

Examiner's General Advice on Unit 1

In AS Unit 1 students are expected to demonstrate several skills which are also **assessment objectives**. All questions will aim to test more than one of these objectives, and in an examination answer will be marked accordingly. There will, on any given examination paper, be a planned balance of the various skills across questions to ensure that all are covered. However, individual questions or part questions will focus on certain of the skills, not necessarily all of them at once. Consequently one of the ways of writing an effective answer is to learn to recognise the particular skill that is the focal point of a particular question. However, it is also important to remember that accurate knowledge and understanding are key elements in any AS answer.

The **assessment objectives** are:

A01 (a): Recall, selection and deployment of appropriate historical knowledge, communicated effectively.

A01 (b): Demonstrating historical understanding involving explanation, analysis and judgement, involving key concepts such as causation, consequence, change and continuity; and an understanding of the relationships between key features of the period studied.

A02 (b): Analysing and evaluating how the past has been interpreted and represented in different ways.

Unit 1 contains **three** two-part questions, not source-based, on the chosen option from European, World or British history. Candidates are required to answer **two** of the questions.

It is important to divide your time well. The first part of each question carries 12 marks; the second part carries 24 marks. Therefore you should probably aim to spend less time on the first parts, or you will risk running out of time on the second and longer parts.

There are several skills implicit in answering the questions well. One element is simple **recall**. You will need to **explain**, for example by giving the reasons for a particular event. This requires more than simply listing a series of reasons from memory – a high-level answer will require you to put these reasons in context and relate them to each other. The 24-mark question will require you to examine a particular historical issue. You must not only call up your knowledge of the topic, but also **use** that knowledge in such a way that you are able to **analyse** the issues and produce a **reasoned argument** using the knowledge you have.

AQA – AS GCE Change and Consolidation Unit 1 HIS1B	Britain 1483–1529	QUESTION 1 (01)
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Examiner’s Specific Advice

This question tests several skills and also your knowledge of the topic; in this case the instability early in the reign of Richard III and the origins of the failed rebellion by the Duke of Buckingham in 1483. The question requires a focused explanation of a range of reasons why the Buckingham rebellion took place in 1483.

The key thing is not to narrate and describe, but to *use* your knowledge purposefully in order to explain what happened and why. You should also think about the length of your answer – a shorter, more coherent and controlled answer is *always* preferable to a longer, more detailed answer that is unfinished or lacking in clarity and accuracy. The amount of detail you include should take into account the number of marks available. You need to produce a concise answer to this 12-mark question in order to ensure you have adequate time to deal with the longer, essay-type question that follows.

Exemplar Question

1 (01) Explain why the Duke of Buckingham rebelled against Richard III in 1483.
[12 marks]

Plan

- Identify the context of 1483 – why Richard III was vulnerable
- What Buckingham did and what he hoped to gain
- Why he was dissatisfied with his treatment by Richard III
- Conclusion – any links, or prioritisation?

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 1

The Buckingham rebellion was in 1483 and there are many reasons why it came about. One possible reason is Richard's favouring of northern nobles over southern nobles. Buckingham had been promised half of Herefordshire (the Bohun estates), however this was not confirmed by letters patent (1). As a result, Buckingham's hunger for power and influence was the main motive behind his rebellion, because he felt cheated by Richard.

Rumours were spreading about the Princes in the Tower, as they had not been seen for months. Buckingham's suspicions that Richard III may have harmed them could have been a reason for his rebellion (2). Buckingham had had great power since the death of Edward IV. It is possible that he saw an opportunity to usurp the throne for himself.

In conclusion, the Duke of Buckingham was a very influential figure. There was great instability in 1483 and Buckingham's rebellion highlighted great flaws in Richard's rule and his mismanagement of the nobles and domestic affairs (3).

Examiner's Assessment

The answer has several strengths. There is a sound grasp of the context of Richard III's reign and there is an appropriate focus on explaining a range of reasons why Buckingham turned to rebellion. However, there is too much speculation as to what Buckingham's motives 'might have been' and also a tendency to make generalised statements. Overall, the answer merits a mark of Level 3 – 9 marks.

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 2

One significant reason why Buckingham led a rebellion in 1483 was that he had become power hungry. He had helped Richard to usurp the throne from Edward V and had been generously rewarded with lands and titles. But he was after even greater power and he saw the instability at the start of Richard's reign as the perfect opportunity to seize this. Buckingham also had his own claim to the throne as a descendant of Edward III and the ease with which Richard seized the Crown was a tempting example to follow (4).

Buckingham also saw himself as a 'Kingmaker'. Even if

(1) This is a good use of specific detail.

(2) This is not so effective because it is rather general and relies on speculation.

(3) This is a convincing conclusion, with good use of the overall context.

(4) This is a solid beginning, based on secure own knowledge and setting out the context of the relationship between Buckingham and Richard III.

<p><u>he did not gain the throne for himself, helping Henry Tudor to become King would make Buckingham the most powerful noble of all. Buckingham had been put in touch with Tudor through John Morton. Although Tudor never reached England due to stormy weather and the rebellion failed, the link between Buckingham and Tudor was the key factor (5).</u></p> <p><u>It is even possible that it was John Morton who changed Buckingham’s opinion of Richard III. Morton was an enemy of Richard III, exiled in Brittany. Richard realised too late the mistake he had made by alienating Morton. He sent messengers to try to win back Morton’s support but was humiliatingly rejected. The most important reason of all behind Buckingham’s rebellion was that he thought Richard was weaker than his enemies and so he decided to make himself leader of all the factions who were anti-Richard (6).</u></p> <p>Examiner’s Assessment</p> <p>Whilst not a ‘perfect’ answer, it is a very good one, because it meets the relevant criteria. It has direct and sustained relevance and is concise. It develops a range of motives for the rebellion, using a good combination of knowledge and analysis, and it draws a legitimate conclusion which shows judgement. The answer clearly merits a mark of Level 4, 12 marks.</p>	<p>(5) This develops a motive for rebellion, again based on convincing specific evidence.</p> <p>(6) This conclusion provides very good links between the factors already set out and shows skilful differentiation of relative importance.</p>
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Mark Scheme	
L1:	The answer is descriptive and only loosely linked to the question, or there is comment but with little support. It is likely to be assertive and generalised. [1–2 marks]
L2:	There will be some relevant knowledge and understanding, but the answer will be mainly descriptive about the rebellion, with few links to explaining the motives behind it; or explanations will show limited range and/or depth. [3–6 marks]
L3:	Answers will show good understanding, with relevant explanations (at least two developed ones) of why the rebellion took place, using appropriate knowledge, although the answer may not cover all aspects. [7–9 marks]
L4:	The answer will be well focused on the issue of why Buckingham turned against Richard III, with a range of explanations, backed up with precise evidence and probably showing a good awareness of links/connections. [10–12 marks]

**AQA – AS GCE
Change and
Consolidation
Unit 1 HIS1B**

Britain 1483–1529

**QUESTION 1
(02)**

Examiner’s Specific Advice

This question is testing several skills and also your knowledge of the topic. Because the question is on an important topic, you are expected to know the main details, in this case the transformation of Henry Tudor from an obscure nobleman in exile in 1483 to the established King of England by 1487. You are also required to provide a historical explanation and make a substantiated judgement.

As always with an essay-type question, relevance is the key – your answer should be as concise as possible while taking into account all the demands of the question and its specific wording. Accuracy and clarity are more important than elegance of style.

The key thing is not to narrate and describe, but to keep the precise question in mind: to what extent did Henry Tudor depend on help from others (including the mistakes of Richard III) in 1483–85? How vital were events on the battlefield at Bosworth? Was the real key to Tudor’s success the way he consolidated his authority between his victory at Bosworth and the end of 1487?

It is important to make up your mind about which factors were the most important before beginning to write. For example, if you feel the battle *was* all-important, most of the focus of your answer and the supporting detailed evidence will be on 1485. If you feel that the long-term factors from 1483 and/or the process of consolidation after Bosworth were more important than the battle, the balance of your answer would be very different. Whatever your approach, do make a judgement and back it up with selected evidence.

Exemplar Question

1 (02) How important were events on the battlefield at Bosworth in explaining why Henry Tudor was able to establish himself as King of England between 1483 and the end of 1487? **[24 marks]**

Plan

- Introduction – the context of 1483 and the argument you are going to follow
- Long-term factors before Bosworth that aided Tudor’s cause
- Why Tudor was victorious at Bosworth and whether this was the decisive ‘turning-point’
- The process by which Henry VII consolidated his power to 1487
- Brief conclusion focused on assessment

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 1

Henry Tudor successfully usurped Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth for a number of reasons. Many of those stemmed from events on the battlefield. There were underlying reasons also, such as foreign backing and the dissatisfaction of the nobles in England at the time (1).

The fact that both the Stanley brothers and Northumberland remained neutral for the first half of the battle meant that Richard was lacking a lot of support; and his army was only 4000 men more than Henry's to start with. This would have made Richard feel uncertain and prevented him from having a large enough force to instantly crush Henry (2).

In addition, Richard tried to try and fight Henry Tudor on his own and this was a misjudgement. This was probably the decision that led to Richard's death and downfall as King. If he had charged at Henry with sufficient men around him then perhaps the outcome of the battle would have been very different (3).

The decision by Lord Stanley, halfway through the battle, to send his 3000 troops to fight on Henry's side definitely played a key role in the outcome of the battle. This gave Henry an equal number of fighters to Richard's army. It also weakened their will to fight (4).

However, there were other reasons why Henry was successful. Without foreign backing Henry Tudor would have been unable to fight a battle at all, let alone win it. And the fact that Richard III got such weak support from his nobles on the battlefield resulted from Richard's failure to keep the nobles happy after he seized the throne in 1483 (5).

In conclusion, the events on the battlefield, namely Richard's foolish decision to take on Henry Tudor single-handed, did give Henry the success he needed to gain the throne. However, Richard's problems were much deeper than events at Bosworth, especially the failure to rally support from his nobles before the battle (6).

(1) This is a relevant beginning, although not explained in any depth.

(2) Accurate evidence about the battle but offers limited evaluation.

(3) Showing some balance and awareness of the demands of the question.

(4) Sound evidence, well applied to the question.

(5) Relevant view of other factors but lacking in depth of evidence and comment.

(6) No attention at all is given to developments from 1485 to 1487, required by the question. This makes the otherwise sound conclusion very unbalanced.

Examiner's Assessment

This is in many respects a good answer. It is relevant, and linked to the question. There is a lot of sound material on the events at Bosworth and consistent attempts to assess their importance, culminating in a sound conclusion. However, it is a very partial answer. Although other factors are mentioned, they are dealt with very briefly and with little explanation. More importantly, the end date of the question, 1487, is entirely ignored and the whole answer is focused exclusively on 1485. As a result, an answer with the intrinsic merits for Level 4 had to be placed at the top of Level 3.

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 2

Events on the battlefield at Bosworth did undoubtedly help Henry Tudor's success. Richard's decision to break away from his army and charge at Henry led directly to his death and decided the outcome of the battle. With Richard dead, his army was left with nothing to fight for and the way was open for Henry Tudor to proclaim himself king. Battles are always a gamble and nobody could be certain before Bosworth that Henry would not be the one who was defeated and killed, so it is easy to see how important the battle was (7).

On the other hand, there were many other important factors. At the battle, for example, Richard was killed by Swiss pikemen. If Henry had not received foreign support from Brittany and France he would not have had skilled foreign mercenary soldiers in his army. He might never have been able to launch an invasion at all. If Henry had gone ahead with his planned invasion in 1483, at the time of the Buckingham rebellion, he would probably have been defeated, perhaps killed. So long-term factors before 1485 were even more important than Bosworth (8).

Foreign support was vital for Henry Tudor in 1483. He needed Brittany as a safe place of exile. He needed the money and troops supplied by France before he could even think of invading England. He also needed Richard III to be weakened from within. Richard made many mistakes and alienated many Yorkist nobles so that they joined Tudor in Brittany. Without the help of John Morton in organising all this, Tudor's campaign would never

(7) A convincing introduction, showing good awareness of the demands of the question.

(8) An excellent paragraph, providing balance and based on secure understanding of the question.

have got going at all.

It could be said that the alienation of his nobility was the real cause of Richard III's defeat at Bosworth. The decisive factor in the battle was the betrayal of Richard by Northumberland and the Stanleys. This showed that Richard was weak politically, not militarily (9).

Even after Bosworth, Henry VII was very vulnerable. He had a weak claim to the throne and he had seized it by force. There were many other claimants who might have seized it from him. Henry might well have failed to win over his nobility and faced the same dangers as Richard III faced from 1483 (10).

After Bosworth, Henry VII showed a lot of political skill in consolidating his weak position as King. He handled Parliament skilfully and he made sure that his claim to the throne was strengthened by marrying Elizabeth of York. He cleverly avoided allowing any nobles to become great magnates who could have threatened him like Buckingham threatened Richard III in 1483. He also dealt effectively with the danger of Pretenders. This consolidation was very important and took a long time. Not until 1487, after defeating the Lambert Simnel rebellion at Stoke, was Henry VII really established as King (11).

Bosworth, especially the death of Richard III, was obviously an important turning-point, but it was not the most important factor of all. The real reason why Henry VII established himself as King between 1483 and 1487 was that he succeeded in turning a weak position as King into a strong one after usurping the throne in 1485 but Richard III failed to do this after usurping the throne in 1483 (12).

Examiner's Assessment

This is an excellent, wide-ranging answer. It is confidently presented, and combines solid knowledge with analytical depth and judgement sustained throughout the answer. The question is directly addressed, with a good synoptic understanding of developments between 1483 and 1487. There is a balanced assessment, leading to a convincing conclusion. The answer is clearly worth Level 5, maximum marks – 24.

(9) These two paragraphs develop the argument effectively, showing judgement.

(10) Shows good grasp of the key dates of the question.

(11) Presenting concise, analytical evidence.

(12) An effective overview conclusion, arising logically out of the arguments in the rest of the answer.

Mark Scheme	
L1:	The answer is descriptive, only loosely linked to the question, or only answering part of it, or it is an explicit answer with little or no effective support. The answer is likely to be generalised and possibly assertive rather than argued. [1–6 marks]
L2:	The answer shows some understanding of the ruse of Henry Tudor between 1483 and 1487. It may be predominantly descriptive, or it may have explicit links with relevant but limited support. [7–11 marks]
L3:	The answer shows developed understanding of the various factors helping Henry Tudor to establish himself as King. There will be some assessment, supported by relevant and well-selected knowledge, although there will probably be a lack of weight of detail and/or balance. There will be some understanding of interpretations. [12–16 marks]
L4:	There is explicit understanding of the strengths of Henry Tudor and the weaknesses of his opponents. A balanced argument will be supported by good use of evidence and understanding of interpretations. [17–21 marks]
L5:	Answers will be well focused and closely argued. The arguments about how and why Henry Tudor secured the throne in this period will be supported by precisely chosen evidence leading to a relevant conclusion, showing judgement and a well-developed understanding of a range of alternative views. [22–24 marks]

AQA – AS GCE Change and Consolidation Unit 1 HIS1B	Britain 1483–1529	QUESTION 2 (03)
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Examiner’s Specific Advice

This question requires a range of skills and a focus on explanation rather than description. You need to find a range of reasons (three or more) for Wolsey’s downfall and link those reasons explicitly to 1529. Be careful not to take too long over this 12-mark question – it is important to be concise and to judge the length of your answer to the marks allocated. In addition to explaining clearly a range of reasons, try to make links and judgements about the relative importance of the reasons given, or how they were interrelated.

Exemplar Question

2 (03) Explain why Wolsey fell from power in 1529.

[12 marks]

Plan

- Explain the context of Wolsey's position in 1529
- Produce a range of reasons why Wolsey was unable to maintain the great power and influence he had previously held
- Consider in the conclusion any links that interrelate these reasons; or any judgements that differentiate which reasons were more decisive than others
- Remember that it is useful to explain, if you can, why Wolsey fell in 1528 and not before

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 1

Wolsey was always very powerful with Henry VIII. He had a lot of successes in foreign policy, such as the Treaty of London in 1518 and the Field of the Cloth of Gold in 1520. He was successful in domestic affairs as well, until 1525 when the Amicable Grant was a disaster and Wolsey got the blame for it (1). This started Wolsey's slide, because his enemies in the nobility exploited it (2).

From 1527, Wolsey was working hard on getting Henry a divorce from Katherine of Aragon but he got nowhere with this because the Pope would not go against Charles V because imperial troops had seized Rome (3).

When the King realised Wolsey was not going to get him a divorce, on top of the failure of the Amicable Grant, he decided to get rid of him (4).

Examiner's Assessment

This answer represents an underachievement. There is accurate and relevant knowledge but this is deployed too often as narrative description, rather than an explicit focus on explanation. Two sound reasons are provided and a third is hinted at rather implicitly. Overall, the answer is assessed at the borderline between Level 2 and Level 3 – it just reaches Level 3, 7 marks.

(1) This is a rather descriptive beginning, with little focus on 1529.

(2) This is a potentially valid point, badly underdeveloped.

(3) Sound relevant knowledge, but used too descriptively.

(4) This attempt at a conclusion repeats what has been said before.

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 2

Wolsey's fall from power was due primarily to the fact that he failed to gain the divorce from Katherine of Aragon that Henry VIII so badly wanted. As 'Legatus a Latere,' Wolsey should have had the influence and good relations with the Pope to make this possible. But, although the case was due to be settled in England, it was adjourned to Rome and it became clear it might take years to resolve. Henry did not want to wait that long before marrying Anne Boleyn and he blamed Wolsey for the delay (5).

Wolsey's status in the Church was actually used against him by Henry VIII. Henry claimed Wolsey valued the Church and Rome above his own King. Wolsey was actually open to this charge from 1518 onwards, so it was an excuse to go against him, not a reason (6).

One main reason why Wolsey fell was the failure of the Amicable Grant in 1525. This made him look weak and gave his enemies at court the chance to conspire against him.

Another important reason for Wolsey's downfall was that he had failed to keep England in the forefront of European politics, alongside France and Spain. Wolsey had previously succeeded in gaining prestige for Henry but from 1526 his diplomacy was starting to fail (7).

In conclusion, Wolsey fell from power because he no longer lived up to Henry's expectations. Above all, he failed to gain the divorce. Wolsey had made mistakes in the past but Henry had stayed loyal to him. By 1529, Henry was beginning to listen to Wolsey's many enemies, including Anne Boleyn (8).

Examiner's Assessment

This is a superior answer. It provides a solid range of reasons, backed by extensive own knowledge and showing a good grasp of key issues and definitions. Throughout, the answer shows depth of differentiation and comment, culminating in an effective conclusion. It merits a maximum mark of Level 4, 12 marks.

(5) This is a good introduction, showing detailed knowledge and a focus on 1529.

(6) This develops the explanation and shows judgement.

(7) A concise and very effective paragraph, offering two further reasons and a good grasp of the question.

(8) A good, synoptic conclusion, with links and judgement.

Mark Scheme
L1: The answer is descriptive and only loosely linked to the question, or there is comment but with little support. It is likely to be assertive and generalised. [1–2 marks]
L2: There will be some relevant knowledge and understanding, but the answer will be mainly descriptive about the events leading to Wolsey’s fall, with few links explaining their relationship; or explanations will show limited range and/or depth. [3–6 marks]
L3: Answers will show good understanding, with relevant explanations (at least two developed ones) of why Wolsey fell out of favour with Henry VIII, using appropriate knowledge, although the answer may not cover all aspects. [7–9 marks]
L4: The answer will be well focused on the issue of why Wolsey fell in 1529, with a range of explanations, backed up with precise evidence and probably showing a good awareness of links/connections. [10–12 marks]

AQA – AS GCE Change and Consolidation Unit 1 HIS1B	Britain 1483–1529	QUESTION 2 (04)
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Examiner’s Specific Advice

Answering this essay question requires a balanced argument, supported by accurate relevant evidence. It is more important to provide a direct response to the question than to set out comprehensive factual description of events given, or how they were interrelated.

Exemplar Question

2 (04) How successful were Wolsey’s foreign policies in the years 1513 to 1526?
[24 marks]

Plan

- Explain the foreign policy aims of Henry VIII and Wolsey in the context of the international situation after the death of Henry VII
- Identify and evaluate the successes and failures of England's foreign policies from 1513
- Provide an overall assessment of Wolsey's foreign policies by the end date of 1526 (note that this end date is very specific and does NOT require coverage of events to 1529)

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 1

Henry VIII wanted an aggressive foreign policy because he wanted prestige and glory. He expected Wolsey to help him make this happen. Initially, Henry just wanted to fight wars but Wolsey tried to negotiate peace deals and avoid wars if possible (1).

Wolsey was in charge of organising Henry's invasion of France in 1513. Henry gained the towns of Tournai and Therouanne but he felt let down by his ally, the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian. However, Wolsey made a success of the peace treaty with France in 1514, which allowed Henry to keep the two towns and renewed the French pension his father Henry VII had been given at Etaples in 1492 (2).

The Treaty of London in 1518 was the closest Henry VIII came to having prestige at the centre of European affairs. Originally signed by England and France, it was also signed by Spain and the Papacy. This was a big success for Wolsey and was probably the high point of his diplomatic career, although peace with France did not last long (3).

The Field of the Cloth of Gold was also negotiated by Wolsey and was a massive diplomatic success at the time. However, it was merely two weeks of boasting by two young kings and achieved nothing major. The promises of friendship at the Field of the Cloth of Gold were only temporary and England was at war with France again in 1522. The war achieved nothing and it was a defeat for Wolsey's policy of peacemaking (4).

It was becoming apparent to Wolsey and Henry that the main continental powers were not prepared to take England seriously. Wolsey's later policies failed. Between 1527 and 1529 he failed to negotiate Henry's divorce from Katherine of Aragon. England seemed isolated by being excluded from the treaty of Cambrai in 1529 (5). England was not a leading country. Times had changed since Henry V, who was Henry VIII's role model and Wolsey was seen as a failure (6).

Examiner's Assessment

This answer is rather uneven. The approach is rather descriptive at times and the depth of comment is variable. It is unfortunate that the end date of the question is not observed, with little on 1526 but some irrelevant material up to 1529 included. On the other hand, the answer shows sound awareness of the demands of the question and makes several valid assessments. Overall the answer merits Level 3, 16 marks.

(1) A relevant introduction but lacking in depth.

(2) Sound own knowledge but tending towards a descriptive approach.

(3) Limited depth of evidence but well focused on the question.

(4) Again, there is a tendency towards narrative description, though with valid links to the question.

(5) The answer strays outside the key dates of the question.

(6) A brief but thoughtful overview conclusion.

Examiner's Exemplar Answer 2

At the start of Henry VIII's reign, Wolsey was rising to power and he knew how important it was to please Henry if he was going to secure a dominant position. Wolsey's first big success was the French War. The war had begun in 1512 but was going badly. Wolsey engineered an alliance with the Holy Roman Empire which gave Henry international prestige and a powerful ally. In 1513 there was a series of military victories including the capture of Tournai and Therouanne. The peace treaty of 1514 allowed Henry to bask in glory and established Wolsey's reputation as a great diplomat (7).

Another example of Wolsey's success was the Treaty of London in 1518. Although not originally Wolsey's idea, it brought together an alliance between Henry VIII and Francis I and also involved other European powers in a commitment to peace. Wolsey was able to present himself as a great peacemaker and Henry VIII's prestige was enhanced (8).

Wolsey's success was demonstrated by the Field of the Cloth of Gold in 1520. This enabled the young monarchs Henry VIII and Francis I to make a great show but it actually had no real diplomatic significance and the friendship displayed in 1520 did not last. But at the time it was widely seen as a massive success, especially for Wolsey, who took the lead in organising and staging the event. It also fitted in with his preference for peace over war (9).

Wolsey also gained prestige and power as a Cardinal of the Church and papal legate. It was assumed that he gave England great influence over the Papacy, something that was proved wrong after 1526 when Wolsey could not negotiate Henry's divorce (10).

In the 1520s, Wolsey's foreign policies began to run into problems. The first was Henry VIII himself who had unrealistic ambitions and was eager for expensive wars. England went to war again with France in 1522. The war was costly and achieved very little to benefit England.

The second problem was the changing balance of power in Europe. The main players on the international stage, France and the Empire, were more concerned with each other than with England. The victory of Charles V at the Battle of Pavia in 1525 weakened England's international position (11).

Although Wolsey took part in the negotiations leading to the League of Cognac in 1526, England seemed to have only a minor role in Europe. Also in 1526, Wolsey attempted to use

(7) A solid introduction setting the context. It is also linked to the assessment of Wolsey's achievements.

(8) A narrative approach but well applied to the question.

(9) A useful attempt to develop the evaluation of Wolsey's motives in relation to those of the King.

(10) Looking at a range of factors and showing synoptic understanding.

(11) These two paragraphs develop the answer effectively, showing good understanding of the constraints Wolsey had to deal with.

<p><u>a trade embargo to put diplomatic pressure on Burgundy, as Henry VII had done in the 1490s. The policy backfired and the embargo had to be lifted. Henry VIII felt humiliated and furious and began to give Wolsey less support, even before the negotiations for the royal divorce began to fail</u> (12).</p> <p><u>Wolsey had many genuine successes in international affairs and probably deserved his reputation as a peacemaker. But working for an aggressive and unrealistic monarch like Henry VIII was very difficult, especially as England lacked the wealth and military power to compete with bigger European powers. He did about as well as he could but his policies were bound to end in failure eventually</u> (13).</p> <p>Examiner’s Assessment</p> <p>This is a strong answer. The candidate shows depth and range of relevant knowledge, used confidently to support a convincing central argument. Although set out in narrative form, there is a sustained focus on assessment and a convincing understanding of the wider context and of change over time. Overall, the answer merits a mark of Level 5, 23 marks.</p>	<p>(12) A convincing paragraph, focused on the key date 1526, and some analytical detail.</p> <p>(13) A crisp and efficient conclusion, summing up the argument and providing some judgement.</p>
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<p>Mark Scheme</p>	
<p>L1:</p>	<p>The answer is descriptive, only loosely linked to the question, or it is an explicit answer with little or no effective support. The answer is likely to be generalised and possibly assertive rather than argued.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[1–6 marks]</p>
<p>L2:</p>	<p>The answer shows some understanding of the successes and failures of Wolsey’s foreign policies. It may be predominantly descriptive about what happened during the period, with some basic links to the question, or it may have explicit links with relevant but very limited and general support.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[7–11 marks]</p>
<p>L3:</p>	<p>The answer shows sound understanding of the demands of the question. There will be some assessment, supported by relevant and well-selected knowledge, although there will probably be a lack of weight of detail and/or balance. There will be some general understanding of interpretations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[12–16 marks]</p>
<p>L4:</p>	<p>There is explicit understanding of Wolsey’s foreign policies in the context of Henry VIII’s reign. A balanced argument will be supported by relevant selected evidence and understanding of interpretations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[17–21 marks]</p>

L5:

Answers will be well focused and closely argued. The arguments about the achievements of Wolsey in foreign policy will be supported by precisely chosen evidence leading to a relevant conclusion/judgement, incorporating a well-developed understanding of interpretations and debate.

[22–24 marks]

Chronology: Key Events in *Britain 1483–1529*

- 1483** Death of Edward IV and usurpation of the throne by Richard of Gloucester. Failed rebellion by the Duke of Buckingham.
- 1484** Deaths of Richard III's only heir and his wife, Queen Anne.
- 1485** Invasion by Henry Tudor; Richard III defeated and killed at Bosworth. Henry VII recognised as King by Parliament.
- 1486** Marriage between Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. Act of Resumption passed.
- 1487** Defeat of the Lambert Simnel rebellion. Law against illegal retaining passed.
- 1489** Treaty of Redon with Brittany. Formation of marriage alliance with Spain at Medina del Campo.
- 1491** First appearance of the Pretender, Perkin Warbeck.
- 1492** Treaty of Etaples agreed with France.
- 1495** Execution of Sir William Stanley, for collusion with Margaret of Burgundy.
- 1496** Trade treaty *Magnus Intercursus* agreed with Burgundy.
- 1497** Outbreak of the Cornish rebellion, also involving Perkin Warbeck and support from Scotland. Defeat of the rebellion and capture of Warbeck. Truce signed with the Scots at Ayton. First voyage of John Cabot.
- 1499** Execution of Perkin Warbeck and the Earl of Warwick.
- 1502** Truce with Scotland confirmed by treaty. Death of Prince Arthur.
- 1503** Katherine of Aragon remarried to Prince Henry. Death of Queen Elizabeth.
- 1504** New laws passed against livery and maintenance.
- 1506** Trade treaty of *Malus Intercursus* agreed with Burgundy.
- 1509** Death of Henry VII and peaceful accession of Henry VIII.
- 1510** Execution of Empson and Dudley.
- 1512** Commencement of war against France.
- 1513** Victories for Henry VIII's armies in France and against the Scots at Flodden.
- 1515** Wolsey firmly established as Henry VIII's chief minister.
- 1518** Negotiation of the Treaty of London regarded as a triumph for Wolsey.
- 1520** Meeting between Henry VIII and Francis I on the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

- 1522** Renewed war against France.
- 1525** Balance of power in Europe changed by Charles V's victory at the Battle of Pavia. Amicable Grant introduced by Wolsey.
- 1526** League of Cognac formed.
- 1527** Sack of Rome by Imperial troops, thus undermining Wolsey's diplomatic position in relation to the King's 'great Matter'. Increasing influence of the Duke of Norfolk and others at court, exploiting Wolsey's absence abroad.
- 1529** Downfall of Wolsey.

Teaching Activities

1. For each of the five issues in the table below, note down how Henry VII dealt with the potential threat to his security.

	The extent of the threat	Repressive measures	Conciliatory measures	Other tactics	The extent of Henry's success
Former supporters of Richard III					
Lambert Simnel and his supporters					
Perkin Warbeck and his supporters					
Regional rebellions in Yorkshire and Cornwall					
Scotland and Ireland					

2. Consider the financial policies of Henry VII between 1485 and 1509. For each policy, assess first the motives behind them (how much was it about maximising royal wealth? How much was it about intimidation and political control?) and then evaluate the extent to which each policy was successful in achieving its objectives.

Additional Sample Questions

(a) Explain why Henry VII married Elizabeth of York in 1486.

[12 marks]

(b) How successful was Henry VII in gaining international prestige in the years 1489 to 1509?

[24 marks]

Weblinks

www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk

www.tudorbritain.org