

GCE

History A

Unit : Y209/01 African Kingdoms c.1400 – c.1800: four case studies

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for June 2018

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All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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Question		Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
1	(a)	<p>Which of the following was a more significant reason for the expansion of Benin in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries?</p> <p>(i) Military might (ii) Improved government and administration</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In dealing with military might, answers might consider the growth of the military under Obas Ewuare, Esigie and Orhogbua. • Answers might consider changes in military leadership and strategy. • Answers might also consider that military changes were only possible because of other internal changes. • In dealing with government and administration, answers might consider the consolidation of the Oba's authority, which led to a more united and effective kingdom. • Answers might consider the importance of the reformed system of administration in gathering tribute from client states. • Answers might also consider, however, that improved administration enabled Benin to hold on to its client territories rather than conquer them in the first place. 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Only credit material relevant to reasons for the expansion of Benin in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to reach a judgement, or make take a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels marks scheme.
1	(b)*	<p>“The main reason for the decline of the Kingdom of Songhay was the Moroccan Invasion of 1591.” How far do you agree?</p>	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected. • At higher levels candidates will focus on to what extent this was the main reason, but at Level 4 may simply list

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	<p>In arguing that the Moroccan Invasion was the main reason, answers might consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rapid and decisive military defeat that Morocco inflicted on Songhay. • The destruction of resources during the conquest and the sack of Gao, Timbuktu and Djenné, which undermined Songhay's wealth and prestige. • The short-lived occupation of Songhay by a Moroccan dynasty, who soon grew frustrated with the challenges of governing such a large empire and let it splinter into its component parts. <p>Answers might also consider that the decline of Songhay arguably preceded this invasion.</p> <p>In arguing that the other factors were more important, answers might consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The long-term challenges of governing such a large and diverse empire. • The tensions which surrounded the position of Timbuktu and the scholars. • Problems with the structure of government, with the excessive power of the Askias and the lack of a meritocracy causing significant tension amongst the ruling classes. • Songhay's economic dependency on external partners due to its reliance on trade. • The succession crises from 1528 onwards which followed the rule of Askia Mohammed. • The return of factionalism and succession crises after the rule of Askia Dawud (1549-82), which culminated in civil war, fatally weakening Songhay and rendering it vulnerable to invasion. • Changes in the regional power balance and trade 		<p>the positive and negative influences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the relative importance of the various achievements. • At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge achievements. • To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

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		structures, particularly the growing commercial and political influence of the Islamic North African powers.		
2	(a)	<p>Which of the following was a more significant reason for the rise of the Kingdom of Oyo in the early seventeenth century?</p> <p>(i) The leadership of individual Alafins (ii) The use of cavalry</p> <p>Explain your answer with reference to both (i) and (ii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In dealing with the leadership of individual Alafins, answers might consider the role of the Alafins in driving forward military conquest and securing political stability and economic prosperity. • Answers might consider the impact of Alafin Abipa who reconquered Oyo-Ile from Nupe in the early 17th century, his use of cavalry being decisive in the campaign. • Answers might also consider the importance of Alafin Ojigi who led Oyo's conquest of Dahomey, protecting Oyo's commercial interests and securing the payment of tribute. • In dealing with cavalry, answers might consider the advantage this conferred against neighbouring kingdoms and peoples who did not use cavalry, particularly given the geography/topography of the area. • Answers might consider the extent of the cavalry, the weapons used and its tactics, which made it a formidable fighting force. 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No set answer is expected • Judgement must be supported by relevant and accurate material. • Only credit material relevant to the rise of Oyo. • Answers may deal with each factor in turn, then compare them to reach a judgement, or make take a continually comparative approach. Either approach is acceptable. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels marks scheme.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answers might consider that investment in cavalry was dependent on pre-existing economic and administrative strengths. 		
2.	(b)*	<p>“The achievements of Oba Ewuare were greater than any other Oba who ruled Benin in the period from c.1500 to c.1750”. How far do you agree?</p> <p>In arguing that Oba Ewuare (enthroned c.1440) had the most significant achievements, answers might consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> His importance as an early Oba who played a crucial role in the rise of Benin in the fifteenth century His success in strengthening Benin against external threats. The administrative changes he made. The new religious structures and rituals he introduced which consolidated the power of the Oba and of Benin more generally. His personal reputation and status. The urban expansion which took place under his rule. Benin’s growing military power during his reign. <p>In arguing that other Obas had greater achievements, answers might consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oba Ozolua , who established trading relationships with the Portuguese and consolidated Ewuare’s achievements as well as expanding the kingdom through conquest. Oba Esigie, who established diplomatic relations with the Portuguese, began to regulate trade, expanded educational opportunities, was successful in conquest and introduced the important Queen 	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No set answer is expected. At higher levels candidates will focus on ‘how far’, but at Level 4 may simply list achievements. At Level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the relative importance of the various achievements. At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge achievements. To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. Knowledge must not be credited in isolation, it should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

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	<p>Mother cult.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oba Orhogbua, who led the expansion to conquer the Lagos lagoon, turning the Lagos kingdom into a vassal of Benin. <p>NB – Oba Orhogbua’s rule marked the end of the high point of Benin’s power and subsequent Obas from Ehengbuda onwards could not be said to have had as significant achievements as the Obas above.</p>		

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