



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/02A

Paper 2A European History Outlines, c. 300–c. 1500

For Examination from 2016

SPECIMEN MARK SCHEME

2 hours 15 minutes

MAXIMUM MARK: 90

The syllabus is approved for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document consists of **31** printed pages and **1** blank page.

These banding definitions address Assessment Objectives (AOs) 1, 2 and 4, and should be used in conjunction with the indicative content mark schemes for each question. Information about AOs can be found in the 2016–18 Cambridge Pre-U History syllabus.

Introduction

- (a) The banding definitions which follow reflect, and should be interpreted within the context of, the following general statement:

Examiners will give their highest marks to candidates who show a ready understanding of the relevant material and a disciplined management of the discussion the question provokes. They will be impressed more by critical judgement, careful discrimination and imaginative handling than by a weight of facts. Credit will be given for evidence of a good historical intelligence and for good use of material rather than for a stereotyped rehearsal of memorised information.

- (b) Examiners will use these banding definitions in combination with the paper-specific mark schemes.
- (c) It goes without saying that any explanation or judgement is strengthened if informed by the use of source material.
- (d) Examiners will also bear in mind that analysis sufficient for a mark in the highest band may perfectly legitimately be deployed within a chronological framework. Candidates who eschew an explicitly analytical response may yet be able, by virtue of the very intelligence and pointedness of their selection of elements for a well-sustained and well-grounded account, to provide sufficient implicit analysis to justify a Band 4 mark.
- (e) The Band in which an essay is placed depends on a range of criteria. As a result, not all essays fall obviously into one particular Band. In such cases a 'best-fit' approach will be adopted with any doubt erring on the side of generosity.
- (f) In marking an essay, examiners will first place it in a Band and then fine-tune the mark in terms of how strongly/weakly the demands of the Band have been demonstrated.

Band 5: 25–30 marks

The answer will be sharply analytical in approach and strongly argued. It will show that the demands of the question have been fully understood and that a conscious and sustained attempt has been made to respond to them in appropriate range and depth. It will be coherent and structured with a clear sense of direction. The focus will be sharp and persistent. Some lack of balance, in that certain aspects are covered less fully or certain arguments deployed less strongly than others, need not preclude a mark in this Band. The material will be wide-ranging and handled with the utmost confidence and a high degree of maturity. Historical explanations will be invariably clear, sharp and well developed and historical concepts fully understood. Where appropriate there will be conscious and successful attempts to engage with the historiography, to evaluate source material critically and to demonstrate an awareness of competing interpretations.

Band 4: 19–24 marks

The answer will be characterised by an analytical and argued approach, although there may be the occasional passage which does not go beyond description or narrative. It will show that the demands of the question have been very well understood and that a determined attempt has been made to respond to them in appropriate range and depth. The essay will be coherent and clearly structured and its judgements will be effectively supported by accurate and relevant material. Some lack of rigour in the argument and occasional blurred focus may be allowed. Where appropriate there will be a conscious and largely successful attempt to engage with the historiography, to evaluate source material and to demonstrate an awareness of competing interpretations. The material will be wide-ranging, fully understood, confidently deployed and well controlled with high standards of accuracy. Historical explanations will be clear and well developed and there will be a sound understanding of historical concepts and vocabulary.

Band 3: 13–18 marks

The answer will attempt an analytical approach, although there will be passages which do not go beyond description or narrative. It will show that the demands of the question have been understood, at least in large part, and that a conscious attempt has been made to respond to them. There will be an effective focus on the terms of the question and, although in places this may break down, standards of relevance will be generally high. Although it may not be sustained throughout the answer, or always fully supported, there will be a recognisable sense of argument. The material will be clearly understood, with a good range, and organisation will be sound. There will be a conscious attempt to draw conclusions and form judgements and these will be adequately supported. Some understanding of differing and competing interpretations is to be expected and some evaluation of sources may be attempted but probably not in a very sophisticated form. Historical explanations and the use of historical concepts and vocabulary will be generally sound but some lack of understanding is to be expected.

Band 2: 7–12 marks

The answer may contain some analysis but descriptive or narrative material will predominate. The essay will show that the demands of the question have been understood, at least in good part, and that some attempt has been made to respond to them. It will be generally coherent with a fair sense of organisation. Focus on the exact terms of the question is likely to be uneven and there will be a measure of irrelevance. There will be some inaccuracies in knowledge, and the range may be limited with some gaps. Understanding of the material will be generally sound, although there will be some lack of tautness and precision. Explanations will be generally clear although not always convincing or well developed. Some attempt at argument is to be expected but it will lack sufficient support in places and sense of direction may not always be clear. There may be some awareness of differing interpretations and some attempt at evaluating source material but this is not generally to be expected at this level and such skills, where deployed, will be unsophisticated.

Band 1: 1–6 marks

The answers will respond in some measure to the demands of the question but will be very limited in meeting these. Analysis, if it appears at all, will be brief and undeveloped. If an argument is attempted it will be lacking in real coherence, sense of direction, support and rigour. Focus on the exact terms of the question is likely to be very uneven; the answer is likely to include unsupported generalisations, and there will be some vagueness and irrelevance. Historical knowledge, concepts and vocabulary will be insufficiently understood and there will be inaccuracies. Explanations may be attempted but will be halting and unclear. Where judgements are made they will be largely unsubstantiated and investigation of historical problems will be very elementary. Awareness of differing interpretations and the evaluation of sources are not to be expected. The answer may be fragmentary, slight and even unfinished.

Band 0: 0 marks

No evidence submitted or response does not address the question.

Section 1: c. 300–c. 632**1 To what extent did the Roman Empire revive under Constantine?**

AO1 – Candidates may refer to the reunification of the Empire, reforms in administration and government, the conversion of the Emperor to Christianity and the founding of Constantinople.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Constantine's conversion, along with the moving of the capital of the Empire, signified a revival. Persecution of Christians could be viewed as having sapped the strength of the Empire and the building of Constantinople echoed the great projects of earlier Emperors. Constantine harnessed the cohesion of Christianity and was fully credited by writers such as Eusebius. His administration benefited from more settled conditions and trade could flourish especially in the eastern Mediterranean. He ended the debasement with a new gold coin, the solidus. Reforms introduced earlier began to work their way through to being effective. Alternatively, it could be argued that the establishment of Constantinople weakened the unity of the Empire in the long run, while the top-heavy and corrupt bureaucracy remained powerful. Fierce taxation was necessary to maintain the government. The army had become more and more composed of semi-barbarians as Roman citizens became more peaceful in their outlook and this was a bad omen for the future. On balance, a considerable revival could well be the conclusion.

2 Assess the importance of economic factors in the collapse of Roman power in the West in the fifth century.

AO1 – Candidates should analyse and evaluate a range of economic factors against other factors. Some brief contrasts to the Empire in the East would be acceptable, either to show common issues and yet the latter's survival or else to show particular Western issues. Economic factors can include: the extent of population shifts, pressures, problems over food supplies; the fall in economic productivity; the decline in the profits from wars; a drift from towns and urban stagnation; taxation levels; attendant social changes, including attitudinal amongst the elites' broad economic decline. Structural problems – governmental, economic, fiscal, perhaps social – could also be included as evidence. Then there are factors such as the emperor's personal qualities, fluctuations in religious policy, the appointment of barbarian generals and a failure to control them, a diminishing control over the army and the civil service, divisions within the Empire, tensions of East and West, military and political weaknesses, the failure to defend the frontiers, the admission and settlement of barbarian tribes.

AO2 – There has been and there remains much debate: for example, over socio-economic factors, over internal as against external factors, over manpower shortages, over religious factors. Other factors offered as evidence range from moral decline and turpitude to the nature of the water supply in major towns and cities. At core, political, military and economic issues were paramount, however, and these are likely to be prominent here. Recent works have also argued for very slow changes and for a return to political-military predominance, linked to further reappraisals of both the late Roman economy and of the position and role of the barbarian groups. There will need to be sense of cross-evaluation of factors, setting economic against several others.

3 How far did doctrinal disputes weaken the fifth-century Church?

AO1 – Candidates could refer to doctrinal disputes such as over the Nestorians, who believed in two natures and two persons in Christ, the Monophysites who believed in one nature in one person and the Council of Chalcedon which favoured two natures in one person. These disputes even extended to the monks in the African desert. The Pelagian challenge to original sin and predestination was another dispute and the fall of Rome led pagans to claim that Christianisation was to blame. There was also discord over the primacy of Rome over Constantinople and Alexandria.

AO2 – Candidates are likely to argue that the Church survived. The Council of Chalcedon settled the issue over the nature of Christ. The growth of monasticism showed the appeal of the message that salvation came from abandoning possessions and human ties. St Anthony was the main proponent of this belief. The Pelagians were bludgeoned by the work of St Augustine and his *De Civitate Dei* outlined the role of the Church in the world, which Pope Gelasius further defined. St Jerome's Latin version of the Bible was a valuable resource. It could be said that such civilisation as survived the Dark Ages did so because of the Church. Alternatively, it could be argued that the heresies lingered, notably the Monophysite heresy in Syria and Egypt, where rival bishops even had their opponents murdered. Acrimonious conflict between Rome and Constantinople continued. The monks were often difficult to control and the pillar saints were mostly keen Monophysites.

4 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Visigoths in Gaul.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the nature of the rule of the kings, the individual achievements of some of them and the role of the Gallo-Romans

AO2 – Candidates are likely to argue that the Visigoth strengths include the conquests of King Euric and his intention to establish a great Empire in the West as well as his law code, written in Latin, which showed a sign of a growing civilisation among the Visigoths. He had control of the church and a government system based on the *dux* and the *comes*. The weaknesses of the Visigoths can be seen as outweighing the strengths in that they never assimilated with the Gallo-Roman inhabitants and took both land and taxes from them. They were Arians and hostile to Catholicism. When Alaric II succeeded his father he was ineffectual against Clovis, who was welcomed by the Catholics. Alaric's concessions to Catholics came too late, even if his law code for the Gallo-Romans had some merits.

5 How far were Justinian's problems of his own making?

AO1 – Candidates may discuss the problems which Justinian faced, from the Nika riots to the expansion and defence of his empire. Religious and administrative problems could also be considered.

AO2 – Candidates are likely to conclude that Justinian's aims and character were responsible for many of his problems. His invasion of Italy might be seen as the root cause leading to financial and military pressures. His religious persecution stemmed from his own beliefs. His autocratic rule similarly emanated from his view of his role. Alternatively, it could be argued that the Nika riots resulted very much from the circumstances in Constantinople and the success of Justinian's invasion of Africa may have led him to think that other campaigns would go equally well. The size of his empire made it difficult to govern and control. Some of his ministers and generals were not very effective.

Section 2: c. 632–c. 919**6 How great a contribution did Pepin III make to the increasing power of the Carolingians?**

AO1 – Candidates may refer to the military achievements of Pepin, his recognition as king and his assistance to the pope.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Pepin made a real contribution. He consolidated the conquests of his father, Charles Martel, intervening in Bavaria and other parts of Germany to ensure their rulers were allies. The Franks were well organised for war and the annual Marchfield assembly could authorise campaigns. In 751 Pepin felt strong enough to dispense with the weak Merovingians and make himself king with papal backing. In the latter years of his reign he assisted the pope against the Lombard king twice and was active against the Saxons and in Aquitaine. Alternatively, candidates could suggest that Pepin's early years were much less successful and Aquitaine, in particular, broke free on the death of Charles Martel and was only subdued much later and at some cost. For a period Pepin let Aquitaine alone, tacitly recognising its independence. It could be argued that the Frankish Annals, which began in the late 780s or early 790s, give greater credit to Pepin than he merited. But candidates are likely to conclude that Pepin made possible the achievements of Charlemagne.

7 'Charlemagne's chief motivation was religious.' Discuss.

AO1 – Candidates should refer to Charlemagne's motives for his military conquests, for his administrative reforms, for his patronage of scholarship and learning and for his acceptance of the title of Emperor.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Charlemagne was personally religiously minded and so was motivated by his beliefs. He enforced conversion on the Saxons, he went to the aid of the Pope against the Lombards and he fought the Arabs in Spain. His main motive in promoting educational reform and encouraging foreign scholars such as Alcuin was to improve the quality of his clergy and thus make worship more worthy of its object. The Capitularies express his motives clearly. He linked the moral health of his church with the material prosperity of his empire. From 800, after his coronation by the Pope, his views and policies were even more religiously slanted, perhaps in a conscious attempt at a Holy Empire. The alternative argument could focus on his desire for conquest in itself and the need for regular access to booty to keep the Carolingian nobility contented. The Saxons were recurrent opponents and Charlemagne wanted to defeat them as much as to convert them. His attitude to the Arabs was similar. His administration aimed at keeping the loyalty of his subjects and the drawing up of law codes had a good impact in the sphere of law and order. There is also debate about how Charlemagne really saw his coronation and how far his policies changed as a result. Candidates may conclude that, while religion mattered to Charlemagne, he was not blind to the possibility of material as well as spiritual gain.

8 Assess the social and cultural impact of Muslim rule in Spain from 756 to 961.

AO1 – The boundary dates are the start of the Umayyad dynasty in Spain under Abd-al Rahman I and the death of Abd-al Rahman III. Social and cultural impact could include: the effects of Muslim rule on the Christian society of al-Andalus; the extent and nature of religious conversion and cultural assimilation (language, dress, social relationships, intermarriage); and the impact of Islamic culture and the development of Andalusian culture, independent of the Abbasid Caliphate in Baghdad. Literature, philosophy, science, music and architecture might be discussed. There could also be some reference to the economic impact of Islamic rule, especially its effects on agriculture and trade, and the development of urban life, and of Cordoba in particular. The extent of cultural and social interaction between Muslims, Christians and Jews or ‘convivencia’, might be explored.

AO2 – ‘Assess the impact’ invites consideration of the extent of impact, and this could well include a discussion of the extent to which Visigothic culture and society survived, or was swept away along with the language; and some argument and counter-argument could be included.

9 Why did Western European rulers find it hard to resist the Viking attacks and invasions?

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the nature of Viking attacks and the determination of the Vikings to maintain their settlements. The lack of naval resources and of a concerted resistance were other explanations.

AO2 – Candidates could consider a number of possible explanations. The Vikings had traded all over Europe so knew their territory. The sudden and vicious nature of the first Viking attacks made them hard to resist. Their targeting of monastic establishments meant they concentrated on soft, wealthy institutions which could not mount a defence. They were prepared to be brutal. Their ships were well designed for the task they had in mind. Attempts to pay them off simply led to greater demands. Some rulers even gave them land. The Vikings took advantage of the situation in Europe, benefiting from the divisions in the Carolingian empire and the chance to make alliances with one side or the other in civil conflicts. Candidates might conclude that no one explanation is the key and that the answer lies in a combination of Viking strength and European lack of a coherent response.

10 To what extent had an effective monarchical structure emerged in Germany by 919?

AO1 – Candidates might discuss the Treaty of Verdun in 843 and its consequences, the abilities of the various rulers of Germany and the extent of their powers and control.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the German monarchy was established after 843 and a series of kings governed from Aachen as the heirs of Charlemagne but with far less power. The meaning of the title of Emperor could be considered. Alternatively the continued dissension about the succession and the challenge from princes such as the Bavarian rulers might suggest that a monarchical structure had not yet been accepted by all Germans.

Section 3: c. 919–1099**11 Assess the strengths of Otto III as a ruler.**

AO1 – Candidates may mention the shortness of the reign which makes judgements difficult and consider the nature of Otto's court, his kingship in Germany and Italy and his relationship with the Papacy.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Otto initiated some Byzantine practices at his court and intended to revive the position of the Emperor as in the time of the Carolingians. He was successful in ensuring the election of a Pope of his choosing as Sylvester II. He restored Aachen and reburied Charlemagne in a more grandiose setting. He dismissed the concept of the Donation of Constantine as a forgery and made it clear that papal authority was subordinate to the Emperor. Alternatively, candidates could suggest that the brief reign meant these initiatives were short-lived, that Otto could not solve the underlying problem of the Empire, which was that his presence was needed both in Germany and Italy to ensure his power was recognised, and that his enforced flight from Rome and subsequent death from malaria in 1002 ended his ambitions. The conclusion may well be that his aims were probably unlikely to have been achieved with any permanence as the 'feudal revolution' changed the way a state was viewed.

12 How is the survival of the early Capetian kings (987–1108) best explained?

AO1 – Candidates might refer to the relatively small land-holding of the Capetians, their relationships with the other rulers of France, the succession, their relationship with the church and the strength of the royal tradition in France.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the survival of the Capetians is unexpected but was nevertheless maintained. The Capetians had the benefit of being perceived as the heirs of Charlemagne. They were crowned at Reims, even though their control over it territorially was insecure. Hugh Capet allied with Normandy to help improve his authority in Northern France and left Anjou and Blois to fight each other. He defeated Duke Charles of Lower Lorraine. His three successors saw the royal demesne under threat but they all managed to keep some power and concentrated on extending their control over their hereditary lands. They laid the foundation for the extension of the rule of their successors. Any factor could be argued to be the most important but the main asset of the Capetians is likely to be identified as their support from the Church which enabled them to crown their heirs as kings in their lifetimes.

13 How far did the Normans succeed in imposing their authority in Sicily?

AO1 – Candidates are likely to discuss the acquisition of Sicily by the sons of Tancred and the achievements of Robert Guiscard, Roger II and Frederick II.

AO2 – Candidates may argue that at their peak the Norman rulers of Sicily were very much in control. The Sicilian state was strong enough to survive the regency of Roger II and it was closely linked to southern Italy. The rulers developed an excellent administrative system, largely using Greek civil servants while relying on their Norman followers for their military support. Roger established Roman Law in Sicily and his government has been described as ‘the most mature in western Europe’. He had an impressive navy and did not feel bound to obey the Pope. He defeated and captured Innocent II. The alternative view could be illustrated by reference to the problems which beset Sicily whenever it lacked a strong monarch. The minority of Frederick II was one example. The influence of the Norman barons was never cowed permanently, the church was also never completely subjugated and the dual claims of Sicily and mainland Italy remained problematic.

14 What were the principal achievements of Gregory VII?

AO1 – Candidates should consider the reforms promulgated by Gregory and evaluate the extent to which they were successful in their aims.

AO2 – Candidates may argue that Gregory’s main achievement lay in the way in which he raised the whole issue of papal supremacy. In order to carry out reforms, such as ending simony and clerical marriage, he needed co-operation from the bishops. Many of them were appointed and invested by lay rulers and hence owed more allegiance to lay than spiritual leaders. Thus Gregory revived the strictures of canon law to take control of these appointments. But, in addition, he extended the authority of the pope by insisting that archbishops should receive the pallium from him and by sending papal legates into most provinces. His defeat of the Emperor and his use of the weapon of excommunication were more controversial and his final rescue at the hands of the Normans saw Rome destroyed and was followed by Gregory’s exile and death. Candidates could assess how permanent the effects of his reign were, looking at his successors and the impact on the Empire.

15 How convincing is the view of the First Crusade as a 'religious war'?

AO1 – Candidates could examine the various motives for the participants on the crusade. These could include the reasons why Urban II made his appeal at Clermont, why the Franks and others answered it so eagerly and why the masses led by Peter the Hermit joined in. The situation in the Holy Land should be explained as well.

AO2 – Candidates may argue that the crusade was religious in that its prime aim, as outlined by Urban, was to end the situation where the Turks were barring Christian pilgrims from access to the Holy Sites. There were spiritual gains to be made by crusaders. During the fighting, events like the finding of the Holy Lance encouraged the fervour of the troops. Many of those who cried 'Deus Vult' were genuine in their religious feeling. The poorer crusaders also were often inspired by religious motives. The Turkish viewpoint could also be considered, that is, how far the Turks saw the crusaders as a threat to Islam or as a threat to their control of the area. The alternative view is that there were secular motives as well and that the acquisition of land and wealth was in the minds of some. Alexius II certainly felt the armies were a threat to his position and he was keen to move them on rapidly from Constantinople. The actions of Bohemond at Antioch look like a bid for secular power. Candidates could conclude that the separation of religious and secular factors was alien to the period and so mixed motives would be the norm.

Section 4: 1050–1250

16 Why did Germany suffer so much civil strife from 1125 to 1152?

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the election of a successor to Henry V, the ambitions of Lothar, Duke of Saxony and Henry, Duke of Bavaria and the incapacity of Conrad III.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the underlying cause was the rivalry between the Guelfs and the Ghibellines and the conflict between those who had supported Emperor Henry V and those who opposed him. The fact that Henry V died childless opened up a dispute about the succession and the choice of Lothar of Saxony, a Guelf, rather than Frederick, Duke of Swabia, a Ghibelline, compounded the situation. In 1138 the prospect of the election of Henry, Duke of Bavaria as Emperor worried the baronage as he was also likely to inherit Saxony and so overwhelm them. The Hohenstaufen Conrad was chosen as Emperor, and as a Ghibelline continued the feuding, and although he tried to reduce Guelf power, the Guelfs fought back. The final judgement may lie between the circumstances and the individuals.

17 ‘Frederick Barbarossa’s greatest talents were as a statesman and diplomat.’ Discuss.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to Frederick’s achievements in restoring imperial power in Germany, his vision of his position as Emperor, his incursions into Italy, his relations with the church and his dealings with the German princes, notably Henry the Lion.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Frederick was indeed a statesman and diplomat, citing his policy of collaboration in Germany to solve the issues of old rivalries and his recognition of the new feudal reality there. His reconciliation with the pope at Anagni in 1176 shows his acknowledgement of the reality of his situation in Italy. The Peace of Constance and the Diet at Mainz could be other examples. But Frederick had other attributes. He was a military leader, who forcibly restored order in Italy and defeated Henry the Lion in Germany. He saw his position as Emperor as giving him supreme power in Europe and even advanced the Duke of Bohemia to the rank of king. He had ambition in building up his demesne lands. He was prepared to join in the crusading movement. Candidates may conclude that these latter attributes nearly all led to disappointments, or even, in the case of the crusade, death, for Frederick and hence his attributes which accounted for his successes are the more vital.

18 'Too pious to be an effective medieval monarch.' Consider this judgement on Louis VII.

AO1 – Candidates might refer to Louis VII's war with Theobald, his role as a crusader, and his attitude to Eleanor of Aquitaine and to Thomas Becket. Abbot Suger could also be mentioned. Louis' rivalry with Henry II is a key issue.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Louis was too pious. The massacre at Vitry in his war with Theobald of Champagne appalled him and influenced other decisions, notably his desire to live at peace with his ambitious Angevin neighbours. He went on the Second Crusade which led to marital problems. He sheltered Becket, which exacerbated the hostility between himself and Henry II. He was seen as too pliant in the hands of Suger and of Bernard of Clairvaux. Alternatively, it could be argued that these supposed failings did not prevent Louis from laying the foundations for the development of the French monarchy which his son took much further. Arguably, despite his indecisiveness in dealing with Henry II, it was the latter's plans to divide up his lands among his sons which led two of them to acknowledge Louis as their overlord, which in turn weakened the Angevin hold on France. At Toulouse in 1159 Louis showed astuteness. Abbot Suger was an able advisor, who ruled wisely as regent during the crusade. Even the loss of Eleanor and her lands did not eventually prove a disaster. The conclusion could be that Louis showed that piety did not automatically mean that a medieval king was a failure.

19 Was Philip Augustus able to defeat the Angevins because he was strong or because they were weak?

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the long conflict between Philip and the Angevins, to the war between the Angevin brothers in 1183, Philip's intervention and alliance with Richard, the fall-out from the Third Crusade and the Treaty of Le Goulet with its impact in the reign of John, ending with the battle of Bouvines in 1214.

AO2 – Candidates may argue that Philip was strong in that his lands were united and the French succession was not complicated by warring brothers. He built up his demesne, and his financial resources probably outdid those of his enemies. He was a determined and formidable foe. On the other hand, the Angevins were beset with difficulties. Fraternal strife was rife until 1199 and Philip benefited shrewdly in his alliance with the discontented John. Richard's obsession with the crusade and his absence was a weakness, made worse by his capture and the need to raise a vast ransom and then his untimely and unnecessary death. John made error after error, from his unwise marriage to his murder of Arthur, which led to his condemnation at Philip's court. John's military incapacity, the loss of Chateau Gaillard and Normandy, his quarrel with the pope and the final loss of all but Aquitaine showed him as an unworthy opponent. But candidates could suggest that circumstances were against John rather than that he was essentially weak.

20 'To what extent did Innocent III emerge victorious from his dealings with the rulers of Western Europe?'

AO1 – Candidates may refer to Innocent's various interventions: in France over the marriage of Philip Augustus; in England over the choice of Archbishop of Canterbury; in the Iberian peninsula on a variety of issues; and in Languedoc over the Cathars.

AO2 – Candidates may argue that Innocent was successful in that Philip eventually took back his wife, Ingeborg, while King John gave in and accepted Langton as archbishop and did homage for his realm to the pope. Innocent intervened in Portugal and Aragon to uphold papal rights, brought about the submission of the king of Leon, co-ordinated campaigns against the Moors and inspired Simon de Montfort to extirpate the Cathars in 1209 and overthrow Raymond of Toulouse. He imposed papal taxes on rulers after the Lateran Council in 1215. This judgement could be qualified by the argument that Philip Augustus and King John both held out against the pope with some success and neither suffered evil consequences until late in their quarrel, when each of them gave in and obtained subsequent advantage. Philip refused to take the Cross against the Cathars as he was pursuing his war against the Angevins. The conclusion may be that Innocent was less successful than at first he might appear to have been.

Section 5: Themes c. 300–c. 1200**21 Assess the reasons for the changes in population levels in the period c. 400–c. 800.**

AO1 – Candidates could suggest that the population declined in the period and cite evidence.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the decline from 400 owed much to the failure of supplies of food and water as the Roman Empire faltered. Egypt and Tunisia fell to Muslims or Vandals disrupting the corn supply. The barbarian invasions were damaging to settled agriculture and transport was severely affected. There was a plague in 542, similar to the Black Death, which exacted a heavy toll.

22 How are the fluctuating fortunes of towns in the period c. 400–c. 1000 best explained?

AO1 – Candidates could put forward a variety of explanations, preferably with examples. Some range is expected but the whole of Europe need not be covered. Italy is likely to feature strongly.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that factors such as invasions from north and east in Europe had a big impact on towns. As the Romans retreated town life foundered. The growth of towns again tended to come about with the development of trade and the need for ports and trading centres. In Italy sophisticated cities became financial centres. Capital cities expanded to reflect the ambitions of rulers. Bishops enhanced cathedral cities. Towns attracted surplus populations. The economic impetus may well be seen as the major contributor.

23 'An age of reform.' How appropriate is this description of monasticism in the period c. 910–c. 1200?

AO1 – Candidates refer to the establishment of monastic institutions in France, England, Germany and Italy and focus on the impact of the abbey at Cluny and of Bernard of Clairvaux and the Cistercians.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Cluny was significant as a reformed branch of the Benedictine order and from the impact of its second abbot, Odo, who reformed the Italian monasteries and Fleury on the Loire. Later abbots had a similar impact and won from the pope freedom from episcopal jurisdiction. The abbey was rebuilt and became an example of the best monastic life, especially under the Abbot Odilo, and influenced monastic reform in France, Normandy and England, where St Dunstan had sparked a revival by founding Glastonbury. The Cistercians were spurred on by Bernard of Clairvaux and their disciplined approach attracted numerous novices and monks. They managed to avoid the rich decoration and endowments of the Benedictines and won respect from all. In England they were notable sheep farmers but in Europe it was Bernard who drove their influence, travelling and preaching widely and ready to give moral advice to the powerful as well as to the peasant. He preached in favour of the crusades and helped in the formation of the military orders. Without his abilities and zeal, the Cistercians would have accomplished far less. Both these were reforming orders and they attracted lay patronage from monarchs and nobles. Candidates could suggest that medieval monasticism tended to follow a pattern of foundation, growth, deviation and reform.

24 Was there a 'twelfth-century Renaissance'?

AO1 – Candidates should evaluate the extent to which cultural developments constitute a 'Renaissance'. Areas for consideration include: developments in philosophy linked to the rediscovery of parts of Aristotle's works; developments in legal theory and practical legislation in both secular and canon law; theology, including the works of thinkers such as Anselm and Abelard; developments in art and architecture; secular literature; the study of science and medicine. Candidates could consider: the social and intellectual context of these developments; the nature of the scholarly life; the cathedral and monastic schools; the great teachers; the overall levels of literacy amongst the population; and so the extent of the impact of new intellectual and artistic developments. Candidates could refer to the wider society, and the extent to which the growth of towns and trade, and of the legal and administrative organisation of church and state, provided a context in which greater levels of literacy and a more varied society fostered cultural and intellectual developments of all kinds.

AO2 – The wording of the question invites consideration of the nature of 'Renaissance'. There is scope for debate as to the extent to which new developments depended on the rediscovery of classical learning, and how far it represented a new departure. There is also room for discussion of the extent of the impact of these new developments, both geographically and socially, and whether this was sufficiently widespread to be considered a 'Renaissance'.

25 'Gothic architecture was the greatest cultural achievement of the twelfth century.' Discuss.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the widespread adoption of Gothic architecture in northern France and in England. They may set this against the intellectual achievements of the period.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the move from Romanesque to Gothic was based on knowledge of engineering and, in particular, the ribbed vault, the pointed arch and the flying buttress which allowed for the construction of buildings of light and intricacy in place of the solid gloom which preceded Gothic. Some examples should be included. In contrast, the so-called twelfth-century Renaissance is seen as a thirst for knowledge emerging from the ideals of the day expressed in the Investiture Contest or the Crusades. Examples quoted might include: the increase in book production and in libraries; the purification and exaltation of the Latin language; the writing of history, often from a moral viewpoint; the codification of Canon Law; the dissemination of Arabic learning; the impact of the Italian universities in law and medicine; and the more secular flowering of chivalric literature in the *chansons* and in the *troubadours*. Deciding which of these is the key achievement could depend on the influence of each and Gothic might be the winner on the grounds of longevity.

26 How is the depth of hostility to heretics in the period 1150–c. 1300 best explained?

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the extent of, and reasons for, the opposition and persecution of the Waldenses, the Cathars and of other groups or ideas that challenged generally held beliefs.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that this is an issue of authority. Heretics challenged the authority of the church and this was feared as a move in the direction of a challenge to the state and hence to instability and chaos, a condition equally displeasing to God and to his world. If the church was wrong doctrinally or there were alternative routes to salvation, then there was no guarantee that the rest of its message could be trusted. Heretics were protected by secular rulers who had their own ambitions to throw off an unwelcome authority. The domination of the church in the society of the time is another factor. Candidates could also suggest that clearly some were not hostile to heretics and embraced their beliefs and indeed were prepared to die, often horribly, in the cause.

Section 6: 1250–c. 1378**27 Did anyone benefit from the war of the Sicilian Vespers?**

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the long struggle for the control of Sicily, a vital trading post, ending with the Aragonese in control and the Angevins retaining the southern mainland.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the 20 years of war benefited few. The emperor was no longer a great power in Sicily. The popes became caught up in their determination to maintain the Angevins there with a loss of prestige and even Boniface VIII could not achieve his aims. His methods led to the attempt by the French to kidnap him at Anagni. Repercussions were felt in the disorder in Rome and Florence. The Angevins lost control of Sicily and had to be content with Naples. All the original protagonists died in the course of the wars. On a more positive note, the Sicilians held out in very difficult circumstances and their nationalism survived betrayal and invasion. The Aragonese ended up as the rulers of Sicily and became a new player in this part of the Mediterranean.

28 How important was the quality of their leaders to the Mongol expansion of the later-thirteenth and fourteenth centuries?

AO1 – Candidates may refer to the Mongol invasions in Russia and Hungary and parts of the Turkish empire. The nature of leadership could be discussed.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the nature of the Mongol tribal institutions gave their rulers, from the Great Khan downwards, supreme power and so their expansion would depend on the leadership. But there are other factors, such as the disunity of their opponents in places such as Russia, where the princes vied with each other. The tactics of the Mongols including rapid advances and a scorched earth strategy played a role. The horrors of their invasion of Hungary led to other places surrendering. But this could also lead to more determined resistance. Some Mongol groups were motivated by Islam.

29 Assess the view that Louis IX deserves his reputation as a great Christian king.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to Louis' dealings with rebels in the south, his crusading interests, his role as an arbiter, his administration of France and his attitude to the church and the papacy.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Louis deserves his reputation as a man of scrupulous honesty, who would have preferred the life of a monk. Louis embarked on no new conquests but concentrated on making his subjects willing to be loyal to him. He treated his vassals fairly and so won their trust. He maintained his own rights, but did not exceed them. He sent out commissions to enquire if royal rights had been abused by his officials. He led two crusades, although neither of them was successful. He settled the issue of the inheritance of the county of Flanders and was arbiter between Henry III and his barons in the Mise of Amiens. He built churches and took care over church appointments. He was canonised shortly after his death. The alternative view might be that he ruled absolutely and could be over-zealous in punishing blasphemers, in enforcing the Inquisition and in some of his financial exactions.

30 'The main aim of Philip the Fair was to humiliate the papacy.' Do you agree?

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the main issues of Philip IV's reign, such as his relations with the Papacy, the affair of the Templars, his wars with Flanders and England, his governmental methods and relations with his vassals.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that Philip wanted to humiliate the papacy after Boniface VIII insisted that clerical taxation needed the agreement of the pope and claimed the right to try any bishop accused by the royal courts, culminating in a statement that Philip was subordinate to the pope. The capture of Boniface at Anagni followed. The Templar trials also needed papal support and Philip did eventually get this from the Avignon Papacy of Clement on terms which were wholly favourable to himself. Alternatively, candidates could argue that the pursuit of the popes resulted from Philip's aim to deal with threats in Flanders and Aquitaine and that this required money and the church was the most likely source of the wealth he needed. His attacks on the church could be seen as secondary. His heavy taxes on laity as well as the church and his calling of the Estates-General to agree to his taxes illustrate this and his use of legally trained advisors like Nogaret also supports the view. Candidates could conclude that Philip was pushed into his hostility to the papacy rather than starting his reign with that attitude.

31 'The city states of Italy experienced "increased disorder" during the fourteenth century.'
Discuss.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the chequered history of a number of city states but Florence and Milan are likely to feature.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that disorder increased in the century. The lack of a central authority and the decline of imperial influence are relevant. The Papacy was in Avignon for much of the period. The invasions and ambitions of emperors, popes and the kings of Naples had encouraged foreign incursions and the mercenaries did not all return home. The ravages of the free companies were the result and they were responsible for the decline of Siena. The feuds within the city states of North Italy were interminable and often led to the rise of a city tyrant who might restore order but with a heavy hand, such as the Malatesta of Rimini. The brief ascendancy and overthrow of Rienzo in Rome illustrates the problems. Florence was immersed in a war to destroy Pisa and suffered from the bankruptcy of the Bardi and Peruzzi leading to near civil war between the oligarchs and the people. But candidates could point out that the economy continued to flourish and Florence was surprisingly ready to develop at the end of the century. The end of the Great Schism was another positive sign.

Section 7: c. 1400–c. 1461**32 'Overall, the conciliar movement must be deemed a failure.' Discuss.**

AO1 – Candidates should demonstrate awareness of what the conciliar movement involved, and also knowledge of some of the principal sessions such as Pisa, Constance, Siena and Basle. The schism was finally healed, but the nationalistic 'divisions' remained, as did many of the failings of the papacy.

AO2 – Some analysis and development of the concept of 'failure' in this context is required. There is a case to be made each way. The institution survived and faced up to the challenge of Hus – eventually – but it was not in a strong position to face the challenge from Luther.

33 Why did Burgundy play such a central role in the politics and diplomacy of this period?

AO1 – Candidates could consider the cohesion and wealth of the region, the relationship with England, the competence of rulers – they tended to be good politicians – the acquisitions and the problems facing the French such as Agincourt.

AO2 – Candidates could identify a central reason, provided there are good cases made and clear indication of why it is the most important. An 'internal versus external factors' argument is equally acceptable, but it should have a clear focus one way or the other. Some thinking about how 'central' a role Burgundy played is fine, but candidates should not try and adapt this question to argue that it did not play a central role.

34 Discuss the view that weak and divided opponents provide the main explanation for the rapid expansion of the Ottoman Empire in this period.

AO1 – As evidence for the proposition that opponents of the Ottoman Empire were ‘weak and divided’, candidates could cite the following: Greek disunity; the reluctance of any potential ally to support determined opponents of the Turks, such as the Serbs; and the divisions over Byzantium just before the fall of Constantinople. As evidence of Ottoman strengths, candidates could mention their military skills, methods of rule, tolerance and efficiency.

AO2 – There needs to be a balance, as a reasoned case can be made both ways. Candidates should prioritise their reasoning and make a strong case around one or two points. They should focus on the range of ‘plus’ points on the Ottoman side, rather than on the lack of a coherent opposition.

35 How far were the problems facing the Valois monarchy in France during this period self-inflicted?

AO1 – Candidates should identify the problems, which range from the military and relations with Burgundy and England to the financial. Charles V had a limited inheritance, but there was real competence there, and an early death was not his fault! Charles VI obviously had many failings, as seen in his dealings with Burgundy, with the English and in the disaster of 1420. A case could be made each way with Charles VII, with his treatment of Joan of Arc on one side and the gradual assertion of monarchical power in the latter part of his reign.

AO2 – Candidates should analyse of the problems facing the Valois monarchs in this period, ideally with an overview of the period as a whole, and examine the work of the three key individuals.

36 What best explains the growth and development of Muscovy in this period?

AO1/AO2 – The reasons are partly internal, arising the work of individual rulers and successes like Kulikovo. Starting from their role as collectors of tribute for the Tartars, the rulers asserted dominance over the other minor states they were to absorb. Primogeniture played a part, as did the weakness and distraction of opponents, good military skills and judicious marriages. The centring of the Orthodox Church in Moscow was another factor. There should be clear weighing up of reasons and candidates should be able to identify which are the main reasons and why.

Section 8: 1461–c. 1516**37 To what extent were the Italian city states similar in both structure and achievements?**

AO1 – Candidates should refer to the major cities, such as Florence, Milan, Venice and Verona. A broadly thematic approach is required, and candidates should follow the points suggested in the title. The idea of ‘achievements’ should be interpreted broadly; candidates can consider more than just ‘renaissance’ factors. It is not necessary to keep strictly within the narrow timescale of the suggested period.

AO2 – There should be a clear answer to the question of ‘extent’, and good reasons given for either agreeing or disagreeing with the suggested thesis. Candidates do not need to follow one particular essay structure in their answers, and may deal with ‘structure’ and ‘achievements’ either together or separately if they wish. They should discuss both factors, ideally giving equal coverage to both, but may still gain good marks if they give more emphasis to one than the other.

38 ‘Just another ruler of an Italian state.’ Discuss this view of the post-conciliar popes.

AO1/AO2 – Candidates could cover the role of the papacy within Italy as well as outside it, and also the broader spiritual role and involvement in ‘politics’ outside Italy, as well as factors such as the patrons of art and architecture. Issues such as ignoring the needs of wider reform and failing to learn the lessons of Hus and the Lollards could also be raised. Candidates should look broadly at the work and attainment of the papacy both within and outside of Italy and present a clear picture of what the papacy did, or failed to do, in the period. The ‘just another’ offers tremendous scope and candidates should consider the implications of the phrase.

39 How successfully can it be argued that Maximilian I's greatest achievements lay in Germany?

AO1 – Mere survival could be argued to be an achievement, but there are also a large range of other factors which could be considered, ranging from economic, religious, and social to political ones. Candidates could refer to the strength of the monarchy, the Turks, Italy, France and taxation.

AO2 – Candidates should give an overview of the nature and extent of Maximilian I's achievements. What he attained inside Germany should be balanced against what he attained outside, and it could be looked at both in the long and the short term. Candidates should demonstrate they have thought carefully about what might constitute an 'achievement' in this context.

40 'Profoundly conservative rulers.' Discuss this view of Ferdinand and Isabella.

AO1 – The union itself, the idea of a federal monarchy, could be seen as contrary to this view, while Ferdinand and Isabella's joint rule had huge implications for the Spanish monarchy. Other factors which could be considered might include: the administration of the Indies; the retention of local autonomies; Granada; the treatment of Muslims; and the views of Ferdinand and Isabella on the role of religion and the administration of their country.

AO2 – Candidates should think carefully about their definition of 'conservative'. They should provide a baseline definition and a reasoned answer, preferably with good reasons why the contrary view might be wrong. This is quite a challenging question, and candidates should show evidence of careful thinking about 'conservative' in this context.

41 Did Ivan III achieve more inside Muscovy than outside it?

AO1 – Candidates should interpret ‘inside’ and ‘outside’ Muscovy fairly tolerantly, as several areas could conceivably apply to both. Factors to be mentioned might include: Ivan’s claim to be the founder of the Russian state; the acquisition of Novgorod; the defeat of the Tartars; Kiev; what happened in Poland and Lithuania; as well as Ivan’s achievement as far as the monarchy itself is concerned.

AO2 – Candidates should give a retrospective view of the reign, with clear weighing up of the evidence each way. They could argue that Ivan III achieved more in the short term in one respect, but more in the longer term in another. Candidates should think carefully about what ‘achievement’ means in this context.

Section 9: Themes c. 1200–c. 1516**42 How is the emergence of the cult of chivalry best explained?**

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the development of tournaments, the idea of courtly love and the impact of poetry and song.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that the reason for the initial growth in jousting and tournaments may have been to provide essential training for knights. The addition of the idea of chivalry emerged from the courtly love popular in southern France and Spain and prevalent at the court of Eleanor of Aquitaine. This owed something to the education given to aristocratic women and to the troubadours. The influence of the church can also be seen as some of the ideals of knightly behaviour echoed Christian moral tenets. Chivalry was a self-generating cult, which fed itself with poetry, story-telling and even dance. Candidates could also discuss how far from reality the cult was.

43 Assess the reasons for developments in the visual arts in the fourteenth century.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to stained glass, illuminated manuscripts and the early painters.

AO2 – Candidates could argue that some technical advances helped to advance designs in glass. The patronage of the church and the nobility was vital. There were new influences coming in from the East. The treatment was simpler and more naturalistic and nature was studied closely. As literacy increased there was more demand for manuscripts and the possession of libraries became desirable. In France, the growth of the University of Paris led to the development of professional lay workshops with more realistic detail. An international Gothic style emerged. Candidates may suggest that the role of those commissioning art was crucial.

44 'The pre-Reformation church was in need of fundamental reform.' Discuss.

AO1 – Candidates should consider the increasing secularisation of the Church and papacy. The Church had become a highly politicised and wealthy organisation. The papacy had become too much of a factor in Italian politics, and there were issues surrounding nepotism and corruption. The curia/college of cardinals might also be considered, as well as the issues arising out of the Schism and the conciliar movement.

AO2 – There are two areas requiring debate: 'extent' and the degree of need for reform, and the idea of 'fundamental'. Candidates could argue that the 'fundamentals' were sound, and that it was only in certain minor or peripheral areas that change was needed.

45 'In the short term, disastrous; in the longer term, beneficial.' Discuss this assessment of the impact of the Black Death.

AO1 – Candidates could refer to the results of the Black Death in its heavy death toll and its subsequent effects on the availability of labour, prices and the status of the peasantry.

AO2 – Candidates could conclude that the effects were great because the Black Death was such a cataclysmic event, but they should attempt a balance. The Black Death was a disaster, wiping out up to half the population and devastating those who remained. It took a long time for the population to recover. It had an impact on wages, prices, labour shortages and land tenure. It may have led to changing attitudes and a greater readiness among the working classes to challenge the authority claimed by those who ruled them. A sense of insecurity pervaded society and may have led to increasing distrust of the church. Alternatively, there is an argument that the effects were relatively short lived and that economies recovered to be stronger than before. Those who died were the weak and the survivors then handed on their stronger genes to the next generation. Regional variations can be considered to illustrate the problem in making generalisations.

46 Is 'renaissance' the most appropriate term for the artistic and cultural developments in Italy in this period?

AO1 – Candidates could focus on breadth or depth, and there is merit in both approaches. Candidates should separate 'artistic' from 'cultural' developments and should demonstrate sound knowledge of both.

AO2 – Candidates should review the cultural, intellectual and artistic history of Italy. There is a strong case to be made for the idea of 'cultural rebirth' and 'renewal', and the views of many contemporaries can be considered. As well as the case for emphasising much that was very novel, however, there is also an argument that could be made for 'continuity'. Candidates may also consider whether there was a strong Greek influence and how great an impact the 'roman' tradition had.

47 How far did the early Portuguese and Spanish explorers fulfil their aims in the period to 1516?

AO1/AO2 – Candidates should consider a variety of aims, including: curiosity; adventure; territorial acquisition; the evangelical or crusading ideal; gaining a Christian ally (Portugal) in Africa; the idea of a federal monarchy; acquisition of geographical knowledge; the spice trade; loot; the sea route to India and its markets; settlement; slavery; and simply preventing acquisition of territories by other powers. Spain's aims were different from those of Portugal at times; there should be coverage of both and awareness that they had different aspirations, as well as some common ground. Candidates might argue that some aims were fulfilled while others were achieved only in part. The aims of Spanish and Portuguese explorers should be treated separately, and a clear picture of 'extent' given in each case.

