

AS HISTORY

Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy, 1603–1702

Component 1D Absolutism challenged: Britain, 1603–1649

Wednesday 18 May 2016 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/1D.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

James I faced the problem that inflation had caused the Crown's income to decline by 40% by 1603. The whole structure of feudal and prerogative income was too limited, too varied and too controversial to solve the Crown's worsening financial problems. The Crown therefore needed adequate financial compensation if it were to surrender some of its prerogative income in return for financial support from Parliament. Salisbury therefore proposed a radical solution which would replace the Crown's prerogative income completely with the Great Contract. It was a highly imaginative solution to a complex problem, and might have prevented many subsequent crises. The Crown, after the failure of the Great Contract, was forced to find short term solutions.

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Adapted from David L Smith, *A History of the Modern British Isles, 1603–1707*, 1998

Extract B

In Scotland, James had already shown himself as incapable of controlling his spending and incompetent in financial matters. In England, James seemed intent on distributing money and favours as extravagantly as possible. In 1605 the Privy Council composed a forceful letter reminding James that his unregulated spending and giving was dangerously weakening his finances and that it made their task of re-establishing the royal finances almost impossible. In 1609 Salisbury, as Lord Treasurer, wrote a remarkably frank series of letters in which he tried to make James recognise that his reckless extravagance was a fundamental cause of royal indebtedness. The problem really stemmed from James' belief that finance was not a problem for him, but for his Councillors.

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Adapted from P Croft, *King James*, 2003

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of the reasons for the financial weaknesses of James I?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'The early Stuarts dealt effectively with religious problems between 1603 and 1629.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'Charles I showed in the years 1628 to 1648 that he could not be trusted.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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