This is a Class 3 exam

Lebanon Evangelical School for Boys and Girls

Lebanon Evangelical School
for Boys and Girls
Loueizeh - Baabda

Stage Exam 02

26MAR2025

Do NOT write in this box. Your MARK will be placed here.

Subject :	Special HGC
Class :	8A
Teacher :	Samer Bassoulou
Duration :	1 hour

Answer on a Separate

You are to answer the questions to this exam on : Lined paper

Your name :		*Time taken to complete exam*
Your Class :		
Exam Room :		
How many sheets, including cover sheet :		

- Do not open this paper until the teacher in charge instructs you to do so.
- The most important thing to remember in taking an exam is NEVER PANIC.
- If you are caught cheating in this exam, you will be awarded zero for ALL exams that are taken on this day.
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1- Use extract **A** to answer the following question:
What **impression does the author** give about "**Edward the Confessor**"?
You must use extract A to explain your answer. (6 marks)

Extract A:

On one hand, Edward was deeply religious, earning the title "Confessor," a name reserved for those who lived a holy life but were not martyred. His devotion to the Church led to the construction of Westminster Abbey, one of the greatest religious buildings of the time. Many admired his generosity and his desire for peace in a violent world. He even managed to rule England for over two decades without becoming embroiled in constant warfare, unlike many kings before and after him. Surely, this is the mark of a great leader, one who placed stability above ambition. And yet, what good is a king who lacks the strength to control his own kingdom? Edward, despite being crowned ruler of England, was more Norman than Anglo-Saxon in his heart. Having spent much of his youth in Normandy, he surrounded himself with Norman advisors, granting them powerful positions at the English court. This, of course, angered the Anglo-Saxon nobles, especially the powerful Earl Godwin of Wessex, who saw Edward as a foreign-minded king who ignored the needs of his own people. A king who cannot command the loyalty of his own nobility—is he truly a king at all?

2- **Name and explain two features of feudalism in England during the Norman rule. (8 marks)**

3- **Choose one of the following Questions: (16 marks)**

a- After the Norman Conquest, William replaced most Anglo-Saxon nobles with Norman barons, enforcing strict feudal control. Some argue that **this strengthened England's governance**, while others believe **it destroyed local traditions and created resentment among the Anglo-Saxon population**.

How far do you agree that the Norman feudal system was a positive change for England?

Or

b- The main reason for the struggle that occurred in England in 1066 after the death of Edward the Confessor was the legitimacy of a monarch's claim to the throne.

How far do you agree that the legitimacy of a monarch's claim to the throne, characterized by the possession of royal blood?

1- The impression the author gave is positive sometimes and negative at some other place. The tone used is balanced and slightly critical. On the positive side, the author describes Edward as "deeply religious" and admired for "his generosity and his desire for peace," showing respect for his character. He is even praised for managing "to rule England for over two decades without becoming embroiled in constant warfare." However, the tone becomes more critical when the author says Edward "was more Norman than Anglo-Saxon in his heart" and questions his ability to lead, asking, "is he truly a king at all?" One thing the author forgets to mention is how Edward's religious nature influenced the people and the church beyond Westminster Abbey.

2-
One feature was the feudal hierarchy, where the king gave land to his barons in return for loyalty and military service. This helped the king control the country by making sure powerful nobles were loyal to him.

Another feature was the system of knights serving under barons, who protected the land and provided military support when needed. In return, the knights were given smaller pieces of land and expected to protect the peasants living on it.

3- A possible Answer:

I agree to a moderate extent that the Norman feudal system was a positive change for England. It helped William keep control over the country by rewarding Norman barons with land and power. This created a strong central authority and reduced the chances of rebellion, especially since land was tied to loyalty and military service.

However, some people argue that it was a negative change. The Normans replaced most Anglo-Saxon nobles, which led to resentment and a loss of local traditions. Many Anglo-Saxons felt like strangers in their own land, and this increased tensions between the rulers and the people.

In conclusion, while the Norman feudal system brought more control and order to England, it also caused division and resentment. So it had both benefits and drawbacks.