztec Empire?

In your answer, refer to the two sources and the interpretation as well as your own knowledge.

[15]

Source B

A drawing of a great fire that came from the night sky – an omen which predicted the coming of the Spanish – from the 'Florentine Codex'. The 'Florentine Codex' was researched and written by a Spanish Franciscan friar between 1540 and 1585. The drawings were by native artists.



Source C

From 'The History of the Indies of New Spain' by Friar Diego Durán, completed around 1581. Durán was fluent in the Aztec language and learnt much from the native people about the Aztecs.

Moctezuma told Cortés he was overjoyed to welcome him to his city. He added that he had been ruling in Cortés' place, governing the kingdom that Cortés' father, the god Quetzalcóatl, had abandoned. Upon his seat, Moctezuma had sat, reigning over the subjects of Quetzalcóatl. If Cortés had come to rule, Moctezuma was at his service and the kingdom was now his because the written prophecies and the accounts of his ancestors had predicted these events.

Interpretation D

From 'The Conquistadors, A Very Short Introduction' by Matthew Restall and Felipe Fernández-Armesto. This book was published in 2012.

It is simply not logical that the Aztecs could have mistaken the Spaniards for gods. There is no evidence for such a view in native sources. The omens that supposedly appeared before the fall of Tenochtitlán are a pure deception. Stories of the omens first appeared in the 1540s. Furthermore, there is no evidence that the Aztecs would be deceived by superstition. Aztec success in dealing with the natural world – in farming, in building, in organising war – does not suggest minds governed by magic.

Answer Question 8 **or** Question 9.

8* 'Craftworking was more important to the Aztecs than agriculture.'

How far do you agree?

[18]

9* 'It was hopes of great wealth that led to Spanish expansion into the Caribbean and central America.'

How far do you agree?

[18]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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