

## AS HISTORY

Royal Authority and the Angevin Kings, 1154–1216

Component 2A The Reign of Henry II, 1154–1189

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Monday 19 May 2025

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/2A.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**

Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

From 'A History of England' by Roger of Howden, a royal clerk under Henry II, compiled in the early years of the thirteenth century.

Young Henry was greatly offended that his father was unwilling to agree to his request to give him some portion of his territories. He had made this request at the suggestion of King Louis and those barons who disliked his father. From that time, Young Henry had been seeking an opportunity for withdrawing from his father. By 1173, he was so angry that he could not even talk with the King in a peaceable manner. Having gained his opportunity, Young Henry left his father, and proceeded to the King of France. However, Young Henry's chancellor, chaplain, and chamberlain abandoned him, and returned to the King of England. Thus did the King's son lose his senses. He alone was guilty.

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**Source B**

From a letter to Eleanor of Aquitaine by Peter of Blois, a diplomat at Henry II's court, 1173. The letter was made public. Peter supported Henry during the Becket dispute.

A woman who does not submit to her husband disrupts nature. We condemn your leaving your husband. What is worse, you have opened the way for the King's children to rise against him. We know that you will be the cause of widespread disaster. Your actions will result in ruin for everyone. Through your childish advice you provoke disaster for the King. And so, before this matter reaches a bad end, you should return with your sons to your husband, whom you have promised to obey. He will undoubtedly show you every possible kindness. I beg you, advise your sons to be obedient and respectful to their father. He has suffered many anxieties, offences and grievances.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the origins of the Great Rebellion in 1173?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2** 'In 1166 Henry II was in a strong position as king.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'The aftermath of the Becket dispute had brought about a victory for the Church at the expense of the Crown by the end of the 1170s.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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