



Wellingborough
School
Founded 1595

SAMPLE PAPER

HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION 16+

Candidate Number:

Time:

- 1 ½ hours

Instructions to Candidates:

- This paper consists four questions
- You must answer ALL four questions
- Write your answers to the file paper provided
- Be aware of the instructions at the top of each question
- **Total marks for this paper: 66**

Writing and presentation are important. Poor presentation or failure to pay due attention to spelling and punctuation may lose marks.

Question 1 – Britain in the 1960s – you are not expected to have ANY prior knowledge about this topic. You should try to structure your answer to include points of similarity and difference and you should discuss the reliability of the sources as well. You should aim to spend 15 minutes on this question

Source A

Adapted from a memorandum written by Harold Macmillan, 15 October 1963

Lord Home is clearly a man who represents the old governing class at its best and those who take a reasonably impartial view of English History know how good that can be. He is not ambitious in the sense of wanting to scheme for power, although not foolish enough to resist honour when it comes to him. It is interesting that he has proved himself so much liked by men like President Kennedy. These are exactly the qualities that the class to which he belongs have at their best, because they think about the question under discussion and not about themselves.

Source B

Adapted from A Marr, A History of Modern Britain, 2007

Lord Home seemed utterly against the spirit of the new decade. He was the ultimate traditional Tory, but without Macmillan's toughness. Hailsham, Macleod and Powell refused to serve under him and he was described by press-commentators at the time as 'this half-witted Earl'. In a famous article in The Spectator, Iain Macleod, the editor, attacked the choice of Home as Conservative leader, as coming from the Conservative party's 'magic circle' in which eight out of nine men went to Eton. Alec Douglas-Home never overcame the handicap of being a symbol of the old ways. As Prime Minister in the early sixties he was out of time. Harold Wilson put it well: 'We are living in the jet age but we are governed by an Edwardian establishment mentality.'

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 Lord Home. (12 marks)

Question 2 – Britain in the 1960s – you are not expected to have ANY prior knowledge about this topic. You should try to structure your answer to include points from the sources which agree and disagree with the statement and you should discuss the reliability and usefulness of the sources as well. You should aim to spend 30 minutes on this question

Source A

Adapted from a journalist's interview with 24-year-old 'Jane', who visited a doctor in the early 1960s, having had two children and miscarried a third since marrying three years earlier

The doctor said there was this new thing called the Pill that you just took in the morning. I know this sounds odd but I hadn't even heard of it. I don't think he had ever prescribed it before. It was completely wonderful. It changed my life. I felt in control. I felt free. Before I had been on it a year, I had an affair. It was not because I hated my husband, but I think now I did it because I could get away with it. It wasn't just the Pill of course, but the Pill did something else too. It made sex news. There were other things that happened in the early 1960s, the Christine Keeler business and the Lady Chatterley case. Suddenly, you could talk about sex at dinner parties because it was in the newspapers. It was the Pill, I think, that made it possible for things to change.

Source B

Adapted from D SANDBROOK, *White Heat*, 2006

By the end of the 1950s, British newspapers were reporting the imminent arrival from America of the 'no-baby drug' and doctors first prescribed the Pill in January 1961. They were besieged by enquiries from women keen to try out the new invention and by the summer of the following year about 150 000 women were taking it, rising to an estimated 480 000 in 1964. These figures might be superficially impressive, but they are nowhere near large enough to bear out the common claim that the Pill was a major cause of revolution. During the mid-sixties the Pill was simply not a factor in the lives of most British women.

Source C

Adapted from M DONNELLY, *Sixties Britain*, 2005

For some, the wider availability of consumer goods and services that were previously regarded as luxuries was the decade's defining characteristic. For such people, cultural revolution was less about sexual freedom and more about High Street spending. The Sixties was the age when people were preoccupied with themselves, and consumption was important because it offered more people the chance to buy themselves identities and lifestyles. Capitalism generated profits by persuading people that the route to personal fulfilment lay in buying the latest 'must-have' consumer item.

How far do sources A, B and C suggest that cultural change in Britain in the 1960s was due to the contraceptive pill? (24 marks)

ESSAY SECTION

You should aim to spend 45 minutes on this section of the paper

Question 3

Using examples you have studied answer one of these essay questions:

- I. "History is a story of the winners". How far do you agree?
- II. "History is pointless". How far do you agree?
- III. "Wars only take place because of the decisions of individuals". How far do you agree with this view?

(15 marks)

Question 4

You must answer this question by drawing on something you have studied:

Chose an event or significant turning point in History. Explain why it happened.

(15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS