

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR PART I OF THE HISTORICAL TRIPOS**

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Tuesday 21 April 2015

9 to 12

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Paper 3

BRITISH POLITICAL HISTORY, 1050–1509

*Answer **three** questions.**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**

- 1 How English was William the Conqueror's kingship?
- 2 How far is the term 'empire' a useful one when describing Norman rule from 1066 to 1154?
- 3 To what extent was the loss of Normandy crucial to Stephen's failure to secure England for his dynasty?
- 4 **Either** (a) Discuss the role of the sheriff in local governance. Answer with reference to a period of **a hundred years or more**.  
  
Or (b) 'Magnates were more interested in their own power locally than in upholding the king's peace.' Discuss with reference to a period of **a hundred years or more**.
- 5 What factors worked against the emergence of a unified Welsh monarchy in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries?
- 6 'The greatest threat to the liberties of the English church came not from the king or the pope singly but when the two were in alliance.' Discuss with reference to a period of **a hundred years or more**.
- 7 'The British Isles were never as important to Henry II as his French possessions.' Discuss.
- 8 Why was the 1225 version of Magna Carta acceptable to Henry III when the 1215 version had not been to John?
- 9 **Either** (a) Why were the Provisions of Oxford so radical?  
  
Or (b) How far was Edward I's kingship affected by the reign of his father?
- 10 How representative of the English nobility in the thirteenth century was the career of Simon de Montfort?
- 11 'It was the alienation of Queen Isabella more than anything else which doomed Edward II's kingship.' Discuss.
- 12 **Either** (a) How successful were the kings of Scots in unifying Scotland in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries?  
  
Or (b) 'Robert I's success was due as much to good luck as good judgement.' Discuss.
- 13 How innovative was the rule of Edward III?
- 14 Why was the king's youth a matter of recurring importance during the reign of Richard II?

**15** 'Motherhood gave queens political power but this power was frequently politically destabilising.' Discuss with reference to **two or more** queens.

**16** 'Good kingship was parliamentary kingship.' Discuss with reference to a period of **a hundred years or more** after 1200.

**17** **Either** (a) How serious a threat to English control over Wales was Owain Glyndwr's rebellion?

**Or** (b) 'Henry V's kingship focused around his claim to be king of France.' Discuss.

**18** Why did **either** Ireland **or** Scotland **or** both remain immune to English conquest in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries?

**19** How consistent were English aims in the Hundred Years' War?

**20** 'It was the ambition of Richard, duke of York, that destroyed Henry VI's rule.' Discuss.

**21** 'The events of 1483 undermine claims that Edward IV's second reign was a success.' Discuss.

**22** What, if anything, was medieval about Henry VII's reign?

**23** Discuss the effects of royal favourites in **two or more** reigns.

**END OF PAPER**