

Eton College King's Scholarship Examination 2009

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND DIVINITY

(One and a half hours)

The paper is divided into THREE sections. Candidates should answer THREE questions from at least TWO sections.

Start each question on a NEW sheet of paper.

SECTION 1: HISTORY

1. 'Intellectuals, not the masses, make revolutions.' How far do you agree with this view? Answer with reference to examples of any revolution(s) from any period(s).
2. 'Wars between states create more problems than they solve.' Assess this view with reference to examples of any war(s) from any period(s).
3. 'Victory in war always goes to the side with the better leadership'. To what extent do you agree with this view? Answer with reference to examples of any war(s) from any period(s).
4. 'History is a pack of tricks we play on the dead.' Do you agree?
5. Read Source A. It is an extract from a letter by the Holy Roman Emperor, Frederick II, written while he was on crusade and addressed to King Henry III of England in 1229. What does it tell us about medieval society?

Source A

Frederick, by the grace of God, the august emperor of the Romans, king of Jerusalem and Sicily, to his well-beloved friend, Henry, king of the English, health and sincere affection.

Let all rejoice and exult in the Lord and let those who are correct in heart glorify Him who, to make known His power, does not make boast of horses and chariots but has now gained glory for Himself, in the scarcity of His soldiers, that all may know and understand that He is glorious in His majesty, terrible in His magnificence, and wonderful in His plans on the sons of men; changing seasons at will and bringing the hearts of different nations together. For in these few days, by a miracle rather than by strength that business has been brought to a conclusion, which for a length of time past many chiefs and rulers of the world amongst the multitude of nations have never been able till now to accomplish by force, however great, nor by fear.

Not, therefore, to keep you in suspense by a long account we wish to inform your holiness that we, firmly putting our trust in God and believing that Jesus Christ, His Son, in whose service we have so devotedly exposed our bodies and lives, would not abandon us in these unknown and distant countries but would at least give us wholesome advice and assistance for His honour, praise, and glory, boldly in the name set forth from Acre on the fifteenth day of the month of November last past and arrived safely at Joppa, intending to rebuild the castle at that place with proper strength, that afterwards the approach to the holy city of Jerusalem might be not only easier but also shorter and more safe for us as well as for all Christians.

Source B

“I contend that we are the first race in the world, and that the more of the world we inhabit the better it is for the human race. I contend that every acre added to our territory means the birth of more of the English race.”

Cecil Rhodes, who had extensive gold and diamond interests in Southern Africa and wanted to see the whole of that region under British control

Source C



A British school celebrates Empire Day in 1923

Source D



A British poster from 1927

SECTION 2: GEOGRAPHY

1. Why does Britain's climate vary so much?
2. To tackle environmental problems we need to 'think global, act local'. Elaborate on this statement using examples from a range of environmental issues.
3. Explain the roles of erosion, transportation and deposition in the creation of landforms in **either** fluvial **or** glacial environments.
4. Discuss the benefits and problems faced by a country with a high percentage of tertiary and quaternary economic activity.
5. With reference to **either** earthquakes **or** volcanoes explain why some cause more devastation than others.
6. Is globalisation a good thing? Use examples to expand your answer.

SECTION 3: DIVINITY

1. Old Testament

Then Elijah commanded them, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away!" They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there.
(1 Kings 18:40)

Explain the meaning and relevance today of Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal.

2. Old Testament

Explain, with examples, why the covenant is one of the most important ideas in the Old Testament.

3. New Testament

"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up."
(Mark 2:4)

Explain why Jesus told the Parable of the Sower when it is mostly about failure.

4. New Testament

'The Kingdom of God is near' (Mark 1:14). What are the problems with interpreting Jesus' teaching on the Kingdom of God?

5. Christianity

'The most important Christian teaching is life everlasting.' Discuss.

6. Buddhism

"I go to the Buddha"
"I go to the Dharma"
"I go to the Sangha"

These three refuges are said when a person becomes a Buddhist. What does each of them mean?

[End of Paper]