



Rewarding Learning
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2025

History

Assessment Unit AS 1
Historical Investigations and Interpretations



SHY11

[SHY11]

WEDNESDAY 14 MAY, AFTERNOON

TIME

1 hour 30 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.

Choose **one** option.

Answer Question **1(a)** or **1(b)** and Question **2** from your **chosen option**.

Indicate clearly on your Answer Booklet which option you have chosen by ticking in the box on page 2.

Please take a new page at the start of each question.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 60.

Option 1: England 1509–1558

Answer Question 1(a) or 1(b) and Question 2.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Question 1.

1 Either

- (a) Analyse why some groups and individuals opposed Henry VIII's religious policies in the period 1520–1547. [10]

Or

- (b) Analyse the Edwardian religious reforms introduced by Somerset and Northumberland in the period 1547–1553. [10]

2 Read Source 1, Interpretation A and Interpretation B and answer the questions which follow:

The Reasons for the Pilgrimage of Grace

Source 1

Extract from *Hall's Chronicle*, published in 1548. The author, Edward Hall, was a lawyer and historian.

The King was informed that a new insurrection had begun, with an army of 40,000 men assembled in Yorkshire. They declared that their purpose was only to maintain and defend the faith of Christ and the Holy Church, which had been much oppressed, and to bring relief to the King's poor subjects. They called this treasonous expedition a holy and blessed pilgrimage. They carried banners with a painting of Christ hanging on the cross on one side, and, on the other side, a painting of a chalice with a cake in it. The soldiers also had a badge embroidered on the sleeves of their coats representing the five wounds of Christ. And so, this rebellious army of Satan set out with a false appearance of holiness, but with the real aim of deceiving the simple and ignorant people.

The Enclosure Movement 1509–1549

Interpretation A

Extract from an article entitled *The English Wool Trade*. It was published on the Tudor Times website in 2018.

The Crown's objection to enclosure was a mixture of genuine concern for growing unemployment and the resulting vagrancy. This vagrancy terrified an establishment that saw social stability within villages as fundamental to good order. In 1514 a Royal proclamation against enclosure was issued, while Acts of 1515 and 1516 sought to re-establish villages that had been destroyed as a result of enclosure. A Royal Commission of 1517–1518, promoted by Cardinal Wolsey, sent commissioners to investigate practices in a number of counties. Those found guilty by the courts of having enclosed land illegally were required to restore that land to its original use within forty days. The fact that most of the offenders were big landowners, many of whom were Henry VIII's courtiers, explains Wolsey's unpopularity with the nobility. By 1549, severe inflation and a growing population brought anger against enclosure to a head in Kett's Rebellion.

Interpretation B

Extract from N. Glovinsky, *Henry VIII*, published in 2016.

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- (a) **Study Source 1.** How useful is Source 1 as evidence for an historian studying the reasons for the Pilgrimage of Grace? You must use contextual knowledge in your answer. [20]
- (b) **Study Interpretation A and Interpretation B.** Historians have different views about particular issues. Using both interpretations, and your understanding of the historical context, which of these different interpretations of the enclosure movement in the period 1509–1549 do you find more convincing? [30]

Option 2: England 1603–1649

Answer Question 1(a) or 1(b) and Question 2.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Question 1.

1 Either

- (a) Analyse the impact of Charles I's financial policies during the period of his Personal Rule (1629–1640). [10]

Or

- (b) Analyse the changes made by Charles I to court culture between 1625 and 1640. [10]

2 Read Source 1, Interpretation A and Interpretation B and answer the questions which follow:

Responses to the Execution of Charles I in January 1649

Source 1

Extract from a pamphlet written by John Lilburne, a leading Leveller, and published on 8 June 1649.

After spending time in the north of England, I returned to London to investigate the current state of affairs. I wanted to discover whether the men in charge now merely wished to replace one bad form of government with another. I also heard that some Royalists were very angry with me over the beheading of the King and wanted to harm me. I found this strange as I had been in the North of England when the King was killed and had refused to be a judge at his trial, despite being asked to participate. In fact, I made it clear to the army leaders that I considered them to be no better than murderers, as they had no legal authority to hold a trial. I believe that the King was guilty of the crimes charged against him, and he deserved to die for those crimes. But I begged the authorities to delay his trial until a new, free Parliament had been called, which would have had the right to prosecute Charles. The current Parliament did not have any such authority.

The Impact of James I's Religious Policies 1603–1625

Interpretation A

Extract from D. Murphy, *Britain 1558–1689*, published in 2002.

There is no doubt that James attempted a compromise on the question of religion throughout his reign. Provided that people showed loyalty and outward conformity, he did not persecute them. But there were cracks in the religious compromise James achieved. It could be argued that the King mishandled the Hampton Court Conference of 1604 and alienated the Puritans, although he personally saw the conference as a success. After 1618, it became increasingly difficult to balance the competing demands of Puritans, Arminians and Catholics or maintain unity in the Church of England. This was partly due to events abroad, which sharpened religious differences at home and provoked confrontation rather than compromise. By 1624, James showed that he saw Catholics and Puritans as equally dangerous threats.

Interpretation B

Extract from C. Durston, *James I*, published in 1986.

James I was a Calvinist, but he favoured a broad, inclusive church, and was deeply suspicious of those whose religious beliefs led them to create division in their communities. Unlike most Calvinists, he was broad-minded in his attitude towards Catholicism. James tackled the serious Puritan problem he inherited from Elizabeth by reaching out to moderate Puritans. The Hampton Court Conference was reasonably harmonious and productive, and Puritans left satisfied. Although their hopes were disappointed initially, by the end of James I's reign moderate Puritans felt at home in the Church of England. Under James I, the English Church enjoyed more peace than at any time since the Reformation. The outbreak of the Thirty Years' War in 1618 dented his strategy but did not derail it. His balancing act was a considerable achievement.

- (a) **Study Source 1.** How useful is Source 1 as evidence for an historian studying responses to the execution of Charles I in January 1649? You must use contextual knowledge in your answer. [20]
- (b) **Study Interpretation A and Interpretation B.** Historians have different views about particular issues. Using both interpretations, and your understanding of the historical context, which of these different interpretations of the impact of James I's religious policies in the period 1603–1625 do you find more convincing? [30]

Option 3: Britain in the Age of Reform 1830–1880

Answer Question 1(a) or 1(b) and Question 2.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Question 1.

1 Either

- (a) Analyse the terms of the Second Reform Act of 1867 and its consequences for British politics. [10]

Or

- (b) Analyse the reasons for the reforms passed by Gladstone's Government of 1868–1874. [10]

- 2 Read Source 1, Interpretation A and Interpretation B and answer the questions which follow:

The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834

Source 1

Extract from the *Recommendations* by the Royal Commission on the Poor Law, March 1834.

All poor relief for able-bodied persons and their families will only be available in well-regulated workhouses. There should be four types of workhouse inmate: the aged and infirm; children; able-bodied females; and able-bodied males. We would expect able-bodied adults to be the most numerous group and recommend that, in order to facilitate their supervision, men and women should be housed in separate buildings. Each of the four groups will therefore receive appropriate treatment: the old will enjoy peace and quiet without disturbance from the boisterous and the children will be educated. The able-bodied will be given sufficient work and disciplined in such a manner that it will discourage the lazy and trouble-makers from seeking admission. Such regulations should, as far as possible, be uniform throughout the country.

The Success of the Anti-Corn Law League

Interpretation A

Extract from M. Pirie, *The Anti-Corn Law League Fought for Free Trade*, published in 2019.

On 18 September 1838, the most successful single-issue pressure group of the nineteenth century was established as a nationwide organisation dedicated to free trade. Specifically, the Anti-Corn Law League demanded repeal of the Corn Laws, introduced in 1815 to keep cereal prices high in Britain. Richard Cobden was its leading strategist and John Bright its most eloquent orator. The League organised grassroots opinion by distributing pamphlets, by correspondence (using the new Penny Post), by newspaper articles, public meetings and speeches. It was well funded, tightly organised and centrally planned. The League campaigned for the election of MPs to influence Parliament with their arguments and oratory. Gradually, it built up a huge popular following and either won over or wore down the opposition. The Corn Laws were repealed in 1846 when Peel converted to the League's cause, spurred on by the catastrophe of the Irish famine of 1845 which the potato blight triggered.

Interpretation B

Extract from M. Scott-Baumann, *Years of Expansion: British History 1815–1914*, published in 2002.

Of one thing we can be certain. In its wider political objectives, the League failed. Britain was to remain for the rest of the century a country which was ruled by the landed aristocracy and its friends. In the nineteenth century, men of commerce and industry were a rare sight in any Cabinet, Conservative or Liberal. One major reason for this is that few industrialists shared Cobden's confidence or class consciousness. Instead, they preferred local prestige – and making more money – to the distractions and uncertainties of a political career on the national stage. With the repeal of the Corn Laws, the most clearly divisive and objectionable element of aristocratic domination of the state had been overthrown. But the power of the aristocracy seemed to remain perfectly intact – as Peel, of course, had intended it should.

(a) **Study Source 1.** How useful is Source 1 as evidence for an historian studying the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834? You must use contextual knowledge in your answer. [20]

(b) **Study Interpretation A and Interpretation B.** Historians have different views about particular issues. Using both interpretations, and your understanding of the historical context, which of these different interpretations of the success of the Anti-Corn Law League do you find more convincing? [30]

Option 4: Italy and Germany 1815–1871

Answer Question 1(a) or 1(b) and Question 2.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Question 1.

1 Either

- (a) Analyse the aims of those who took part in the revolutions which broke out in the Italian states in 1848. [10]

Or

- (b) Analyse the reasons for Prussia's growing prosperity between 1849 and 1871. [10]

2 Read Source 1, Interpretation A and Interpretation B and answer the questions which follow:

The Importance of the Schleswig-Holstein Affair for the Unification of Germany

Source 1

Extract from a letter from Johann Droysen, a former Liberal deputy in the Frankfurt Parliament of 1848–1849, to Wilhelm Rossmann, a friend and colleague, 29 April 1864. Droysen was one of the leaders of the movement to exclude Austria from a united Germany.

I am certainly no Bismarck enthusiast, but he is a man of action. After fifty years of peace, there is something exciting about the victory of the young Prussian troops at the Battle of Düppel. What a blessing it is that, despite the campaign of the German National Association and Austria's reform project, the full force of Prussian power made itself felt on the battlefield. It is time that the importance of the medium-sized and small states was kept within realistic limits. They will continue to say that Prussia under Bismarck is not to be trusted. They will denounce more loudly than ever Prussia's annexation of land. They will claim that the real Germany is outside Prussia and menaced by Prussia. But, with God's help, none of this will stand in the way of what we have begun.

The Reasons for the Unification of Italy

Interpretation A

Extract from D. Mack Smith, *The Making of Italy 1796–1866*, published in 1988.

Individuals played a key role in the unification of Italy. Giuseppe Mazzini and Camille de Cavour were at the forefront of events. Mazzini was the propaganda chief of the nationalist movement for unification and, as an agitator and producer of pamphlets, dedicated his life to the making of Italy. Cavour was an expert financier and parliamentarian, whose skill as a diplomat enabled him to use the strength of foreign countries to bring about Italian unification. He successfully employed the force of Italian patriotism which Mazzini had created. By taking advantage of the aggressive ambitions of King Victor Emmanuel II, Cavour was able to exploit the balance of power in Europe and create a Kingdom of Italy. Giuseppe Garibaldi also made an important contribution, astonishing everyone with his successful conquest of Naples and Sicily.

Interpretation B

Extract from J. Gooch, *The Unification of Italy*, published in 1986.

The Great Powers played a crucial role in the unification of Italy. After 1815 the Italian states were dominated by Austria and the revolutions in Turin and Naples in 1820–1821 were crushed by Austrian intervention. This pattern was repeated during the revolutions in the Italian states in 1848. In fact, the failure of the 1848 revolutions showed that foreign support was vital if Austrian rule was to end. Cavour quickly recognised that the expansion of Piedmont required outside support and argued in September 1852 that Piedmont's destiny depended above all on France. However, although Cavour has received the credit for Italian unification, all his diplomatic skill would have counted for little if it had not been for the favourable international situation. Russia agreed not to intervene in Italy's affairs and Prussia had no sympathy towards Austria, while both Britain and France supported Piedmont. It was the favourable international climate rather than Cavour's policies which brought about Italian unification.

- (a) **Study Source 1.** How useful is Source 1 as evidence for an historian studying the importance of the Schleswig-Holstein affair for the unification of Germany? You must use contextual knowledge in your answer. [20]
- (b) **Study Interpretation A and Interpretation B.** Historians have different views about particular issues. Using both interpretations, and your understanding of the historical context, which of these different interpretations of the reasons for the unification of Italy do you find more convincing? [30]

Option 5: Germany 1919–1945

Answer Question 1(a) or 1(b) and Question 2.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Question 1.

1 Either

- (a) Analyse the impact of the Treaty of Versailles on Weimar Germany in the period 1919–1923. [10]

Or

- (b) Analyse the economic achievements of Nazi Germany in the period 1933–1936. [10]

2 Read Source 1, Interpretation A and Interpretation B and answer the questions which follow:

The Impact of Allied Bombing on the German People 1939–1945

Source 1

Extract from the diary of Ursula von Kardorff, 30 January 1944. Kardorff was a young Prussian noblewoman, based in Berlin, who was unsympathetic to the Nazi regime. She is responding to the allied bombing of Berlin.

I feel renewed energy within me, mixed with defiance. I certainly do not feel defeated or crushed. Is this what the English are trying to achieve with their attacks on the civilian population? If so, they are not succeeding. Everyone is preoccupied with their own worries. Is my block of flats still standing? Where is the best air-raid shelter? The bombs are hitting Nazis and anti-Nazis alike and are binding the nation together. After every air raid, special rations are issued, such as cigarettes, real coffee and meat. 'Give them bread and they will go along with you' – that is what the Nazis think. If the English believe that they are going to undermine our morale, they are greatly mistaken.

The Creation of the Nazi Dictatorship 1933–1934

Interpretation A

Extract from J. Noakes and G. Pridham, *Nazism 1919–1945: Volume 1*, published in 1999.

On 27 February 1933, a week before the election, the Reichstag building was set on fire and a young Dutch Communist named van der Lubbe was caught, apparently red-handed, in the building. The fire came very conveniently for the Nazis, who could use it to justify wholesale arrests by claiming that the Communists were plotting revolution. The Nazis exploited their opportunity to the full. The most important single legislative act of the Third Reich, the Decree of the Reich President for the Protection of the People and the State, was passed on 28 February 1933. The Decree saw the suspension of civil rights and provided the legal foundations for the regime of terror and intimidation which was to follow. It enabled the introduction of 'protective custody', used by the Gestapo to imprison people without trial. In the Reichstag election on 5 March 1933 the Nazis won 288 seats, compared to 196 in the election of November 1932.

Interpretation B

Extract from J. Hite and C. Hinton, *Weimar and Nazi Germany*, published in 2000.

Within eighteen months of being appointed Chancellor, Hitler had turned himself into a dictator. He had the power to issue decrees and there was no legal way to replace him. The Night of the Long Knives in June 1934 was the most dramatic and significant event during the establishment of Hitler's supremacy. The main victims were the leaders of the SA. Now that Hitler was in power, he had less need for these potentially rebellious shock troops, with their radical ideas. At the same time, the SS moved on others whom Hitler disliked or feared. Hitler proudly defended his actions to the Reichstag and took full responsibility. The generals were pleased by the weakening of the SA and the promise of increased influence for the army. Some generals proposed that the army take an oath to tie Hitler to the army, but it was the SS, not the army, which made the real gains.

- (a) **Study Source 1.** How useful is Source 1 as evidence for an historian studying the impact of allied bombing on the German people in the period 1939–1945? You must use contextual knowledge in your answer. [20]
- (b) **Study Interpretation A and Interpretation B.** Historians have different views about particular issues. Using both interpretations, and your understanding of the historical context, which of these different interpretations of the significant events in the creation of the Nazi dictatorship in 1933–1934 do you find more convincing? [30]

Sources

Option 1, Interpretation A.....© Tudor Times | The English Wool Trade (Enclosing)

Option 2, Interpretation A.....© Britain 1558–1689, Derrick Murphy, Collins Educational (2002) ISBN: 978-0007138500

Option 2, Interpretation B.....© James 1 by Christopher Durston publisher Routledge (1993) ISBN: 978-0415077798

Option 3, Interpretation A.....© The Anti-Corn Law League fought for free trade — Adam Smith Institute

Option 3, Interpretation B.....© Years of Expansion: British History 1815 –1914, Michael Scott-Baumann, Hodder (2002) ISBN: 9780340790816

Option 4, Interpretation A.....© The Making of Italy 1796–1866, Dennis Mack Smith publisher Palgrave Macmillan (1988) ISBN: 978-0333438084

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Option 5, Source 1.....© Diary of a Nightmare: Berlin 1942-1945, Ursula von Kardorff, publisher Rupert Hart-Davis (1965)

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ISBN: 978-0719573439

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