



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

A Level History A

Unit Y307

Tudor Foreign Policy 1485–1603

Sample Question Paper

Version 0.15

Date – Morning/Afternoon

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes



OCR supplied materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet

Other materials required:

- None



* 0 0 0 0 0 0 *

First name											
Last name											
Centre number							Candidate number				

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Complete the boxes above with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and any 2 questions in Section B.
- Write your answer to each question on the Answer Booklet.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

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 in explaining the failure of the Armada of 1588.

[30]

Passage AA circular icon containing a lowercase letter 'i' in a serif font, indicating an information or note section.

Passage A is an adapted extract from *Tudor Britain* by Roger Lockyer and Dan O’Sullivan, 1997. This item has been removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

R. Lockyer and D O’Sullivan, 1997, pp211-212, Longman, 1997.

The extract opens with ‘The English possessed many naval advantages’ and finishes at ‘when the Armada anchored off Calais.’

For other examples of this type of question please see our past papers, available through our website and Interchange. Alternatively, see our ExamBuilder platform for the full list of relevant mock questions.

Passage B

There were negative features in the growth of English sea power and certain myths need to be dispelled. The Armada was not defeated by a smaller force, nor arguably was it defeated by the English at all. It was really factors working against the Armada which decided the outcome. Most importantly it was the geography and wind patterns of the English Channel. Firstly, the English Channel is shaped like a funnel and therefore once the fleet had entered the Channel it became increasingly difficult to turn back if something went wrong. Secondly, the contemporary English view – ‘the Lord blew and they were scattered’ – is at least accurate in giving the weather credit for the destruction of so much of the invasion fleet, which did far more damage than the English ships ever could. The English sent in fire-ships against the anchored Armada, but Medina Sidonia, operating on the reasonable assumption that these were the familiar floating bombs, ordered the Armada to sail immediately. Some ships cut their anchors – an action that proved disastrous when the Armada had to face bad weather. After Medina Sidonia pulled the Armada out of the battle at Gravelines the prevailing wind sent them round the north of Scotland and the west of Ireland. Gales, coupled with the loss of so many anchors, sank the half-battered fleet.

Adapted from: J. Guy, *The Tudors*, published in 1990

Section B

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

- 2*** 'The development of trade and the economy was a consistent priority of Tudor foreign policy.'
How far do you agree with this view?
[25]
- 3*** How far were dynastic and personal aims the main influences in shaping Tudor foreign policy?
[25]
- 4*** 'The treaty of Edinburgh (1560) was the main turning point in England's relations with Scotland.'
How far do you agree with this view of the period 1485–1603?
[25]

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Copyright Information:

Passage A: Adapted from: Rex, R. (2012), *The Tudors*. Amberley.

Passage B: Access to History: Elizabeth I Meeting the Challenge: England 1541-1603. John Warren, Hodder Education, 2008. 9780340965931 p. 132. Reproduced with permission from Hodder Education through PLS clear.

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