A Level History Essays: Henry VII

1. “Henry VII’s reforms in government were limited in scope and success.” Assess the validity of this view.

2. How successful was Henry VII in fulfilling his foreign policy objectives?

3. How significant was the position of agriculture in the English economy in the years 1485 to 1509?

4. To what extent, by 1509, was the Church in England in need of reform?

5. “Henry VII’s financial policies were the most important reason for the success of his rule.” Assess the validity of this view.

6. “Despite the need to secure his dynasty, it was the desire to expand England’s overseas trade that underpinned Henry VII’s foreign policy.” Assess the validity of this view.

7. ‘Local issues were the most significant reasons for rebellion in the reign of Henry VII.’ Assess the validity of this view.

8. ‘Henry VII had successfully established monarchical authority by 1509.’ Assess the validity of this view.

9. ‘Ending support for rival claimants to the throne was the greatest success of Henry VII’s foreign policy.’ Assess the validity of this view.

A Level History Essays: Henry VIII

1. “Henry VIII’s actions as king destroyed Henry VII’s legacy.” Assess the validity of this view of the years 1485-1514.

2. To what extent was Henry VIII himself responsible for the failures of English foreign policy during his reign?

3. “The people of northern England, Cornwall and Wales had little reason to be grateful for the rule of Henry VII and Henry VIII.” Assess the validity of this view.

4. “English society in the reign of Henry VIII was characterised more by disorder than by order.” Assess the validity of this view.

5. “The performance of the English economy remained weak throughout the reigns of the first two Tudors.” Assess the validity of this claim.

6. Henry VIII might have made himself supreme head of the Church of England but he did little else to change the Church.” Assess the validity of this view.

7. “The Catholic Church in England in the period 1485-1529 was criticised primarily because of the failings of its clergy.” Assess the validity of this view.

8. “Changes in religion in the reign of Henry VIII up to 1540 occurred because of Cromwell.” Assess the validity of this view.

9. How far can the foreign policy of Henry VIII be described as a success?

10. “The foreign policy of Henry VIII failed to achieve its objectives in the years 1509 to 1547.” Assess the validity of this view.

11. “The King’s ministers served Henry VIII well, but served themselves better.” Assess the validity of this view in the context of the years 1515 to 1540.

12. ‘The main aim of English foreign policy in the years 1509 to 1529 was to achieve peace in Europe’. Assess the validity of this view.

13. To what extent was England’s government fundamentally transformed in the years 1509 to 1547?

14. ‘The Church in England in 1547 was little different from what it had been in the late 1520s.’ Assess the validity of this view.

15. ‘In the years 1515 to 1540, policy was decided by ministers rather than by the monarch.’ Assess the validity of this view

A Level History Essays – The Mid Tudor Period

1. To what extent did English government respond effectively to the domestic problems it faced in the years 1529 to 1553?

2. To what extent was the English Church in 1553 different from what it had been in 1532?

3. How successful was English foreign policy in the years 1529 to 1558?

4. “Religious changes in the years 1532 to 1558 enjoyed little popular support.” Assess the validity of this view.

5. Is it fair to describe English government in the years 1540 to 1562 as “consistently weak”?

6. “The main cause of rebellions in the years 1536 to 1558 was religious disagreements.” Assess the validity of this view.

7. “The crisis faced by the Tudors in the years 1540 to 1563 was primarily caused by economic factors.” Assess the validity of this view.

8. ‘Rebellions in the years 1549 to 1571 stemmed from the weakness of central government.’ Assess the validity of this view.

9. How far, in the years 1547 to 1569, did concerns over the succession threaten the stability of England?

10. To what extent, by 1571, had Elizabeth I solved the religious problems which had faced Edward VI and Mary I?

11. ‘Social and economic grievances, rather than religious discontent, were the main causes of rebellion in the years 1549 to 1569.’ Assess the validity of this view.

A Level History Essays – Elizabeth I

1. “Elizabethan government had more weaknesses than strengths in the years 1558 to 1588.” Assess the validity of this view.

2. “Elizabeth’s policy towards Spain was always weak and unconvincing.” Assess the validity of this view with reference to the years 1568 to 1603.

3. To what extent did the plots and rebellions faced by the Crown during the reign of Elizabeth pose a real threat to the stability of the Elizabethan state?

4. Is it true to say that by 1603 England was economically and socially more diverse than it had been at the beginning of Elizabeth’s reign in 1558?

5. “The challenge posed to the Elizabethan Crown by Catholicism was never as strong as Elizabeth I and her ministers believed.” Assess the validity of this claim.

6. “By 1603 it was clear that the English people had benefited little in social and economic terms from the rule of Elizabeth I.” Assess the validity of this view.

7. “Elizabeth’s foreign policy was mostly a series of disasters.” Assess the validity of this view.

8. ‘Throughout her reign, Elizabeth I controlled her ministers with masterly political skill.’

Assess the validity of this view.

9. How far were the problems of poverty in England successfully addressed during Elizabeth’s reign?

10. ‘It was Elizabeth’s influence that was the most important for the development of the arts in her reign.’ Assess the validity of this view.

11. To what extent was poverty in England in the later sixteenth century the result of population growth?

12. ‘The Elizabethan religious settlement was successfully established in the years 1558 to 1603.’ Assess the validity of this view.

13. How effectively did Elizabeth deal with the threat from Spain in the years 1558 to 1589?

14. ‘England was transformed both economically and socially in the last twenty years of the reign of Elizabeth.’ Assess the validity of this view.

15. How successful was Elizabeth I’s foreign policy in the years 1568 to 1589?