RADLEY

Academic Scholarship 2019

History

Time allowed – 45 minutes

You are advised to spend half the time available on Section A and the remainder on Section B.

You are expected to write accurate, grammatical, well punctuated prose throughout this paper.

Section A

1. **Read the following source and answer the questions below:**

A letter to a newspaper, the Galway Mercury, from a Catholic clergyman, the Revd Mr Newel (8 March 1847). Galway is in Ireland and the country was at that time in the grip of a famine caused by a failure of the potato crop, due to disease. About 1 million people died in this famine.

I fear much that the want of coffins for the burial of the dead will cause them to be unburied, and to generate infection, more disastrous to human life than the want of food itself. The unusual occurrence here of a human being having been interred without the decency of a coffin took place in the parish of Ballinacourty a few days ago, when the corpse, after five or six days unburied, was at last sacked up in a coarse canvas and deposited in its parent earth. Another horrifying circumstance occurred near Oranmore, of a poor wretched woman named Redington, perishing during the night time, and in the morning her lifeless body was found partly devoured by rats.

a) List Newel's chief concerns in the order in which he gives them priority. You should justify your order.

[5 marks]

b) Select **either** a word, **or** a phrase, **or** a clause, which you find especially interesting and explain why.

[5 marks]

c) Write a paragraph discussing the strengths and weaknesses of this document as evidence of the condition of Ireland in 1847.

[10 marks]

Section B

2. Answer **one** of the following the questions. Use precise knowledge where possible.

a) Compare a period you have studied to the present day.

b) Consider a person from history that you have studied and discuss why we study them today.

[20 marks]

Total for Paper: 40 marks

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