



A-level HISTORY

Component 2C The Reformation in Europe, c1500–1564

Friday 6 June 2025 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/2C.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From 'A statement of the Magdeburg Pastors Concerning Resistance', by Nicholas Gallus, 1550. Gallus was a Lutheran pastor in Magdeburg when it was attacked by Catholic forces, 1550–51.

We will show that a Christian government should defend its subjects against a higher authority which tries to compel the people to deny God's word.

We do not expect to convince the Catholics that subjects may resist their lord and a lower power may resist a higher one if it seeks to uproot the Christian religion. The Catholics do not admit that we are Christians and consequently think they have the right to wage war upon us. 5

We address ourselves to the Emperor and beg him not to let the Pope persecute us, as the Pope's followers do. Even if Your Majesty will not concede that Lutherans are Christian, he still should not threaten anyone with force as the Catholics do. Obedience to God, and to the Emperor, is not incompatible, provided each stays within his sphere. 10

We will show from Holy Scripture that if a higher power undertakes by force to eliminate the true teaching of the Gospel then we may defend ourselves.

Source B

From The Peace of Augsburg, 1555.

In order to bring peace to the Holy Empire of the Germanic Nation. Let neither his Imperial Majesty nor the electors and princes, do any violence or harm to any part of the Empire on account of the Augsburg Confession of 1530. Let the electors and princes enjoy their religious belief, worship and ceremonies as well as their land and other privileges in peace. Complete religious peace shall be obtained by Christian means of friendship, or under threat of punishment. 5

Likewise, the Lutheran states of the Augsburg Confession shall let all the states and princes who cling to the old religion live in absolute peace.

However, all such as do not belong to the two above mentioned religions shall not be included in the present peace but be totally excluded. 10

Where an archbishop, bishop or other priest of our old religion shall abandon the same, his church position, together with any income and revenue which he has previously enjoyed, shall be abandoned by him without any objection or delay.

Source C

From Charles V's Abdication Speech to the nobles of the Netherlands, Brussels, 1556. Charles handed over control of the Netherlands to his son Philip and asked the nobles for forgiveness.

When I last came to Germany in 1552, I had no ambition to rule so many kingdoms but merely sought to safeguard Christianity against the Turks and to extend the Christian religion.

Despite these objectives, I was unable to achieve them as I wished, on account of the troubles raised by the heretics of Luther and others in Germany and on account of serious war which the hostility and envy of neighbouring princes had caused. 5

Nothing I have experienced has given me so much pain as parting from you today without leaving behind the peace and quiet I desired.

When I last went to Germany, I intended to abdicate but could not when I saw the wretched condition of the Christian state. It was therefore my duty to risk my life for the safety of Christianity. 10

This is the fourth time I go to Spain, where I will yield to my son Philip, the possession of all my states, and to my brother, the king of the Romans, the Empire.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying religious problems in the Holy Roman Empire in the years 1550 to 1556.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'In c1517, the financial demands of the Church were a cause of widespread resentment.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

To what extent was Luther responsible for the development of Protestant doctrine in the years 1524 to 1531?

[25 marks]

0 4

'The Council of Trent successfully strengthened the Catholic Church.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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