Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 23 May 2025 – Morning

A Level History A

Y312/01 Popular Culture and the Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th Centuries

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 Witchcraze in Southern Germany in the period from c.1590 to 1630. **[30]**

Passage A

© Lyndal Roper, Witch Craze, p17-20, 23, Yale University Press, 2004. From first line "It is very difficult to explain why witch hunting in parts of Germany was so horrific and why it produced so many more victims." to last line "an individual alone could not carry out such a hunt." Item removed due to third party co

Passage B

© Oliver Bullock, The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America c1580-c1750, p112-115, Pearson Education, 2016. From first line "Witch hunting developed to become extensive across the Holy Roman Empire during the Thirty Years' War." to last line "that of magic and witchcraft." Item removed due to

Section B

Answer any **two** questions.

2* ‘Religious change was the most important challenge to popular culture in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.’

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

3* To what extent were witch hunts more common in towns than in the countryside during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? **[25]**

4* To what extent did the response of the authorities to witchcraft remain the same throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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