

# Eton College King's Scholarship Examination 2022

## HISTORY, DIVINITY and GEOGRAPHY

(One and a half hours)

**Remember to write your candidate number on every sheet of answer paper used.**

*The paper is divided into THREE sections. Candidates should answer a total of THREE questions drawn from at least TWO sections.*

*Each question is worth the same number of marks.*

*You need not answer the questions in the order set, but you must start each one on a separate piece of paper.*

**Do not turn over until told to do so.**

## SECTION 1: HISTORY

START A NEW SHEET OF PAPER FOR EACH QUESTION

*You should refer to examples from any period(s) of history you have studied to answer the essay questions.*

1. Source A

The following passage is adapted from a letter written by an eleven-year-old girl – Maria Holroyd – to her aunt Serena in July 1782. What can this extract tell you about social and family life in eighteenth-century Britain? [No prior knowledge of either the source or the period is required to answer this question.]

**Source A.** *From a letter from Maria Holroyd to her aunt Serena, July 1782*

Your letter quite delighted me; they are always so entertaining that (except papa and mama) I had rather have one letter from my dear Serena, than ten from anybody else. As I have not wrote to you for some time, I must tell you a few things about London, tho' we have been in the country for a month next Wednesday. About three weeks or a month before we went out of town, we went to Sadler's Wells\*; Louisa [Maria's younger sister] went for the first time of her going into those sorts of places; she was as delighted as ever she could be. Have you ever been there? And how do you like it? For my part I liked it very much. Then we went to see the Polish Dwarf and the Irish Giant, I do not know whether you may have heard talk of them; the first is exactly three foot high, and the last eight foot, two inches. What a difference! I beg you will never make what you call an apology for not writing; you write when you please, and I write when I please without any set time. I will allow you to moralise as much as you please, for the more you do, the more agreeable are your letters. The Lessons you mention as having received from my dear Grandfather are excellent; and pray God! I may profit by them as you have. You showed me an elegy\*\* on him, I think in French, made by yourself, may I beg a copy of it from you? I will keep it as the virtues of one who is now no more, and as a proof of my dearest Serena's talents. You say you felt like a young woman again the other day. Pray how long is it since you was an old one? I could have romped with you then just as I do at home. You think I do not regret London. I should not if the year was equally divided; but we are only five months in town, and seven in the country. I do not give you any settled time to write in, but be assured that my Serena's letters will always be acceptable to her most affectionate,

Maria Josepha Holroyd

\* *Sadler's Wells is a popular London theatre*

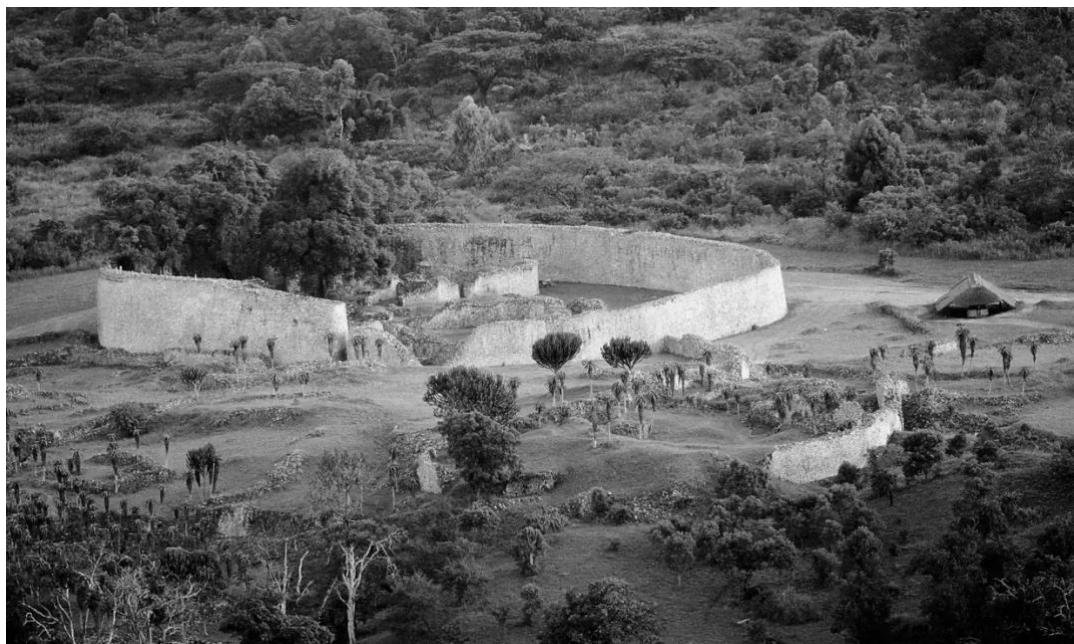
\*\**An elegy is a poem of lamentation, usually written to remember the dead*

2. Choose a famous building. What can you learn about History from this building?
3. Compare and contrast the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic with any past pandemic.
4. There have been recent public debates about whether or not statues of historical figures should be removed. If it were up to you, would you remove all, some or none? Explain your answer.
5. “Empires rise thanks to superior military technology.” How far do you agree with this statement?
6. Study sources B to H. How much do these sources tell us about the study of African History? [No prior knowledge of either the sources or the period is required to answer this question.]

*Background information:*

Great Zimbabwe is a medieval city in the southeastern hills of the present country of Zimbabwe. It is thought to have been the capital of a great kingdom between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. Archaeologists now agree that the buildings were built by the ancestral Shona people, a Bantu ethnic group that primarily lives in southern Africa. Some of the most impressive features were its walls which climbed to eleven metres (36 feet) high and were constructed without mortar. The circular Great Enclosure extends some 250m (820 ft), making it the largest ancient structure south of the Sahara Desert. The stone buildings and the surrounding area were once home to a city of 10,000-20,000 inhabitants (similar to medieval London).

**Source B.** *A modern photograph of the Great Enclosure and surrounding ruins*



**Source C.** *Account by João de Barros, a Portuguese historian who relied for his information on both Portuguese explorers and Moorish (Muslim) traders, published in 1552*

The natives of the country call all these edifices Symbaoe, which according to their language signifies court. ... When, and by whom, these edifices were raised, as the people of the land are ignorant of the art of writing, there is no record, but they say they are the work of the devil, for in comparison with their power and knowledge it does not seem possible to them that they should be the work of man. ... There are no ancient or modern buildings in those parts, the people being barbarians and all the houses of wood.

**Source D.** *Account by Karl Mauch, a German explorer and geographer of Africa who visited and wrote about the site several times between 1866 and 1872*

It can be taken as fact that the wood which we obtained actually is cedar wood and from this that it cannot come from anywhere else but from the Lebanon. Furthermore only the Phoenicians could have brought it here; further Solomon used a lot of cedar wood for the building of the temple and of his palaces; further, including here the visit of the Queen of Sheba and considering Zimbabwe or Zimbaoe or Symbaoe written in Arabic (of Hebrew I understand nothing) one gets as a result that the great woman who built [the Great Enclosure] could have been none other than the Queen of Sheba.

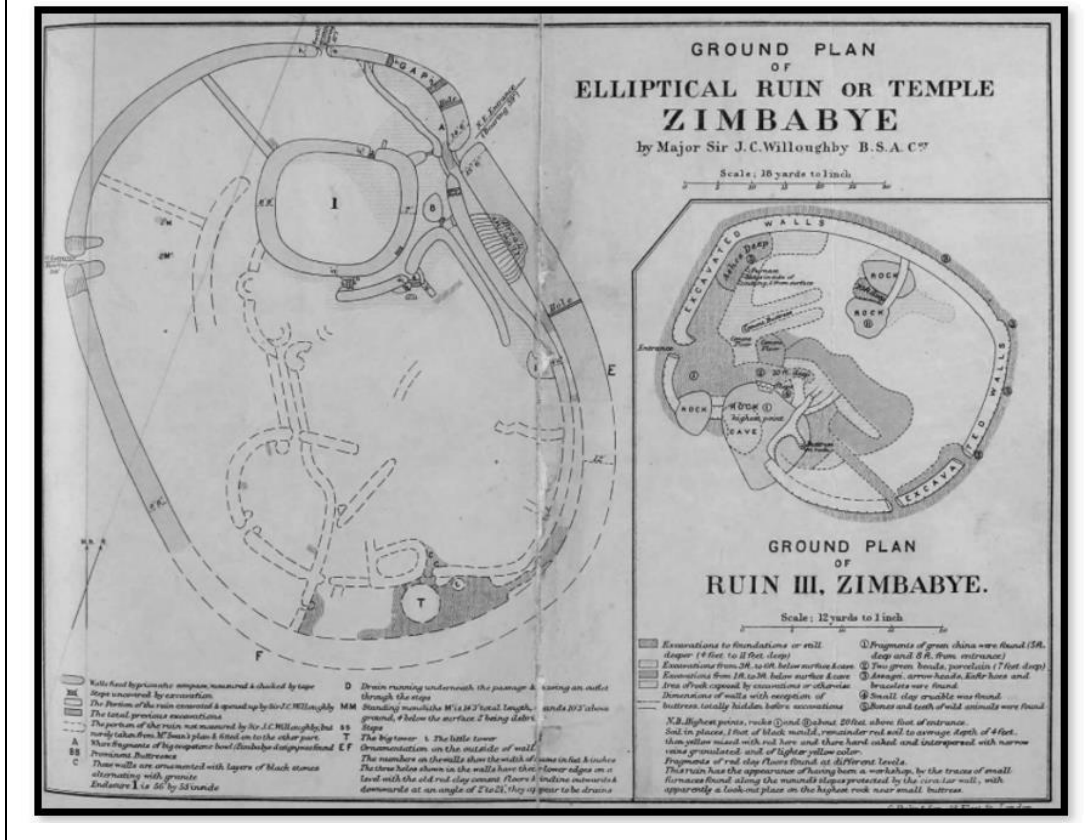
**Source E.** *Excerpt from J. Theodore Bent, an English explorer and archaeologist, who visited and then published a book in 1892, The Ruined Cities of Mashonaland*

A prehistoric race built the ruins ... a northern race coming from Arabia ... closely akin to the Phoenician and Egyptian ... and eventually developing into the more civilised races of the ancient world. ... The ruins and the things in them are not in any way connected with any known African race.

**Source F.** *Statement from Gertrude Caton Thompson, a professional English archaeologist who excavated the site in 1931*

Examination of all the existing evidence, gathered from every quarter, still can produce not one single item that is not in accordance with the claim of Bantu origin and medieval date. The interest in Zimbabwe and the allied ruins should, on this account, to all educated people be enhanced a hundred-fold; it enriches, not impoverishes, our wonderment at their remarkable achievement.

**Source G.** *Plan of the site as drawn by Sir John Willoughby, a British army officer who visited the site in 1892*



**Source H.** *From “Unearthing the Truth,” in The Economist, 18 December 2021*

...Not that the evidence [that Africans built Great Zimbabwe] mattered under white rule.\* Schoolchildren were told that foreigners were behind Great Zimbabwe. Rhodesian soldiers who fought in the colonial wars of conquest were buried at the site. Golf courses were built within its environs. In 1973, Peter Garlake, an iconoclastic\*\* white archaeologist, was forced into exile by the Rhodesian government for promoting the African origins of the site. Today its true origins are universally accepted. ...

African history remains peripheral and dogged by outdated assumptions partly because of a lack of African perspectives. Just 3% of the papers published in four prestigious history journals from 1997 to 2020 were about Africa. Of these only about 10% were written by authors based in Africa (compared with 86% for America, 76% for Europe and 40% for Asia and Oceania). The more that is written about African history, the more nuanced it is likely to become. The more African scholars do the writing, the more likely it is that the field benefits from new methods and insights.

\*The area had been the British colony of Southern Rhodesia from 1923-1964 and then the self-declared independent country of Rhodesia, ruled by a white minority from 1965 to 1979, before becoming Black majority-ruled Zimbabwe in 1980

\*\* “Iconoclastic” means criticising accepted or cherished beliefs

## SECTION 2: DIVINITY

START A NEW SHEET OF PAPER FOR EACH QUESTION

1. “We cannot know God.” Do you agree? Give reasons to support your view.
2. Discuss what we could learn as a society from the story of Cain and Abel.
3. “Saving the planet from climate change is the most pressing issue of today.” Do you agree? Give reasons to support your view.
4. Using an example of your choice, explain what makes a great thinker.
5. Are “rites of passage” still relevant today? Give reasons to support your view, using appropriate examples from any religion.
6. “Pilgrimage is the most important part of any religion.” Do you agree? Give reasons to support your view.

### SECTION 3: GEOGRAPHY

START A NEW SHEET OF PAPER FOR EACH QUESTION

1. “With its numerous hurricanes, tornados and wildfires, it can reasonably be said that the United States experiences the full force of the **weather**. The United Kingdom, by contrast, experiences **climate**.” To what extent is this a valid statement?
2. In 1982, reflecting prevailing concerns at the time, the Geography Scholarship exam included a question on Acid Rain. Forty years later, a question on Climate Change might be considered appropriate. Give a reasoned explanation of what sort of question Scholarship candidates of 2062 might expect to find on their Geography paper.
3. To what extent is it possible to be proficient at Geography without being able to read a map?
4. “Transport is the maker and breaker of cities.” Discuss.
5. Is the study of river floods of more interest to a physical or a human geographer? Explain your answer with the use of relevant examples.
6. With reference to examples, explain the risks a country might face when its economy is overly concentrated on one main sector of economic activity (primary, secondary, tertiary, or quaternary).

END OF PAPER