

**ADVANCED GCE****HISTORY**

Historical Investigations 768–1216

2587

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

- 12 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Wednesday 16 June 2010
Afternoon

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name clearly in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Use black ink.
- Read each question carefully and make sure that you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **90**.
- This paper contains questions on the following two Options:
 - Charlemagne (pages 2–3)
 - King John (pages 4–5)
- Answer on **one** Option only. In that Option, answer the question on the Passages and **one** other question.
- You should write in continuous prose and are reminded of the need for clear and accurate writing, including structure of argument, grammar, punctuation and spelling.
- The time permitted allows for reading the Passages in the one Option you have studied.
- You are advised to spend equal time on the Passages question and the essay you select.
- In answering the Passages question, you are expected to use your knowledge of the topic to help you explain and evaluate the interpretations in the Passages, as well as to inform your answers.
- In answering the essay question, you are expected to refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations to help you develop your arguments.
- This document consists of **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Charlemagne

If answering on this Option, candidates **must** answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

1 Study all the Passages.

Using these **four** Passages **and** your own knowledge, assess the view that the cultural revival under Charlemagne did not constitute a true Renaissance. **[45]**

- A** From: Walafrid Strabo's Prologue to Einhard's *Life of Charlemagne*, written between 808 and 849. Walafrid argues that Charlemagne initiated considerable cultural change.

Of all kings, Charlemagne was the most eager in his search for scholars and in his determination to provide them with living conditions in which they could pursue knowledge in all reasonable comfort. In this way, Charlemagne was able to offer to the cultureless and, I might say, almost completely unenlightened realm which God had entrusted to him, a new enthusiasm for all human knowledge. In its earlier state of barbarousness, his kingdom had been hardly touched by any such zeal, but now it opened its eyes to God's illumination.

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- B** From: H. Fichtenau, *The Carolingian Empire*, published in 1957. This historian argues Charlemagne's scholars were not great intellectuals.

When all is considered, we must conclude that the cultural life of the Franks was far removed from a true Renaissance of classical antiquity. True, Carolingian scholars saved much of the precious inheritance of classical antiquity and transmitted it to later generations. We are certainly justified in considering this to have been among their more important achievements. But such work was not done for its own sake. It was done in the belief that worldly knowledge was a useful servant of theology. This criticism does not detract from the real significance of the court scholars; for their achievement as the preservers and transmitters of a cultural inheritance was quite extraordinary. Today, after more than a millennium, we owe a debt of gratitude to them: and yet it must be admitted that none of these men can be counted amongst the great intellectuals.

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- C** From: J. Boussard, *The Civilization of Charlemagne*, published in 1968. This historian argues that the cultural achievements were based on the work of earlier generations.

The end of the eighth century saw a remarkable advance in all branches of culture which has been described as the Carolingian Renaissance. Sovereigns took an active part in this movement which was inspired and directed by the Church. There was indeed a kind of Renaissance under Charlemagne, for the whole of the seventh century and the first part of the eighth had been a period of almost complete barbarism in the Kingdom of the Franks. Of course, a few scattered centres of culture still existed and remained active. Without them and the tradition they preserved, and without the intellectual developments within them which we can occasionally trace, the Renaissance would have been impossible. The secrets of ancient culture were not discovered afresh; nor were literature and the arts reinvented all at once. A long period of preparation, in one or two monasteries where a few books had been treasured and an extremely small number of men devoted themselves to study, led up to the dazzling achievements of the reign of Charlemagne and his son, Louis the Pious.

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- D** From: P. Riche, *The Carolingians, A Family who forged Europe*, published in 1983. This historian argues that Charlemagne's revival of learning was designed to improve his government.

Charlemagne's interest in schooling had a particular goal. He wanted the clergy to be educated well enough to teach the people. Charlemagne also appreciated the vital importance of literacy for improving the administration of his kingdom. For quite practical reasons, he needed to restore to the written word the role that it had played in the Roman Empire. The counts and the *missi dominici* had to be educated, or at least have men with them who could read the orders dispatched by the king and draft replies. Writing became an instrument of government. The programme outlined in the *Admonitio Generalis* (General Exhortation) of 789 was scarcely original; it merely restated the traditional programmes of studies taught in church schools since the sixth century. What was important was the aim to set up schools in every monastery and bishopric so instruction should be given to boys in reading, writing, singing, arithmetic and grammar. Later, Charlemagne even encouraged the bishops to establish rural schools in villages and hamlets, again following an idea of the sixth century.

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Answer **either**

- 2** Assess the extent to which Charlemagne's wars of conquest exhausted or benefited his Empire. [45]

or

- 3** Assess the view that Charlemagne was surprised to receive the Imperial Coronation at Christmas 800. [45]

Candidates are reminded they must refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations in developing the argument in their essay.

King John

If answering on this Option, candidates **must** answer **Question 4** and **one** other question.

4 Study all the Passages.

Using these **four** Passages **and** your own knowledge, assess the view that King John failed to regain his continental lands in the period 1204–1214 due to the lack of support from the English barons. **[45]**

- A** From: Ralph of Coggeshall, *The Chronicle of England*, written in the early 1200s. This historian argues that John's advisors prevented him from regaining his lands.

After Easter 1205 King John set out with a great and noble army to the coast at Portsmouth, having first denuded many ports of a good number of ships. But, Lord Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury and Earl William Marshal advised him against any crossing whatsoever. They argued that John had no safe haven on the continent and that the king of France could lead a much greater army against him. They further suggested that it was not safe to commit himself to the fickleness and deceit of the Poitevins who were always in the habit of devising a trap for their rulers. Still John wished to proceed, but Lord Hubert and Earl William threw themselves on their knees, asserting that they would assuredly restrain him by force if he did not agree with them. The king, unwillingly, agreed and ordered the greater part of his army to return to their homes, and they cursed the archbishop and other counsellors who had given him such poor advice. As for the king, he set out in great sadness to Winchester.

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- B** From: S. Painter, *The Reign of King John*, published in 1949. This historian suggests conspiracies against John kept him in England.

There is substantial reason for believing that a conspiracy against John was taking place in the north of England in 1209. There is a letter from the French king to one of the discontented barons of northern England whom he addresses as his 'beloved John de Lacy', who had already sent word by letter to the French king that he, his friends and allies, planned to make war against King John both in England and Ireland. These letters make de Lacy's intentions perfectly clear. Only one hypothesis seems to explain them. John de Lacy had some reason for thinking that King Philip Augustus planned to invade England. However, the awe inspired by King John's expedition against Scotland in the summer of 1209, and the humiliating peace accepted by the king of Scotland, seem to have convinced the conspirators that the time for action against John had not yet come.

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- C** From: J.C. Holt, *The Northerners*, published in 1961. This historian considers that John tried hard to finance his campaign in 1214.

Whatever else was ill-conceived in the Poitevin campaign of 1214, it certainly did not lack financial resources. John had learned his lesson; so well, indeed, as to provoke rebellion by the way in which he treated his realm in accumulating the treasure that he needed for war. After 1204 John devoted all his energies to the government and exploitation of his realm. But, when the king sailed to Poitou, some of the northern barons resisted his demands for scutage. John wrote home from Poitou asking all those who were not involved in government to come to his aid and promising that any rancour he had towards them would be put aside. 25
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- D** From: W.L. Warren, *King John*, published in 1981. This historian believes that John was a victim of economic pressures.

It was John's misfortune to reign in a period of monetary inflation. It shrank his real income at the very time that he badly needed every silver penny he could lay his hands on for the war with King Philip. There was more silver available, trade was flourishing and the standard of living was rising; but the productivity of the land was increasing only slowly, so the prices of agricultural produce went up, and labour was dear. John had to pay twenty-four pence a day to hire one mercenary, for whom his father, Henry II (who died in 1189) would have paid just eight pence. The greater expense of waging war at the start of the thirteenth century posed a severe financial problem for John. 35
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Answer **either**

- 5** Assess the view that Innocent III was to blame for the protracted quarrel with King John. [45]

or

- 6** To what extent were the barons satisfied with Magna Carta? [45]

Candidates are reminded they must refer to and evaluate relevant interpretations in developing the argument in their essay.

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