Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 23 May 2025 – Morning

A Level History A

Y313/01 The Ascendancy of France 1610–1715

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 extent to which Richelieu strengthened royal authority. **[30]**

Passage A

© D Murphy, M Tillbrook, P Walsh-Atkins, Europe, 1450-1661, p333-335, Harper Collins, 2000. From first line "There is a strong case for arguing that Richelieu did considerable damage to France." to last line "But he failed to gain the financial self-sufficiency that would have been a vital part of such an attemp

Passage B

© Stephen J. Lee, Aspects of European History 1494-1789, p153-7 and 161, Routledge, 1990. From first line "Richelieu once stated that his first concern was the prestige and power of the king." to last line "but it was an important phase in the development of the financial system, characteristic of the anc

Section B

Answer any **two** questions.

2* ‘Royal authority in France in the period from 1610 to 1715 depended mainly on the personality of the king.’

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

3* Throughout the period from 1610 to 1715, religious developments had little impact on French society.

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

4* ‘Fighting wars hindered rather than helped France in its rise to power in the period from 1610 to 1715.’

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

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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