

## Examples of Tudor Essay Questions from past exam papers (old specification)

Notes on using these questions:

- Be aware that these questions are from the old specification- and are actually out of 50 (not 20 as yours are).
- There is a link to the mark scheme. You need to ignore the table with the levels and just look out for the possible content for each question. I've numbered the questions on this list so that they should match the question number on the paper. I've put the page reference where our questions begin being answered on the list as well- the number will refer to the page in the document which may not correspond to the page number that has been printed. **If I have made a mistake- which is entirely possible- you might just need to look around the surrounding pages.**

Specimen Paper

6. How far did Henry VII achieve his aims in foreign policy? Explain your answer.
7. How far did Henry VIII achieve his aims during the period from 1509 to 1514? Explain your answer.
8. Who was more important in directing foreign policy from 1515 to 1529: Henry VIII or Wolsey?
9. Assess the claim that Thomas Cromwell had carried out a 'revolution' in Tudor government by 1540.
10. How widespread was criticism of the Church in England in 1529? Explain your answer.
11. How much support was there for Protestantism in England by the end of Edward VI's reign in 1553? Explain your answer.
12. Assess the reasons why the governments of both Edward VI and Mary I faced popular opposition in introducing religious changes.

Mark scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/72188-unit-f961-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-to-1642-specimen.pdf> (page 11)

January 2009

6. To what extent was Henry VII's foreign policy a success?
7. How successful was Henry VIII in achieving his aims as king in the period from 1509-1529?
8. Assess the reasons for the fall of Thomas Wolsey in 1529.
9. To what extent was royal authority weak in the period from 1540 to 1547?
10. Assess the reasons for the break with Rome.
11. To what extent were the religious policies of Somerset more successful than those of Northumberland?

Mark scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/64385-mark-scheme-january.pdf> (page 9)

June 2009

6. How effective was Henry VII in dealing with the Yorkist challenges to his throne?
7. How successful was English foreign policy in the period from 1509-1529?
8. To what extent was Northumberland more effective than Somerset in ruling England during the reign of Edward VI?
9. How successful was Mary I in dealing with the problems she faced?
10. How far was the Church in England in need of reform in 1529?

11. Assess the reasons for opposition to the religious changes during the reign of Henry VIII.

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/60758-mark-scheme-june.pdf> (page 16)

January 2010

5. How effectively did Henry VII deal with England's domestic problems?
6. 'Marriage agreements were the most important achievement of Henry VII's foreign policy'. How far do you agree?
7. How successful were Wolsey's domestic policies?
8. How far did Tudor government and administration change in the 1530s?
9. How effectively did the governments of Edward VI and Mary I deal with unrest?
10. How important was Thomas Cromwell in influencing religious policy in the 1530s?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/58921-mark-scheme-january.pdf> (page 19)

June 2010

5. 'The handling of finances was Henry VII's most successful domestic achievement'. How far do you agree?
6. 'Henry VIII's foreign policy from 1509-1529 brought little benefit for England'. How far do you agree?
7. How successful were Henry VIII's wars with France and Scotland in the period from 1540-1547?
8. How serious were the social and economic problems faced by Edward VI and Mary I?
9. How widespread was criticism of the Church in England on the eve of the Reformation?
10. How successful were the governments of Somerset and Northumberland in establishing Protestantism from 1547 to 1553?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/67034-mark-scheme-unit-f961-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-to-1642-june.pdf> (page 8)

January 2011

6. How successful was Henry VII in achieving his foreign policy aims?
7. How significant were the reforms of Thomas Cromwell in changing the government of England by 1547?
8. How successful were the governments of Somerset and Northumberland in dealing with the problems they faced?
9. 'Economic problems were the greatest challenge facing the government of Mary I'. How far do you agree?
10. How serious was opposition to Henry VIII's religious changes?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/63917-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-1642-january.pdf> (page 9)

June 2011

6. How effectively did Henry VII handle the nobility?
7. 'The most important reason for Wolsey's fall from power was his failure to obtain a divorce for Henry VIII'. How far do you agree?

8. To what extent did Thomas Cromwell's reforms change the government and administration of England?
9. 'The most serious problems facing the governments of Somerset and Northumberland were social and economic'. How far do you agree?
10. Assess the condition of the Church in England in 1529.
11. How successful was Mary I in restoring Catholicism to England by 1558?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/60782-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-to-1642-june.pdf> (page 8)

January 2012

6. How successfully did Henry VII deal with the problem of the Yorkists?
7. How successful were Wolsey's domestic policies?
8. 'Henry VIII's foreign policy from 1540-1547 failed to achieve its aims' How far do you agree?
9. 'Mary I's government was successful in dealing with its problems'. How far do you agree?
10. How serious were the problems in the Church in England in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century?
11. Assess the effectiveness of Henry VIII's government in dealing with opposition to the religious changes from 1529-1547.

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/61031-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-1642-january.pdf> (page 10)

June 2012

6. How successfully did Henry VII deal with the domestic problems he faced?
7. How successful was Henry VIII in achieving his aims in foreign policy in the period from 1509 to 1529?
8. How far did Cromwell's reforms change Tudor government and administration by 1547?
9. How effective were the governments of Somerset and Northumberland?
10. How far did religious changes under Henry VIII from 1539-1547 make England protestant?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/135246-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-to-1642-june.pdf> (page 9)

January 2013

5. How dangerous were Yorkist plots to Henry VII?
6. 'The avoidance of war was the most important aim of Henry VII's foreign policy'. How far do you agree?
7. 'Henry VIII failed to achieve his aims as king in the period 1509-1529'. How far do you agree?
8. To what extent did Thomas Cromwell achieve his aims in government in the 1530s?
9. Assess the reasons why there was opposition to the rule of both Somerset and Northumberland.
10. 'England was a more Protestant country at the death of Edward VI than at his accession in 1547'. How far do you agree?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/142322-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-to-1642-january.pdf> (page 9)

June 2013

5. How successful was Henry VII in strengthening royal finances?
6. 'Henry VII's foreign policy achieved little.' How far do you agree?
7. Assess the reasons for Wolsey's rise to power.
8. Assess the reasons why England went to war with France and Scotland in the period from 1540-1547.
9. 'Mary I's rule of England was a complete failure.' How far do you agree?
10. 'The Church in England in 1529 still had widespread popular support'. How far do you agree?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/176155-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-to-1642-june.pdf> (page 9)

June 2014

6. 'The need to secure his throne dominated the foreign policy of Henry VII'. How far do you agree?
7. 'Wolsey's lack of noble support was the most important reason for his fall from power'. How far do you agree?
8. 'Thomas Cromwell's reforms in the 1530s were limited in their impact'. How far do you agree?
9. Assess the reasons why there was so much unrest in the reigns of Edward VI and Mary I.
10. How Protestant was England at the death of Edward VI in 1553?

Mark Scheme: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/235832-mark-scheme-unit-f961-01-british-history-period-studies-option-a-medieval-and-early-modern-1035-1642-june.pdf> (page 12)