

HISTORY – THE BRITISH ISLES

Time allowed: 1.5 hours (90 minutes)

Answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B

SECTION A

1. Are 'the past' and 'history' two different things?
2. Can a biased source still be a useful primary source for historians to use in their research?
3. In what ways can historians today collect sources and write histories for historically underrepresented actors?
4. In what ways do the histories of British colonies contribute to our understanding of the present-day British society?
5. What do you understand by the term 'global history'?
6. What is the meaning of the 'silence' or absence in an archive?
7. What is the role of 'nature' in history?
8. Will social media change how historians of the future research the past?

SECTION B

Early and Medieval Periods

9. Describe and explain the changing pattern of population in medieval England.
10. How did kings in medieval England maintain their power?

11. To what extent was 1066 a turning point in British history?
12. What was the most significant impact of William the Conqueror's victory at Hastings in 1066?
13. What defines crisis in medieval England?
14. What impact did the loss of Normandy in 1204 have on King John's ability to rule?
15. Why did Edward I succeed in conquering Wales?
16. Why was Edward II deposed?
17. To what extent does Edward III deserve to be called the 'perfect king'?
18. What do you consider to be the main impacts of the Black Death?
19. What were the main causes of the Glyndŵr rebellion?

Early Modern Period

20. Was the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 a significant milestone in the history of the kingdom of England?
21. Was the formal union between England and Wales in 1536 merely the last stage of the conquest of 1282?
22. Which is the most accurate description of Thomas Cromwell: a great innovator or a loyal servant obeying the orders of Henry VIII?
23. To what extent was English Protestantism a genuinely popular religious movement?
24. To what extent was Wales a Protestant country by 1603?
25. To what extent was support for King and Parliament by the 1640s decided by geographical location?
26. Why did Parliament win the civil war?
27. Would you agree that the Commonwealth period had a greater impact in Wales than the civil wars in the seventeenth century?

Modern Period

28. Why was the campaign for the abolition of the slave trade in Britain ultimately successful?
29. Did the role of the state in people's everyday lives increase during the Victorian period?
30. How harsh was the New Poor Law after 1834?
31. How varied was the first wave of British feminism (c.1860 to 1918) and to what extent did it extend beyond suffrage alone?
32. How was the British industrial revolution facilitated by colonial policies relative to other parts of the world?
33. What accounts for the rise in popularity of the Labour Party in Wales up to the period before 1914?
34. Why were women in Britain (partially) enfranchised in 1918?
35. Would you agree that historians of interwar Britain have more reason to be optimistic than pessimistic in their interpretations of that period?
36. Account for the Labour landslide in the 1945 General Election.
37. Was the creation of the NHS in 1948 a significant break with the past or a continuation of historical forms of health-care provision?
38. How do you explain the 'emergence of the teenager' in 1950s Britain?
39. To what extent did Wales share in the broader experience of the rise of youth culture and the development of a permissive society in the 1960s?
40. What was 'Thatcherism' and how successful was it?