



# Cambridge Pre-U

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## HISTORY

9769/11

Paper 1a British History Outlines, c.300–c.1399

For examination from 2022

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours 15 minutes



You must answer on the answer booklet/paper.

You will need: Answer booklet/paper

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## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions.
- If you have been given an answer booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.
- Do **not** use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- At the end of the examination, fasten all your work together. Do **not** use staples, paper clips or glue.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- All questions are worth equal marks.

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This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

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**Section 1: c.300–c.690**

- 1 What best explains the difficulties encountered by the rulers of Roman Britain in the fourth century?
- 2 'Buildings and artefacts were the most significant legacy of Roman Britain.' Do you agree?
- 3 Why was England so attractive to Anglo-Saxon settlers in the period c.450–c.600?
- 4 Was Penda a ruler of outstanding ability?
- 5 'St Wilfred was more important than Theodore of Tarsus in the consolidation of Christianity in England after the Synod of Whitby.' Was he?

**Section 2: c.670–978**

- 6 What best explains the cultural achievements of Northumbria in the later-seventh and the eighth centuries?
- 7 'Offa of Mercia was a good soldier but had few other abilities.' Discuss this judgement.
- 8 How significant, in his lifetime, were Alfred's military achievements?
- 9 'Edgar maintained the peace, but his reign was otherwise unremarkable.' Discuss.
- 10 How effective were Church reforms in the tenth century?

**Section 3: 978–1135**

- 11 How effectively was England governed under Ethelred II?
- 12 What best explains Cnut's achievements as ruler of England?
- 13 'All the successes in the reign of Edward the Confessor were due to the Godwins.' Discuss.
- 14 How effectively did William I deal with the opposition he faced in England after 1066?
- 15 'He deserved his reputation as a bad king.' Consider this view of William II.

**Section 4: 1135–1272**

- 16 How far were the shortcomings of both Stephen and Matilda responsible for prolonging the Civil War in England?
- 17 ‘An outstanding soldier but a very poor king.’ Consider this view of Richard I.
- 18 What best explains why King John’s relations with his barons were frequently so bad?
- 19 How effectively was England governed during the minority of Henry III?
- 20 To what extent was the rise of princely power in Wales dependent on the achievements of Llywelyn ap Gruffudd?

**Section 5: 1272–1399**

- 21 How successful was Edward I’s government of England?
- 22 ‘All the advantages lay with the Scots.’ How valid is this view of Anglo-Scottish relations between 1286 and 1357?
- 23 ‘A period of decline in royal power.’ How valid is this view of Edward III’s reign after 1360?
- 24 How far were English successes in the Hundred Years War up to 1360 the result of French weaknesses?
- 25 What best explains why Richard II’s minority was less troubled than his personal rule?

**Section 6: Themes**

- 26** How great an impact did the Danish invasions have on English society in the period c.793–c.980?
- 27** ‘More harmony than discord.’ How accurate is this view of Crown–Church relations in the period 1066–1272?
- 28** ‘Their most significant role was economic.’ Assess this view of the role of women in medieval society up to c.1216.
- 29** ‘A period of great architectural achievement.’ Assess this view of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.
- 30** How serious were the consequences of the Black Death for society and the economy up to c.1399?

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