Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 23 May 2025 – Morning

A Level History A

Y311/01 The Origins and Growth of the British Empire 1558–1783

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.

© OCR 2025 [J/506/4298]
DC (WW) 356294/2
OCR is an exempt Charity

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 rebellions in the American colonies in the late seventeenth century. **[30]**

Passage A

© Alan Taylor, Colonial America, Oxford University Press, 2013. From first line "In Bacon's rebellion and the Crown intervention," to last line "the colonies and mother country became more closely intertwined in a shared empire." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

Passage B

© Richard Middleton; Anne Lombard, Colonial America: A History to 1763, Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. From first line "As a populist uprising, Bacon's Rebellion was not successful since Virginia's government became even less responsive to the concerns of ordinary farmers after the rebellion ended." to last line "After 16

Section B

Answer any **two** questions.

2* To what extent did imperial priorities change in the period from 1558 to 1783? **[25]**

3* How far did the nature of colonial rule change in the period from 1558 to 1783? **[25]**

4* 'The most important impact of the British Empire on its emerging colonies in the period from 1558 to 1783 was population change.'

How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

© OCR 2025

BLANK PAGE

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