Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Thursday 12 June 2025

Morning (Time: 2 hours 15 minutes)

Paper reference **9HI0/30**

History

Advanced

PAPER 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 30: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509

Source Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Source for use with Section A.

From Dominic Mancini, *The Usurpation of Richard III*, written 1483. Mancini was visiting England when he wrote this account for one of the counsellors of King Louis XI of France. Here he is writing about the events that followed the funeral of Edward IV.

Two resolutions were debated by the Council in Richard's absence. One was that Richard, Duke of Gloucester, should govern, because Edward IV had directed this in his will, and because, by law, he should. But this was the losing resolution; the winning one was that government should be carried out by many persons, among whom Richard should be the chief. All who favoured the queen's family voted for this. They, who bore the blame for the Duke of Clarence's death, were afraid that they would suffer death, or at least be removed from their high office, if Richard gained the crown, or even governed alone.

The Chamberlain, Hastings, reported all this to Richard, because he was his long-standing friend. He advised Richard to hasten to London with a strong force. Hastings argued that Richard might easily obtain revenge if, before reaching the city, he took the young King Edward V under his protection and authority.

After Richard's arrival in London, a sinister rumour spread that Richard had brought Edward V into his power to gain the crown for himself. Richard wrote to the Council saying that he had not imprisoned his nephews; rather he had rescued them and the realm from chaos. The deed had been necessary for Edward V's own safety and to provide for the king and kingdom.

Richard had now brought into his keeping the two royal princes. However, he still considered that his future was not sufficiently secure without the removal, or imprisonment, of those who were expected to be loyal to his nephew. In this he included Hastings. Therefore, Richard rushed into crime.

Hastings and several others came to the Tower to salute Richard, as was their custom. When they had been admitted to his innermost quarters, Richard, as prearranged, cried out that Hastings and the others were ambushing him and had come with hidden weapons. Thereupon soldiers, who Richard had arranged to be waiting, rushed in with the Duke of Buckingham, and cut down Hastings on the false accusation of treason. Richard then secretly sent Buckingham to the House of Lords. There, Buckingham argued that it appeared unjust that Edward V, who was illegitimate, should assume the office of kingship: for he was a bastard. The Lords, hearing what had happened to Hastings, agreed with Buckingham.

Acknowledgements:

Source from: https://thehistoryofengland.co.uk/resource/dominic-mancini/