

Candidate Name	Centre Number				Candidate Number			
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**GCSE**

**HISTORY**

**COMPONENT 1: STUDIES IN DEPTH**

**NON-BRITISH STUDIES IN DEPTH**

**1F. The Voyages of Discovery and  
Conquest of the Americas, 1492-1522**

**SAMPLE ASSESSMENT MATERIALS**

**1 Hour**



## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces at the top of this page.

**Answer all questions on the examination paper.**

Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.

## **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

Question 5 will assess your ability to construct a balanced, reasoned and well substantiated extended response.

In addition your answer to question 5 will assess your ability to spell, punctuate and use grammar accurately and use a wide range of specialist terms as appropriate.

**QUESTION 1**

Study the source below and then answer the question which follows.

**Source A**

When we reached land, the natives numbered more than one thousand five hundred people. When they saw us they charged with loud cries. Our musketeers and crossbow-men shot from a distance for about a half-hour, but uselessly...Recognizing the captain a native hurled a bamboo spear into the captain's face. The natives all hurled themselves upon him. They rushed upon him with bamboo spears and with their swords until they killed our light, our comfort and our true guide.

[From the journal of Antonio Pigafetta, an explorer who travelled with Ferdinand Magellan. The extract was written in April 1521.]

Use Source A and your own knowledge to describe the journey of Magellan, 1519-1522. [5]

*[15 x answer lines]*

**QUESTION 2**

Study the source below and then answer the question which follows.

**Source B**

The Spaniards attacked the musicians first, slashing at their hands and faces until they had killed all of them. The singers and even the spectators were also killed. The slaughter in the Sacred Patio went on for three hours. The Spaniards burst into the rooms of the temple to kill the others. Montezuma protested and on the following day we attacked the Spaniards with all our might and that was the beginning of the war.

[An account of the Massacre in the Great Temple, written by an Aztec priest in 1520. It later appeared in native language accounts of the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire.]

What was the purpose of Source B? [8]

*[Use details from Source B and your own knowledge and understanding of the historical context to answer the question.]*

*[24 x answer lines]*

**QUESTION 3**

Study the interpretations below and then answer the question which follows.

**Interpretation 1**

When the Spaniards were in Tenochtitlan, they questioned Montezuma and demanded gold. When they arrived at the treasure house, the riches of gold were brought out to them. The Spaniards immediately gathered all the gold into a great mound and set fire to everything else, regardless of its value. Then they melted down the gold into blocks. As for the precious green stones, they took only the best of them.

[Miguel Leon-Portilla, an historian, writing in his book called *The Broken Spear*, published in 1959. This book is based on written accounts from Aztec native priests]

**Interpretation 2**

From the beginning, Cortes and Montezuma hid their hostile intentions to each other behind signs of friendship. Cortes' strong religious convictions and his moral commitment to convert the Indians to Christianity were also tied to his ambition to acquire riches and honour.

[Richard Townshend, an historian, writing in a university textbook called *The Aztecs*, published in 1992]

Do the interpretations support the view that the Spanish conquest of the Aztecs was driven by greed? [10]

*[In your answer you should refer to how and why the interpretations may differ. Use your own knowledge and understanding of the wider historical debate over this issue to reach a well-supported judgement.]*

*[30 x answer lines]*

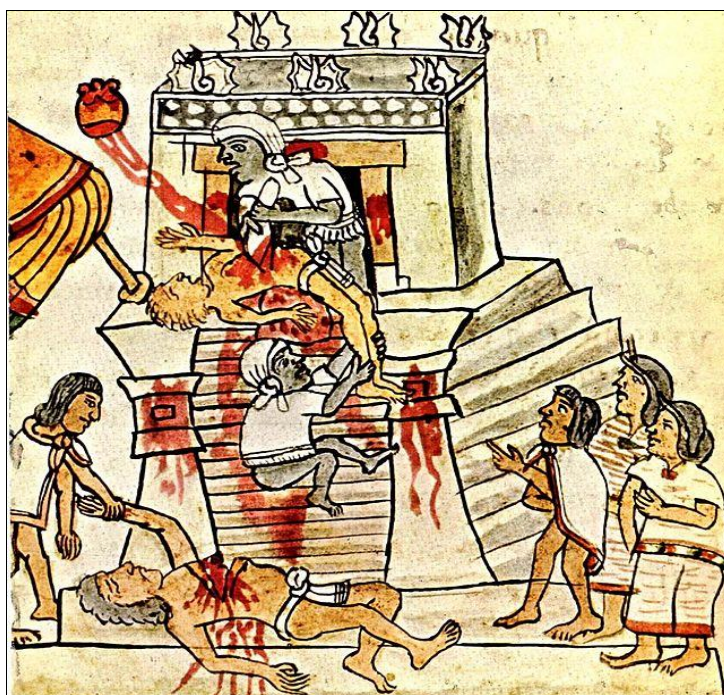
**QUESTION 4**

Study the sources below and then answer the question that follows.

**Source C**

I forbade them sacrificing human beings to their idols as they had been used to doing. God had forbidden it; your Majesty had forbidden it in law and commanded to put to death anyone who took the life of another. The Aztecs then stopped sacrifice and during my stay in the city they were never seen to kill or sacrifice a human being.

[Hernan Cortes, leader of the Spanish expedition, writing in a letter to the Spanish King Charles V in 1520]

**Source D**

[A drawing showing human sacrifice from the *Codex Magliabechiano*, drawn by native Aztecs in the mid 1500s]

Which of the sources is more useful to an historian studying the Aztec civilization? [11]

[You should refer to both sources in your answer and use your knowledge and understanding of the historical context.]

[33 x answer lines]

**QUESTION 5**

Read the interpretation provided below and answer the question which follows.

*'Columbus enslaved native inhabitants, subduing them with violence to seek riches'.*

[Professor Jack Weatherford, a specialist in the study of human societies, writing on a modern website called *UnderstandingPrejudice.org*.]

To what extent do you agree with this interpretation? [16]

*[In your answer you should refer to how and why interpretations of this issue differ. Use your own knowledge and understanding of the wider historical debate over this issue to reach a well-supported judgement.]*

*Marks for spelling, punctuation and the accurate use of grammar and specialist terms are allocated to this question* [3]

*[48 x answer lines]*