ST EDWARD'S
OXFORD

16+ ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

For entry in 2017

HISTORY PAPER

Time: 1 hour

Instructions to Candidates

1. Answer **ONE** question from Section A and answer the question in Section B.
2. You are advised to spend 40 minutes on Section A and 20 minutes on Section B.
3. You are reminded of the importance of clear and orderly presentation in your answers.

Section A

Answer ONE question from this section.

(i) "The Twentieth Century was an unmitigated disaster." Explore this question with reference to at least two countries that you have studied. (30)

(ii) "History should be a compulsory subject for all pupils until they leave school." To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples from at least two periods that you have studied. (30)

(iii) How can we use architecture to learn about History? Explore with reference to at least two periods and include reference to the limitations of using architecture. (30)

(iv) "No one can know the future, least of all, a historian, whose business is the past." Niall Ferguson, Professor of History, Harvard University. To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use examples from at least two periods that you have studied. (30)

(v) To what extent can individual political leaders/monarchs shape the society and politics of the country they lead? Explore this question with reference to at least two periods that you have studied. (30)

Section B

The painting below is known as 'Colbert presenting members of the Royal Academy of Science to Louis XIV' circa 1667. King Louis XIV of France is seated in the centre of the painting and his finance minister, Colbert, is standing to the king's right presenting members of the academy. The building at the back of the painting is the Paris Observatory on which construction had started in 1667.



What does this painting reveal about the monarchy, science and society of France in the reign of Louis XIV 1643-1715?