Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 6 June 2025 – Afternoon

A Level History A

Y103/01 England 1199–1272

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

You must have:
- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A. Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3 in Section B.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **50**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets **[ ]**.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE
- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

© OCR 2025 [F/506/4252]
DC (ST) 359001/1
OCR is an exempt Charity

Section A

King John 1199–1216

Study the **four** sources and answer Question 1.

1 'King John did not suffer from the impact of the Interdict and his excommunication'.

Use the **four** sources in their historical context to assess how far they support this view. **[30]**

Source A: A monk of St Alban's describes John's reaction to the imposition of the Interdict in 1208.

The king of England, being greatly enraged on account of the Interdict, sent his sheriffs to all quarters of England, giving orders with dreadful threats to all priests as well as to those subject to them, to depart from the kingdom immediately and to demand justice for him from the pope. He also gave all the bishoprics, abbacies and priories into the charge of laymen and ordered all ecclesiastical revenues to be confiscated. But most of the abbots refused to quit their monasteries unless expelled by violence. When the agents of the king found this out, they would not use violence, because they did not have a warrant from the king to that effect. But they converted all monastic property to the king's use, giving the monks only a scanty allowance of food and clothing out of their own property.

Roger of Wendover, History of England, written before 1236

Source B: A monk explains the impact of the Interdict in 1208.

Great sorrow and anxiety spread throughout the country. Neither Good Friday nor Easter Sunday could be celebrated but an unheard-of silence was imposed on the clergy and monks by laymen. The bodies of the dead could not be buried in consecrated cemeteries, but only in vile and profane places. The people were forced to pay at first a quarter of their money to the king, then a third and then half. Even the rents of the cardinals were taken from them and Peter's Pence, which the Roman Church had received since the time of Cnut was withheld by the king.

Gervase of Canterbury, The Deeds of Kings, written before 1210

Source C: A chronicler gives an account of events in Wales.

The Welsh princes, encouraged by the pope who had absolved them from the agreement which they had made the previous year with the English king and from the allegiance and oaths which they had given, attacked the English king in return for the Interdict being relaxed in their lands. King John, stirred up to violent anger, hanged the Welsh hostages and gathered an army against them from all parts of the kingdom. And then, when he had gathered such a multitude as had never been seen before, God put his forces to flight.

Barnwell Chronicle, 1212

© OCR 2025

Source D: John outlines new financial arrangements regarding the Papacy.

We will and establish that, from the proper and special revenues of our realms, for all service and customs that we should receive for ourselves, the Roman Church shall receive 1000 marks sterling each year, to wit, at the feast of St Michael 500 marks and at Easter 500 marks. 700 marks will come from the realm of England and 300 marks from Ireland. All of which we bind ourselves and our successor not to contravene. If we or our successors attempt to contravene this, let him forfeit his right to the kingdom and let this charter of obligation and grant on our part remain in force for ever.

Charter, May 1213

Section B

England 1216–1272

Answer Question 2 **or** Question 3.

2* ‘England was effectively governed during the minority and early years of the reign of Henry III (1216–1232).’

How far do you agree? **[20]**

3* How important was the emergence of the Lord Edward in ensuring that Simon de Montfort’s seizure of power in 1263 was short-lived? **[20]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact The OCR Copyright Team, The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA.

OCR is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.

© OCR 2025