



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
January 2011

## History

## HIS2C

**Unit 2C The Reign of Henry IV of France, 1589 – 1610**

**Thursday 20 January 2011 9.00 am to 10.30 am**

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2C.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

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Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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### Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A** The most serious peasant uprisings occurred in the south-west of France. The rebellions of the Croquants began in the autumn of 1593. They called themselves the *tard-avisés*, the latecomers. One group called on the peasants ‘to take arms and destroy many noble châteaux’. The secretary to the town council in Perigueux  
5 reported, ‘They openly speak of destroying the nobility and being free of everything’. They saw privileges being heaped on the League nobles and cities and feared that, being the last in the queue for concessions, they would pay for the favours granted to others. In a sense they were correct in their fears. In 1594, Henry IV was hoping to raise about 21 million *livres* through the *taille* and a further 8 million by indirect taxes.

Adapted from M GREENGRASS, *France in the Age of Henry IV*, 1995

**Source B** Hostility to the nobility was not the main concern of the peasant movements, but they revealed that the local nobles were not behaving as good seigneurs should. In late 1593, vast assemblies of peasants began to meet, each of which may have numbered 40 000 men. They sent delegates to the king to ask for tax relief, but  
5 they also organised for violence. In 1594, the royal council, having heard Croquant delegates, agreed not to collect the taxes which were in arrears and accepted that what peasants paid to local warlords would be regarded as payment of royal taxes.

Adapted from F J BAUMGARTNER, *France in the Sixteenth Century*, 1995

**Source C** In a sense, the revolt of the Croquants may be seen as part of the general process of recovery by which Frenchmen of all kinds reassessed their allegiance to the Crown. Attempts have been made by historians to explain this recovery. For Mousnier, it was largely the work of rich office-holders, anxious to have a stable government. For  
5 other historians, it was the winning over of towns, or the rallying of the nobles to the Crown. Once Henry had shown his ability to maintain some degree of order, rich and poor alike had every interest in rallying around him, to put an end to four decades of strife.

Adapted from D BUISSERET, *Henry IV of France*, 1992

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Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the peasant uprisings in 1593–1594. (12 marks)

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Use **Sources A**, **B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important were the nobles in enabling Henry IV to establish himself as king by 1598? (24 marks)

**EITHER****Question 2**

**0 3** Explain why the French monarchy was heavily in debt in 1589. *(12 marks)*

**0 4** 'In economic terms, Henry IV's reign was a "golden age".'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**OR****Question 3**

**0 5** Explain why the Cleves–Jülich affair was a threat to the French Crown. *(12 marks)*

**0 6** 'The Treaty of Vervins in 1598 successfully resolved conflict with Spain.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source A: M GREENGRASS, *France in the Age of Henry IV*, Pearson Education, 1995.

Question 1 Source B: F J BAUMGARTNER, *France in the Sixteenth Century*, Palgrave Macmillan, 1995. Reproduced with permission of Palgrave Macmillan.

Question 1 Source C: D BUISSERET, *Henry IV of France*, Routledge, 1992.

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