

A-level HISTORY

Component 1D Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy, 1603–1702

Friday 9 June 2017

Morning

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 7042/1D.
- 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:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the other questions answered.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

James' views on kingship and the art of politics were far more subtle and perceptive than the traditional stereotype of an aspiring absolutist wedded to the Divine Right of Kings suggests. James' respect for the rule of law is very striking. He distinguished carefully between 'a lawful good king' and a 'tyrant'. James praised Parliament as the highest court of law and the Crown's partner in making legislation. James argued that it was crucial for the monarch to work harmoniously with Parliament. Above all, James realised the value of personal contact with the political elite. James' ideas about kingship made him eminently suitable to tackle the challenges of ruling England. An excellent insight into James' view on monarchy is afforded by his speech to Parliament in March 1610. This whole speech appealed to an ideological framework which commanded a remarkable level of agreement. It demonstrated a much greater readiness to engage with the constitutional traditions of England than James is often credited with.

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

James I rarely lost an opportunity of setting forth his views on monarchy in speeches. Alongside his vain desire to display his learning he had the deliberate intention to act as the 'great schoolmaster of the land'. By 'free monarch' James meant one free from all control. 'A free absolute monarch' owed duties to his subjects and was monarch for their advantage; no degree of tyranny on his part justified resistance. James argued that he could make laws without the co-operation of Parliament and suspend Parliamentary laws. James was far from successful in persuading his subjects to accept these views. In particular, Parliament, which formed the audience for many of the king's speeches, remained wholly unconvinced. Thus, the persistence with which James thrust down his subjects' throats his theory of the constitution almost compelled them, in turn, to formulate their views of the limitations of monarchy and the rights of Parliament. Yet James was by temperament adverse to pushing matters to extremes and too lazy to pursue any path persistently.

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Adapted from G Davies, *The Early Stuarts, 1603–1660*, 1959

Extract C

James I has been criticised as a tactless Scot who did not understand the English constitution and who, by putting forward extreme claims on behalf of the monarchy, roused MPs to make counter-claims for Parliament. But, in fact, James was a shrewd, conceited, lazy intellectual who, before he succeeded to the English throne, had been a great success at the difficult job of governing Scotland. James' ideas on the prerogative or Divine Right were no more extreme than those of Elizabeth had been. James expressed them more often and more forcibly, but there were, perhaps, reasons for this. It was to James' advantage to define his position and dare Parliament to challenge it. James' way of expressing the theory of Divine Right would not have shocked contemporaries. Both sides agreed that the King had certain prerogative rights. What James also claimed was an absolute prerogative right to take any action outside the law which he thought necessary for national defence or security.

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Adapted from C Hill, *A Century of Revolution, 1603–1714*, 1961

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to James I's views on monarchy.

[30 marks]

Turn over for the next question

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 'Charles I addressed the financial weaknesses of the Crown, in the years 1625 to 1640, more successfully than James I, in the years 1603 to 1625.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3 How successfully did the rulers of England deal with religious radicalism in the years 1637 to 1667?

[25 marks]

0 4 'From absolutism to constitutional monarchy.'

Assess the validity of this view of the monarchy in the years 1678 to 1702.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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