A-level
HISTORY

Component 2B The Wars of the Roses, 1450–1499

Friday 7 June 2024 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 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 7042/2B.
- Answer **three** questions.
  In **Section A** answer Question 01.
  In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- 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:
  – 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
  – 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a declaration made in the parliamentary session of October to November 1460. This was recorded in the Parliamentary Roll, the official record of the English Parliament.

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Source A is from a declaration recorded in the parliamentary rolls. The source puts an emphasis on the illegality of the actions of the Lancastrians, with words such as 'disobedience' and 'rebellion'.

Source B

From a letter to a churchman accompanying Queen Margaret, by Francesco Coppini, the papal legate, 9 January 1461. Coppini wrote from London. Coppini had supported the Yorkists since 1460.

The lords with the Queen must not be arrogant because of the unimportant victory they won recently. We have seen and know that all the people are incensed and in the worst possible mood against those who do not desire peace. There are two reasons for this: firstly, the countless acts of cruelty attributed to those lords with the Queen, whereas these lords in London were not cruel, but welcoming. Secondly, whatever else the lords with the Queen claim, the people recognise that the King and the lords currently with him and us, are disposed to an honest and honourable peace. King Henry is not constrained against his free will, as some perverse persons falsely declare, but enjoys his full liberty. Access to him is open to all. This was not the case formerly. Accordingly, the lords with the Queen are to obey the King and believe us, who are labouring for peace and justice. Otherwise, we fear their ruin and destruction.

Source C

From the 'Crowland Chronicle: First Continuation', written by a well-educated but unnamed senior monk of Crowland Abbey in Lincolnshire before 1470.

Richard of York was removed from this world at Wakefield. The northern men, aware that there was no one now who would resist them, swept onwards like a whirlwind from the north. In the impulse of their fury, they attempted to overrun the whole of England. Besides the vast amounts of property they collected, they also irreverently rushed, in their frantic rage, into churches, and wickedly plundered them. When priests sought to resist, the wretches cruelly slaughtered them in the churches. Thus, they spread out in vast crowds over a region of 30 miles without being challenged. They covered the whole surface of the earth like locusts, and made their way almost to the walls of London. Word came to us at Crowland that this abominable army had approached to within six miles of our boundaries. Fortunately, after adjoining counties had been given up to dreadful pillage, our abbey, by Divine Grace, was preserved. Therefore the Lord of Mercy raised up a defender, Edward, the illustrious Earl of March.

0 1 With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the position of the Lancastrians after the Battle of Northampton in 1460 and before Towton in 1461.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 To what extent did Richard of York's political position weaken in the years 1453 to 1457?

[25 marks]

0 3 'The widespread belief that Richard III had murdered the Princes in the Tower was the main reason why he lost the throne in 1485.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4 To what extent did Henry VII seek to reduce the influence of the nobility in the regions in the years 1486 to 1499?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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