

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 as an explanation of the reasons why Philip of Spain launched the Armada in 1588.

[30]

Passage A

Religion was the key issue in the Netherlands. The antipathy between the Netherlands and their distant ruler was sparked and fed by religious differences, and Philip felt inadequately supported by the Pope as he struggled to save the souls of his Dutch subjects. The Pope was more enthusiastic when it came to what Philip called the 'Enterprise of England', which adopted many of the characteristics of a crusade. In 1567, Philip went against established diplomatic protocol when he ordered the English ambassador in Madrid to cease his private Protestant worship and to accept Catholic Mass. The expulsion of the ambassador is seen by some as the first stage in the English-Spanish hostility which was to last throughout the rest of the reign. The Pope had wanted to excommunicate Elizabeth in 1563, but Philip dissuaded him, arguing she would be persuaded to resume the practice of true religion. Philip did not approve of the Bull *Regnans in Excelsis*, which eventually excommunicated Elizabeth in 1571, but by then it had become clear that only a force of arms would rescue England from heresy. In that same year Philip wrote 'I am so keen to achieve the consummation of this enterprise, I am so attached to it in my heart, and I am so convinced that God our Saviour must embrace it as his own cause, that I cannot be dissuaded.' The Armada, when it finally sailed in 1588, had more priests than doctors, its banners blessed by the Pope and the confidence of Catholic Christendom behind it. Reaction to the bad news as it trickled in took the form of prayers and masses, as if a miracle would be granted if demanded with sufficient passion. Indeed, the English perceived the defeat of the Armada to be a Protestant miracle.

Adapted from J. Hunt, *Spain 1474–1598*, published in 2001.

Passage B

The rationale for sending the Armada was most authoritatively summed up by the Council of State in January 1588: 'the enterprise should go ahead in the hope that God might favour such a just purpose as His Majesty has, taking it as His own, for this is the only way of assuring [the silver] that comes from the Indies and of freeing these coasts [of Iberia] from invasion and of giving security to Flanders, finishing by cutting once and for good the root of war there'. In the Council's view, Spain was fighting a defensive war to stop the English from helping the Dutch rebels and attacking the Iberian coasts and Indies. The Dutch had resisted too long and it had cost Spain too much to fight them on land; if English aid was cut off the revolt in the Low Countries might be ended, or at the very least the rebels could be brought to the negotiating table. But there was no serious discussion of conquering or converting England: that was not a priority. The fleet would sail against England for military and strategic and not for religious reasons.

Adapted from P. Williams, *Philip II*, published in 2001.

SECTION B

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

- 2*** 'Trade was more important than warfare as an instrument of Tudor foreign policy.' How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 3*** Assess the reasons why relations with Spain declined during the period 1485 to 1603. **[25]**
- 4*** 'Tudor foreign policy had a greater impact on religious developments in England than any other aspect of domestic policy.' How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact the Copyright Team, First Floor, 9 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1GE.

OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group; Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.