Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Friday 6 June 2025

Afternoon (Time: 1 hour 30 minutes)

Paper reference **9HI0/2B**

History

Advanced

PAPER 2: Depth study

Option 2B.1: Luther and the German Reformation, c1515–55

Option 2B.2: The Dutch Revolt, c1563–1609

Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 2B.1: Luther and the German Reformation, c1515–55

Sources for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From instructions issued by Archbishop Albert of Mainz to indulgence sellers, 1515. The Bull authorising the indulgence had been issued by Pope Leo X. Albert was granted the right to distribute indulgences in his archdioceses of Mainz and Magdeburg, and began to do so in January 1517.

Preachers selling indulgences must concentrate on ensuring that the faithful fully understand the gifts of grace that are granted by the Papal Bull.

The first gift offered to people who secure the indulgence is the full forgiveness of their sins. Also, the punishments that the sinner would suffer in purgatory for their offences against God are totally wiped out.

No amount of money can be great enough to earn such a gift and it is not possible to fix a suitable amount for all those who wish to secure the indulgence. However, preachers, after hearing them confess their sins, should ask those who wish to secure the indulgence how much their consciences tell them they should pay. As an example, kings should pay twenty-five guilders, while merchants and others who have an income of their own should pay one guilder. Those having no income should make their contribution in prayer.

Another gift granted by the indulgence is the forgiveness of the sins of those currently suffering in purgatory. A payment by the living can be made on behalf of the dead. In such cases, there is no need for the living paying for the indulgence to be sorry for their own sins. The grace granted by the indulgence depends only on the love that the living had for their dead relative, and the payments that the living contribute.

Source 2: From Martin Luther, *Autobiographical Fragments*, written 1545. Luther wrote this account of events as an introduction to a book containing some of his other writings. Here he is referring to the years 1517–18.

As God is my witness, I became involved in this matter not by choice but by chance.

When indulgences were being sold in Germany for money, I was a young preacher. I tried to dissuade the people from listening to the urgings of the indulgence sellers. I believed that the money spent on indulgences could be put to better use. I hoped that the Pope would support me because he had often condemned the greed of the indulgence sellers.

I wrote two letters. One was to the Archbishop of Mainz. He was actually splitting the proceeds of the sale of indulgences with the Pope, though I did not know that then. The other letter was to the Bishop of Brandenburg asking him to stop the blasphemy of the indulgence sellers. But I was a poor little monk and they ignored me.

Upset by this, I published some theses for debate. I did not seek the condemnation of indulgences but for preference to be given to works of love. Instead, my views caused havoc. The full power of the Papacy was thrown against me, and me alone, and I was summoned to Rome.

However, the German people were weary of the deceits of the rogues from Rome. People were now supporting me because everyone hated the tricks that the Popes were using to make themselves richer.

Option 2B.2: The Dutch Revolt, c1563–1609

Sources for use with Question 2.

Source 3: From advice written for Philip II concerning the government of the Netherlands, probably written 1567. Though the author is unknown, it is believed to have been written by someone who was a close advisor to King Philip, and one who had experience of affairs in the Netherlands.

His Majesty should combine all the provinces of the Netherlands into a single kingdom and have himself crowned absolute king.

His Majesty should review all the different privileges and customs currently existing in the Netherlands. He should then decree that there is only one law, one religion and one custom, which should be applied throughout the kingdom. His Majesty should issue a law for the preservation of our Catholic religion.

His Majesty should reform the town councils in places like Antwerp and Amsterdam. These councils have behaved so arrogantly that they dared to challenge and disobey their King. His Majesty should appoint a new official, known as the King's Captain, in every town. The presence of this royal officer will ensure that everyone is careful not to say or do anything contrary to the wishes and authority of the King.

His Majesty should build well-fortified castles, especially in those places that deserve to be punished for their recent conduct. He should garrison these castles with foreign soldiers, chiefly Spaniards and Germans, because nothing encourages disobedient people to submit to their King more than the presence of well-armed troops.

His Majesty should grant a general pardon for all the recent insolence and misconduct. He should demand the return of those who are still in hiding or have fled abroad. In dealing with the leaders of these recent rebellions, he should treat them more with mercy than with severity.

Source 4: From 'A Warning', a letter issued by William of Orange to the people of the Netherlands, 1 September 1568. This letter was distributed while Orange was in exile in Germany, and shortly before he led an invasion of the Netherlands.

The Netherlands were traditionally ruled with great gentleness and reason. This was in accordance with their customs, traditions and privileges, which were granted previously by emperors, dukes and others. The rulers of the Netherlands have always sworn a solemn oath to maintain these rights.

However, it is clear that, since Spain and the Netherlands came together under one ruler, some royal advisers have been determined to rule our country by tyranny. Such people have been waiting for opportunities to mislead King Philip, and to persuade him to introduce absolute rule in the Netherlands. These advisers have now falsely persuaded the King that our loyal people were disobedient and rebellious, which was quite untrue. They have introduced many persecutions that have harmed the country very much, all supposedly in the name of God and the good of the realm. As a result, many of our people have been robbed, killed or forced abroad.

With the arrival of the Duke of Alva and his Spanish soldiers, acting in the name of the King, such persecutions and executions have increased and multiplied. We now see that our once-prosperous country has been reduced to misery and how our people have been enslaved. We see that our privileges and rights, and the religion of God, have been totally oppressed and destroyed.

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Acknowledgements:

Source 1 from: Pages 14-17, *Martin Luther (Documents In Modern History)*, E G Rupp & B Drewery, © Edward Arnold & Co, 1970

Source 2 from: Pages 14-17, 174, *Martin Luther (Documents In Modern History)*, E G Rupp & B Drewery, © Edward Arnold & Co, 1970

Source 3 from: https://dutchrevolt.leiden.edu/english/sources/Pages/1568advice.aspx

Source 4 from: *Texts Concerning the Revolt of the Netherlands*, E. H. Kossman, A. F. Mellink © Cambridge University Press, 1974