Write your name here

| Surname | Other names |
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# Scholarship Paper 2026

## Subject: History

**Time: 1 Hour**

**You must have:**
Pen
Pencil

**Total Marks**
**50**

**Instructions**

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name.
- Answer the questions in the answer sheets provided**.**

**Information**

- The paper is divided into **two** sections:
  Section 1: Evidence questions
  Section 2: Essay questions
- Section 1 is divided into **three** time periods:
  - Medieval Realms: Britain 1066–1485 (page 2)
  - The Making of the United Kingdom: 1485–1750 (page 3)
  - Britain and Empire: 1750–1914 (page 4)
- You must choose **one**-time period and answer the evidence question.
- You must also answer **one** essay question from Section 2.
- You should spend five minutes reading and no more than twenty minutes on Section 1.
- Handwriting and presentation are important.

## SECTION A – EVIDENCE QUESTIONS

***(Answer ONE question from this section)*** **Each question carries 20 marks**

### QUESTION 1: Medieval Realms – Britain 1066–1485

**Source A**

When Harold fell, his followers were struck down where they stood. The Norman knights rode through them without mercy. Then William gave thanks to God and ordered castles built across England, so that no man might rise against him.

*Orderic Vitalis, Norman chronicler, c.1120*

**Source B**



*Bayeux Tapestry: Norman cavalry attacking English soldiers at the Battle of Hastings, 1066.*

**Source C**

King William ordered a record of all land and its owners to be written. No hide nor ox was left uncounted. Thus the king's will was law throughout England.

*The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, 1086*

**Questions:**

1. What do Sources A and B suggest about why William won the Battle of Hastings? (4)

2. How useful is Source C for understanding how William controlled England after 1066? (6)

3. Using all the sources and your own knowledge, explain how William and the Normans maintained control over England. (10)

**Question 2: The Making of the United Kingdom – 1485–1750**

**Source A**

Though I am but a woman, I have the heart and stomach of a king — and of a king of England too!

*Queen Elizabeth I, speech to her troops at Tilbury, 1588*

**Source B**



*The Armada Portrait of Queen Elizabeth I, painted after the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, showing her hand resting on a globe and ships behind her.*

**Source C**

The Queen's rule has been wise and careful. She has punished neither Papist nor Puritan too harshly. Yet many still whisper against her, saying she loves power more than religion.

*A foreign ambassador, 1590*

**Questions**

1. What do Sources A and B reveal about Elizabeth I's leadership and image? (4)

2. How reliable is Source C as evidence of Elizabeth's success in ruling England? (6)

3. Using all the sources and your own knowledge, explain how Elizabeth I maintained peace and stability in England between 1558 and 1603. (10)

## Question 3: The First World War – 1914–1918

### Source A

We expected the war to be over by Christmas, yet months have passed and still the shells fall. The mud swallows men whole; the wounded cry out for hours. This is no glory — only horror.

*Letter from a British soldier, 1916*

### Source B



*Wartime photograph of British troops going "over the top" from a trench during the Battle of the Somme, 1916.*

### Source C

The war brought great suffering but also a new sense of unity. Men of every class fought together for their country, and women worked tirelessly in factories and hospitals.

*Historian, 1930*

### Questions

1. What do Sources A and B reveal about conditions for soldiers on the Western Front? (4)

2. How useful is Source C for understanding the wider impact of the war on British society? (6)

3. Using all the sources and your own knowledge, explain how the experience of World War I changed Britain by 1918. (10)

***TURN OVER FOR SECTION 2***

## SECTION 2

## ESSAY QUESTIONS

**Answer ONE question from this section. Each question is worth 35 marks.**

1. "Strong leadership was the most important reason for success in war." Discuss this view with reference to any period you have studied. [30]

2. Explain how and why the lives of ordinary people changed between the Middle Ages and the Industrial Age. [30]

3. How far do you agree that religion caused more division than unity in Britain between 1066 and 1750? [30]

4. Was the First World War a just or a tragic conflict? Explain your answer. [30]

5. Was the British Empire a force for progress or exploitation? Explain your answer with examples. [30]

6. "History is shaped by ideas more than events." Discuss this statement using examples from any period you have studied. [30]

7. Choose one of the following leaders and assess how effectively they used power: [30]
    - William the Conqueror
    - Elizabeth I
    - Winston Churchill

8. Choose a key figure whose inventions helped change English/British people's lives and explain how successful he or she was. [30]

9. Choose an important female figure you have studied and explain why she is remembered today. [30]

10. How important was a scientific movement/invention in a period you have studied? [30]

**(TOTAL: 60 MARKS)**