A-level
HISTORY

Component 2A Royal Authority and the Angevin Kings, 1154–1216

Friday 16 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 7042/2A.
• 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 two questions in Section B.
Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From Ralph of Coggeshall, writing around the time of the events he was describing. As a Cistercian based in England, he was generally unhappy with John’s treatment of his order.

In 1202 peace was made between Philip and John. But John immediately launched a bitter attack on Hugh of Lusignan, who had rebelled against him because of John’s marriage to Isabelle of Angoulême. Philip ordered John to stop harassing his men, but he refused to comply with these requests. Thus John, as count of Aquitaine and Anjou, was summoned to come to Philip’s court at Paris. He was to submit to its judgement and answer for his wrongs, as determined by his peers. John replied, however, that he was the Duke of Normandy and was not obliged to attend a court at Paris. This argument dragged on and many other issues arose which increased the animosity on both sides. At length, the French court assembled and judged that the King of England should be deprived of all of the lands which he and his predecessors had held from the French king because he had refused to obey his lord. Philip immediately gathered an army to attack John’s lands.

Source B

From Roger of Wendover, writing around 1203. Wendover was based in an English monastery which was on a route much used by travellers.

John spent Christmas at Caen, where, ignoring the war, he feasted sumptuously with his queen. At length messengers came to him, saying, ‘the French king has entered your territories, has taken castles, carried off the governors of them and disposes of your property at will, without opposition’. In reply to this, John said, ‘Let him do so; whatever he now seizes on I will one day recover’ and neither these messengers, nor others who brought him like news, could obtain any other answer. But the barons and nobles of the kingdom of England, who had till that time remained loyal, when they heard his words and saw his incorrigible idleness, returned home and so left the King with only a few soldiers in Normandy. The French king in the meantime, with an immense army, surrounded the castle at Ruyl and, before he had made even one assault, the noblemen in charge surrendered. All opposition to him in Normandy having ceased, the French king marched through the provinces at will.
From Rigord’s history, ‘The Deeds of Philip Augustus’. Rigord was a French historian who died in 1209.

Philip laid siege to Castle Gaillard, in September 1203. This was a strong fortress which Richard had constructed upon a high rock. King Philip and his army were delayed by the siege for five months, for they were initially unwilling to undertake an assault lest much blood be spilled and they might damage the walls and the tower. They hoped to force the besieged to surrender through hunger and deprivation. Later, the King decided upon an attack and successfully took the fortress. In 1203, Philip entered Normandy, taking Falaise, Domfront, and Caen. He also brought under his control all the neighbouring districts as far as Mont St. Michel. The Normans then came to ask for mercy and delivered up their towns. Of all Normandy there only remained Rouen. The Normans, seeing that they could not defend themselves, nor could expect any aid from the King of England, began to think of surrender. The burghers delivered Rouen to Philip, a rich town, the capital of all Normandy.

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the loss of Normandy in 1204.

[30 marks]
Section B

Answer two questions.

02 ‘Henry’s treatment of his sons was a more important cause of the Great Rebellion than his baronial policy.’

Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

03 To what extent did Henry II’s authority throughout his territories decline in the years 1180 to 1189?

[25 marks]

04 ‘England suffered in the years 1189 to 1194 as a result of Richard I’s absence on the Third Crusade.’

Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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