Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 23 May 2025 – Morning

A Level History A

Y309/01 The Ascendancy of the Ottoman Empire 1453–1606

Time allowed: 2 hours 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 the question in Section A and **any two** questions in Section B.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- 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.

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Section A

Read the **two** passages and answer Question 1.

1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages.

Explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the consequences of the battle of Lepanto for the Ottomans. **[30]**

Passage A

© Geoffrey Parker, Imprudent King: A New Life of Philip II, p204-5, Yale University Press, 2014. From first line "Don John led the largest Christian fleet ever seen in the Mediterranean to Corfu." to last line "Instead, the Christian victory sparked uprisings, which for a time threatened Turkish control, and tempor

Passage B

© Roger Crowley, Empires of the Sea, p 285, 288-92, Faber & Faber, 2008. From first line "[Lepanto] was a scene of staggering devastation," to last line "It had recognised the importance of consolidating its victory, but proved unable to do so." Item removed due to additional party third party copyright res

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

2* ‘Ottoman expansion in the Balkans was more successful than in the Mediterranean.’

How far do you agree with this view of the period from 1453 to 1606? **[25]**

3* To what extent did the principles of Ottoman conquest remain the same throughout the period from 1453 to 1606? **[25]**

4* How serious was the Ottoman threat to the Austrian Habsburgs throughout the period from 1453 to 1606? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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