



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 26 May 2022 – Morning

A Level History A

Y303/01 English Government and the Church 1066–1216

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes



You must have:

- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer the question in Section A and **any two** questions in Section B.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

SECTION A

Read the two passages and then answer Question 1.

- 1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages and explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of local justice and government in the reign of Henry I. [30]

Passage A

Over the thirty-five years of Henry I's reign, royal justice came to replace violent self-help in the settlement of disputes. Henry's itinerant justices, by the late 1120s, were attending to royal judicial business in almost all of the shires of England. This was remarkable centralisation and organisation. An unprecedented expansion of the royal administration marked the reign of Henry I. One is struck by the great proliferation of justices of all kinds under Henry I. By the late 1120s the shire justiciars had evolved into justices with larger responsibilities – all dispensing the king's profitable justice. There was considerable royal involvement of Henry I in the administration of justice. Such assertive royal action produced no known outcry. In the history of the development of the English Common Law, these innovations from the first third of the twelfth century reveal an advance toward coherent, centralised government. In addition to using judges as a means of maintaining peace and order, Henry also used his sheriffs. The office of sheriff, like justiciarships, underwent transformation as the king and his court tightened control. Henry appointed fewer magnates as sheriffs, choosing instead more humble men. The king constantly shuffled sheriffs in and out of shires. Some were also itinerant justices. The sheriffs remained to the end under the strictest royal control. The responsibilities of the sheriffs and local justices, who were at the most basic level of administration, passed more and more under the expert supervision of men from the royal court.

Adapted from: C. Warren Hollister, Henry I, published in 2001.

Passage B

In addition to honorial and manorial courts, most men were also subject to the jurisdiction of the shire and the hundred courts. Here a royal official or his deputy was in charge. The supervision of the judicial work of the shire and hundred was a major part but only a part of the sheriff's duties. He was both the focus of royal justice in the shire and the means by which royal authority was imposed there. For most men government must have seemed almost entirely a matter of local government. Shire courts, hundred courts and manor courts – these were the authorities that controlled their lives. For most men an awareness of the king's government at work would chiefly come when the king required all men to be taxed. Beyond this, royal government was likely to be a living force in the shires only when the king intervened to right a wrong. There can be little doubt that the early Norman sheriff was too powerful but under Henry I sensible moves were made to counter this. Justices were appointed in the counties and as 'justices of all England'. Most important of all, a new institution was devised – the exchequer. In the creation of the exchequer and the itinerant justices is to be seen the first sign of the development of links between the king and the countryside. Sheriffs feared the king's anger, but many grievances were not dealt with. Royal government was still an occasional force in the shires.

Adapted from: W. L. Warren, Henry II, published in 1973.

SECTION B

Answer **TWO** of the following three questions.

- 2*** 'The main reason for rebellion in the period from 1066 to 1216 was baronial self-interest.' How far do you agree? **[25]**
- 3*** 'Characterised by disagreement.' How far do you agree with this view of the relations between the archbishops of Canterbury and York in the period from 1066 to 1216? **[25]**
- 4*** Assess the view that the archbishops of Canterbury enjoyed better relations with the papacy than with the crown in the period from 1066 to 1216. **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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