

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR PART I OF THE HISTORICAL TRIPOS

Tuesday 21 April 2015

9 to 12

Paper 4

BRITISH POLITICAL HISTORY, 1485–1714

*Answer **three** questions, at least **one** from each Section.**Write your **number** (**not your name**) on the cover-sheet of each answer booklet.***STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS***20 Page Answer Book x 1**Rough Work Pad*

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

SECTION A

- 1 How innovatory a ruler was Henry VII?
- 2 How important were continental models in influencing the nature of Henry VIII's kingship?
- 3 Have historians exaggerated Henry VIII's contribution to the Reformation of the English Church during his reign?
- 4 'Edward VI and Mary I were unsuccessful only because they died prematurely.' Discuss.
- 5 How effectively did Elizabeth I deal with the problems raised by the war with Spain?
- 6 How serious were the divisions within the Elizabethan Church of England?
- 7 'We assume to ourself the name and style of King of Great Britain' [JAMES VI AND I, 1604]. How well did James live up to this title?
- 8 How 'factional' was the early Stuart Court?
- 9 Have historians underestimated the popularity of Laudianism?
- 10 Why did radical sects emerge during the 1640s and 1650s?
- 11 'A tyrant and a bigot.' Discuss this view of Oliver Cromwell.
- 12 **Either** (a) To what extent did the Restoration Settlement of 1660-2 achieve its aims?

Or (b) What was at stake in the Exclusion Crisis?
- 13 'James VII and II was the architect of his own downfall.' Discuss.
- 14 Why was there a Union between England and Scotland in 1707?
- 15 Was religion the greatest single cause of conflict between Whigs and Tories in the period 1689-1714?

SECTION B

16 Why did the Reformation fail in Ireland?

17 **Either** (a) How far was the Scottish Reformation a process rather than a moment?

Or (b) Did seventeenth-century Scotland reveal the strengths or the weaknesses of absentee monarchy?

18 **Either** (a) ‘Try as they might, “British historians” are trapped in a teleological and colonialist enterprise.’ Discuss.

Or (b) Were the Wars of the Three Kingdoms one single conflict or several inter-related conflicts?

19 ‘The burdens of local office-holding were too considerable for any easy assumptions to be made about self-serving oligarchies.’ Discuss.

20 How significant was **either** architecture **or** poetry in projecting concepts of monarchy? Answer with reference to **either** the Tudor period **or** the Stuart period **or** both.

21 What light does the study of rebellions throw on the nature of political ideas during **either** the Tudor period **or** the Stuart period **or** both?

22 What impact did the press make on early modern political culture?

23 When and why did English foreign policy come to be directed primarily against France rather than primarily against Spain?

24 In what ways has the growth of ‘Atlantic history’ altered our understanding of British expansion in the New World?

END OF PAPER