



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level History A

Y303/01 English Government and the Church
1066–1216

Friday 9 June 2017 – Morning

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet
(OCR12 sent with general stationery)



INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and any **two** questions in Section B.
- Write your answer to each question on the Answer Booklet.
- Do **not** write in the barcodes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- 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 **4** pages.

SECTION A

Read the two passages and then answer Question 1.

- 1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages and explain which you think is more convincing about developments in English government in the reign of Henry I. [30]

Passage A

We may wonder how much actually changed in Henry's reign. If there was anything new about Henry's new men, it surely lay in the kinds of careers a few, but by no means all, pursued. It was not that justices and sheriffs had not prospered before 1100 in royal service, it was rather that the numbers who did so had achieved a critical mass under Henry which made them noticeable to contemporaries. There was thus a great deal of administrative activity by growing numbers of royal officials, yet it is hard to find concrete evidence of Henry's personal involvement. Henry's own approach to ruling was based on the maintenance of tradition. He claimed to be his father's legitimate heir, promised to restore good laws, and proclaimed his peace. In carrying out these pledges he naturally used the apparatus and the men to hand: auditing procedures, writs and justices; bishops as ministers; and new men. In that sense he did not seek self-conscious innovations, nor was there any drive towards rule based on a rational rather than a reactive response. In England a long period of peaceful rule brought greater intensification of royal authority along broad lines of development that had already been set. In 1100 royal administration was already centralised, with channels of communication going outwards to the sheriffs through writs. But by 1135 the Norman settlement of England was more secure and royal justice was rigorous.

Adapted from Judith A. Green, *Henry I*, published in 2009.

Passage B

The reign of Henry I stands as the most creative in the Anglo-Norman era. With its long peace and stability, Henry's regime contributed much to the development of English medieval institutions: the centralising, ever tightening control of the *curia regis* over the administration, and the emergence of the exchequer with its sophisticated accounting procedures and the concentration of authority over the exchequer, judicature and viceregencies in the hands of an elite group of skilful and loyal servants. He was solvent, perhaps because he kept the peace and he achieved that goal not simply by developing the new administrative machinery but by placing it firmly under the control of some twenty or thirty loyal curiales. The novelty of his reign is to be found in the development of a new, highly effective means to achieve conventional ends. His reign was in some sense a New Monarchy, in other, fundamental respects, it was rooted in traditional Anglo-Saxon political institutions. It preserved the Old English system of shires, sheriffs and shire courts, hundreds and hundred courts.

While the kingdom that Henry inherited had grown more efficient over the decades after 1066, the pace of adaptation and invention accelerated in the years when Henry's machine worked to centralise and stabilise government.

Adapted from C. Warren Hollister, *Henry I*, published in 2003.

SECTION B

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions.

- 2*** How far did reasons for rebellion remain the same in the period from 1066 to 1216? **[25]**
- 3*** Assess the importance of the primacy dispute in the changing relations between the archbishops of Canterbury and archbishops of York in the period from 1066 to 1216. **[25]**
- 4*** 'The main impact of the papal reform movement on the English Church between 1066 and 1216 was its freedom from royal control.' How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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