

AS HISTORY

Royal Authority and the Angevin Kings, 1154–1216

Component 2A The Reign of Henry II, 1154–1189

Wednesday 25 May 2016 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2A.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From William of Newburgh's 'History of England', written in the 1190s from his northern priory, where he was permanently based.

In his exalted position in the state, Henry II was most diligent in defending and promoting the peace of the realm, in wielding the sword for the punishment of evildoers and the maintenance of peace and quiet for honest men. He was a true servant of God. He was the champion and defender of ecclesiastical interests and liberties. He never laid any grievous burden on his realm. He never taxed churches or monasteries. He avoided bloodshed and the sacrifice of men's lives and strove diligently to keep the peace, wherever possible by gifts of money, but with armed force if he could not secure it otherwise.

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Source B

From Gerald of Wales's 'Instruction of a Prince', written in the 1190s. Gerald had been a court chaplain but had fallen out with Henry over the bishopric of St Davids.

Henry II vigorously extended his dominions overseas in northern France and Aquitaine. Moreover, he aspired to extend his rule, not only to France, but even to the Holy Roman Empire, but he could not obtain effective control there. Doubtless it came to pass by the just vengeance of God that he deserved to be punished for his grave excesses and irregularities. From the beginning even unto the end he was an oppressor of the nobility, weighing justice and injustice, right and wrong, selling and delaying justice, devious and cunning in speech, a ready breaker of his word. He was an open adulterer, ungrateful and impious towards God and a hammer of the Church.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining attitudes towards Henry II?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'Henry II successfully asserted royal control over the English Church after Thomas Becket's death.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'Henry II's actions to restore royal authority in England in the years 1155 to 1166 were primarily caused by a desire for money.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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