History
Advanced Subsidiary
Unit 2
Option A: Early Modern British History: Crown and Authority

Instructions
- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer question part (a) and part (b) of the topic for which you have been prepared. There is a choice of questions in part (b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.

Information
- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets – use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.
- Questions labelled with an asterisk (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed – you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.

Advice
- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.
Choose EITHER A1 (Question 1) OR A2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

A1 – Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion, 1509–40

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.
Answer Question 1, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.
You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 1

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) Study Sources 1, 2 and 3.

How far do the sources suggest that Henry intended to treat the rebels harshly?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 1, 2 and 3. (20)

EITHER

*(b) (i) Use Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.

Do you agree with the view that, as Lord Chancellor, Cardinal Wolsey’s main aim was to increase royal authority in England?

Explain your answer, using Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge. (40)

OR

*(b) (ii) Use Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.

Do you agree with the view that religious change in the years 1532–40 was primarily driven by pressures from political factions?

Explain your answer, using Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge. (40)

(Total for Question 1 = 60 marks)
A2 – Crown, Parliament and Authority in England, 1588–1629

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.
Answer Question 2, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.
You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 2
Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) Study Sources 10, 11 and 12.

How far do the sources suggest that it was the actions of Parliament itself that caused division between James and Parliament in 1621?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 10, 11 and 12.

(20)

EITHER

*(b) (i) Use Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.

Do you agree with the view that inflation was the greatest of Elizabeth's domestic problems?

Explain your answer, using Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

*(b) (ii) Use Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.

Do you agree with the view that Charles I's religious views were mainly responsible for the breakdown of his relations with Parliament in the years 1625–9?

Explain your answer, using Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 2 = 60 marks)
Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen Question Number:

| Question 1 | ☐ | Question 2 | ☐ |

(a) ..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
..........................................................................................................................
((a) continued)
Answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) of your chosen question.

(b) .....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
.....................................................................................................................................
Choose EITHER A1 (Question 1) OR A2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

A1 – Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion, 1509–40

Sources for use with Question 1 (a)

SOURCE 1
(From a letter written by Henry VIII to his ambassador in France, 5 November 1536)

We do not intend to treat harshly the Yorkshire men who regret the traitorous attempt, but will force them to follow the example of the Lincolnshire men in the handing over of the ringleaders. Both shires are at our mercy. Thank God my subjects were so ready to fight against the rebels. We were rather forced to keep them back than spur them on. People are now in great quiet without a blow being struck.

SOURCE 2
(From Edward Hall’s *Chronicle*, a history of the early Tudors, published 1542. Hall was a London lawyer and MP in the Reformation Parliament.)

In December 1536, a pardon was obtained from the King’s majesty for all the leaders of this insurrection. The rebels were promised that their grievances would be gently heard, their reasonable petitions granted, and that their articles should be presented to the king, so by his Highness’ authority, and the wisdom of his council, all things should be brought to good order. With this promise, every man quietly departed, and those who before were determined to fight, went peaceably to their houses.

SOURCE 3
(From Henry VIII’s instructions to the Duke of Norfolk, issued after further risings took place in January 1537)

Before you are finished, you shall cause such dreadful execution to be done upon a good number of men in every town, village and hamlet that has offended in this rebellion. This should be done by hanging them up in trees, and by the quartering of them, and by the setting up of their heads and quarters in every town and in all such other places, so they may be a fearful spectacle to all other hereafter.
Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (i)

SOURCE 4


Wolsey developed Henry VII’s principles of centralised government. During the twelve years that he was Lord Chancellor, Parliament met for only two sessions. The Court of Star Chamber grew more active, evolving new and simple methods, by which the Common Law rules of evidence were not used. Justice was swift, fines were heavy, and no one in England was so powerful that he could afford to ignore justice. This system of government, however authoritarian it appeared, in fact rested tacitly on the will of the people.

SOURCE 5


The Eltham Ordinances of 1526 were aimed at reforming the chaotic finances of the privy chamber and attempted to ensure more effective administration in the king’s household. However, Wolsey’s prime concern was to reduce the influence others had on the king, and to increase the control that he could exercise over all aspects of government. Once this was achieved, the plans for an overhaul of the administrative procedures of the privy council were conveniently forgotten.

SOURCE 6

(From Polydore Vergil, Anglica Historia, published 1534. In 1515, Vergil had been briefly imprisoned on Wolsey’s orders.)

Wolsey carried on all business as he himself wished, since no-one was of more value to the king. Some of the leading counsellors, such as the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Winchester, gradually withdrew from the court when they saw so much power falling into the hands of one man.
Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 7
(From G.W.Bernard, *The King's Reformation*, published 2005)

Because Henry's religion was neither straightforwardly Catholic nor Protestant, its importance has consequently been dismissed by many historians. Henry is seen as incapable of clear religious thought, and his religion is regarded as a ragbag of emotional prejudices. This opinion is usually linked to a view of Henry as weak and dominated by factions. But Henry was far more actively involved than this emphasis on factional influences would suggest. Henry vigorously justified his royal supremacy. His treatment by the papacy intensified his conviction that the church was in need of purifying reform. It is his policy towards the monasteries that offers the clearest demonstration of the assertion of authority and the drive for reform that characterised Henry's policies.

SOURCE 8
(From Derrick Murphy, *England 1485–1603*, published 1999)

The order for a Bible in English may have been influenced by the fact that Henry was considering an alliance with the Lutheran princes. Furthermore, the injunctions of 1538 can be seen as Protestant in the way they were critical of many of the old Church festivals. On the other hand, the Six Articles of 1539 indicate a conservative reaction. However, the influence of the young and beautiful Catherine Howard, who was part of the conservative and Catholic Norfolk faction at Court, may have been more important than any theological new thoughts.

SOURCE 9
(From a speech by Thomas Cromwell speaking in Parliament, May 1540)

Some were called papists, others heretics. This bitterness seemed strange, since the Holy Scriptures, by the King's great care of his people, were all in their hands, in a language which they understood. The King leaned neither to one nor the other party. He had set the pure and sincere doctrine of the Christian faith, and therefore was now resolved to have set it forth to his subjects.
Choose EITHER A1 (Question 1) OR A2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

A2 – Crown, Parliament and Authority in England, 1588–1629

Sources for use with Question 2 (a)

SOURCE 10

(From a petition of the House of Commons, 9 December 1621)

Your Majesty does seem to reduce the ancient liberty of parliament for freedom of speech, a liberty which we assure ourselves so wise and so just a king will not infringe, it is our ancient and undoubted right and an inheritance received from our ancestors.

SOURCE 11

(From King James’ answer to the Commons’ petition, 11 December 1621)

In your petition you trespass upon royal prerogative, and then you protest the contrary. For first, you presume to give us your advice concerning the match of our dearest son and dissuade us from his match with Spain. You urge us to war with that king; yet you protest you intend not to infringe upon our most undoubted and regal prerogative, as if the petitioning of us in matters that yourselves confess you ought not to meddle with, were not meddling with them.

SOURCE 12

(From Sir John Eliot, Negotium Posterorum, written whilst he was imprisoned in the Tower between 1629–32 for leading attacks on the Crown. Eliot had been an MP in the 1614 and 1624 parliaments.)

There was some misunderstanding between the King and Parliament caused by some people intent on deception. His Majesty was persuaded that Parliament’s liberties encroached upon his prerogative. The fears the Parliament had were that, by his prerogative, James sought to reduce and block up the ancient privileges and liberties of the House. Both might freely have enjoyed their own liberties without encroachment on the others’ rights; for the King’s prerogative no man may dispute against it. However, such rightful duties towards the King were prevented by those intent upon deception.
Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (i)

SOURCE 13
(From Geoffrey Ragan, Elizabeth I, published 1988)

The argument that inflation was caused by the increase in gold and silver bullion transported from the Indies was not generally understood, and people tended to turn to more concrete explanations, like greed or the selfishness of monopolists. Although some were aware of the rapid growth in population, they did not see how this contributed to price rises. Inflation meant that Elizabeth was unable to finance her government without resorting to Parliament for subsidies, and even before the end of her reign there were signs of developing opposition. The large increase in prices harmed the poor most though; the purchasing power of an agricultural labourer’s wages declined alarmingly.

SOURCE 14
(From a letter sent by the Privy Council to the Earl of Huntingdon, concerning the county of Leicestershire)

The great price that all corn and grain reaches, to the grief of the poor people, is made worse by the evil custom of the farmers who feed their sheep and cattle with peas. We give order unto the Justices of Peace that they instruct farmers to bring the peas to the markets, where the poor people not able to buy the better grain may have them for their sustenance at a reasonable price.

SOURCE 15

Finance was a constant source of conflict in the last parliaments of the reign, particularly the monopolies by which Elizabeth rewarded officials and favourites. From the 1590s, parliament voted multiple subsidies, four, for example, in 1601 when the Irish war was at its height; but in all of these debates there were attacks on the royal methods of raising money. Moreover, the plagues and bad harvest of the 1590s greatly affected the lower classes of society; in some areas there were famine conditions.
Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 16
(From David L. Smith, The Stuart Parliaments 1603–1689, published 1999)

In 1625, the Commons devoted nearly half its time to religious concerns, in marked contrast to most Jacobean parliaments. Many members were horrified when the king appointed the Arminian Montagu royal chaplain. Charles could scarcely have done anything more likely to raise parliamentary suspicions about his own religious sympathies. Ignoring the King's request for further supply, Parliament instead drew up a petition to Charles complaining of the encouragement given to the popish party. They urged a range of measures including the enforcement of the recusancy laws. The Commons launched an enquiry into the sale of offices and honours that led them into criticism of Buckingham. It was at this point that Charles despaired of obtaining more subsidies and dissolved Parliament.

SOURCE 17
(From a letter written by James Howell, a professional writer of newsletters, later appointed secretary to the Privy Council. He is describing Charles I’s entry into London on 27 March 1625, just after the death of James I.)

Charles is left engaged in a war with a powerful prince, the people made by a long peace unready for bearing arms, the Fleet-Royal in quarter repair, himself without a queen, his sister without a country, the Crown pitifully laden with debt and the purse of the State unfilled.

SOURCE 18
(From A. Anderson, Stuart Britain, published 1999)

Charles and Buckingham had already deceived parliament by using money voted for a naval war to equip the disastrous Mansfeld expedition to the Palatinate. The Commons responded by granting the King the right to levy tunnage and poundage for one year only. This was not only financially embarrassing, it was also insulting. In 1626 the King called another parliament, but was forced to dissolve it before being granted any money, in order to protect Buckingham from impeachment. Meanwhile he promoted Arminian clerics within the Church, who repaid his favour by preaching that subjects were bound to obey even an unjust king, or submit to punishment without resistance.