

GCSE (9–1) History A (Explaining the Modern World)

J410/12 The English Reformation c.1520–c.1550 with Castles: Form and Function c.1000–1750

Sample Question Paper

Version 2.2

Date – Morning/Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes



OCR supplied materials:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

Other materials required:

- None



INSTRUCTIONS

- Section A – The English Reformation c.1520–c.1550. Answer **all** the questions.
- Section B – Castles: Form and Function c.1000–1750. Answer **all** the questions.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **55**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar and the use of specialist terminology (SPaG) will be assessed in questions marked with a pencil (✎).
- This document consists of **4** pages.

Section A

The English Reformation c.1520–c.1550

Answer **all** the questions

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

1. Explain why the church was wealthy in the early 1530s.

[10]

2. Study Sources A–C.

‘The Dissolution of the monasteries was a popular measure.’ How far do Sources A–C convince you that this statement is correct? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer.

[20]

() Spelling, punctuation and grammar and the use of specialist terminology [5]

Source A

Lichfield: “two of the nuns were with child”

Whitby: “Abbot Hexham took a share of the proceeds from piracy”

Bradley: “the prior has six children”

Abbotsbury: “abbot wrongfully selling timber”

Pershore: “monks drunk at mass”

From a report on monastic houses published in 1535. The report was commissioned by King Henry VIII and supervised by the king’s chief minister Thomas Cromwell

Source B

So much sin and disgusting living is seen daily in the small abbeys, priories, and other religious houses of monks, canons and nuns. This is upsetting to Almighty God and the king. Therefore these small houses will be utterly suppressed. The monks and nuns in them will be moved to the great and honourable monasteries in this realm, where they may be required to improve their lives. The possessions of these houses shall be put to better uses. They will be given to the king and his heirs to honour God and for the good of the realm.

From the Act to Suppress the Lesser Houses (the smaller monasteries and convents), 1535.

Source C

The closing of the monasteries means that religious services will not be carried out, and the poor will not be looked after. The monasteries are much loved by the people.

From a letter by Robert Aske, one of the leaders of the Pilgrimage of Grace, 1536.

Section B

Castles: Form and Function c.1000–1750

Answer **all** the questions
You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

3.

Explain why Conwy Castle fell into disrepair in the period 1400–1600

[10]
4.

Study Sources D and E. Which of these sources is more useful to a historian studying the first hundred years of Conwy Castle (from the 1280s to the 1380s)?

[10]

Source D



An aerial photograph of the remains of Conwy Castle in North Wales.

Source E

March 1283 to November 1284	£5819
December 1284 to December 1292	£7870
February 1296 to February 1301	£500
December 1304 to December 1330	£88

*Extracts from accounts showing spending on Conwy Castle in the period 1283-1330.
[From History of the King's Works by HM Colvin]*

Summary of updates

Date	Version	Details
August 2021	2.2	Updated copyright acknowledgements.

Copyright Information:

Source A: Extract from a report on monastic houses, 1535, accessed via Spartacus Educational, www.spartacus-educational.com, March 2015.

Source B: The Last Office: 1539 and the Dissolution of a Monastery, G. Moorhouse, The Orion Publishing Group, London, p. 128-129, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, London, 2011. Reproduced with permission.

Source C: From a letter by Robert Aske, one of the leaders of the Pilgrimage of Grace, 1536.

Source D: © Jonathan C.K.Webb, www.webbaviation.co.uk

Source E: From H. M. Colvin (General Editor), R. Allen Brown and A. J. Taylor. The History of The King's Works Vol 2, (Appendix C p1027). Published by HMSO, 1963. Reproduced under Crown Copyright

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