



WINCHESTER
COLLEGE

Election

History

2024

Total time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

You may have 10 minutes to study the source documents before the examination starts.

Answer ALL questions in Section A and ONE question from Section B.

Total marks for Section A: **30**. Total marks for Section B: **20**.

Please start Section B on a fresh sheet of paper.

Section A: Bandits and Outlaws

For those in power, banditry is a form of criminality. Bandits live outside the law, often hiding in mountainous or inaccessible regions, where they pursue careers of theft and violence. They are outsiders and rebels who refuse to live by the normal rules of society. Sometimes bandits go further, developing ideas about politics and society. They can be 'good' or 'bad', fictional or real. They can play the role of Robin Hood or kill in the pursuit of wealth and power. In this section, you should think about how legends about bandits and outlaws change over time, as well as the significance of these changes. Does the romanticization of the 'noble robber' reflect tensions in society? Are the numerous ballads, plays, films and novels about bandits and outlaws best understood as a form of popular entertainment or can they tell us more about attitudes towards crime and authority?

You are not expected to know anything about the material. If you do, deploy your knowledge only to further your analysis of the sources. You are advised to spend about 50 minutes on this section of the paper.

Source A

This is an extract from the opening lines of A Gest of Robyn Hode, a long narrative poem from the early fifteenth century. A character named Little John has just asked Robin Hood who is to be robbed and who is to be left alone.

'But make sure you do no
 husbandman harm
Who tilleth with his plough.

Nor shall you harm any good
 yeoman
Who walks by greenwood grove:
Nor any knight nor any squire
Who will be a good fellow.

These bishops and these
 archbishops,
You shall them beat and bind;
The high sheriff of Nottingham
You keep him in your mind.'

Source B

Haiduks were free peasants who sometimes lived as outlaws in the mountains and plains of south-eastern Europe. Their violence and banditry were described in numerous folk songs and ballads. Here are two typical passages.

Whoever wants to become a free Haiduk,
step this way, stand up beside me.
Twenty lads thus came together,
And we'd nothing, not a thing between us,
no sharp swords, but only sticks.

...

We have made many mothers weep,
We have widowed many wives,
Many more have made orphans,
For we are childless men ourselves.

Source C

These film posters for Cartouche (1962) and Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991) show how two famous outlaws have been imagined by filmmakers in the twentieth century. Louis Dominique Bourguignon (alias Cartouche) was a notorious French highwayman and bandit, who was executed in Paris in 1721.





Source D

Ned Kelly was a notorious Australian bank robber and murderer who was hanged in Melbourne in 1880. As a 'bushranger', he led a gang of violent outlaws, who were pursued by the police. After his death, he and his gang were often portrayed as heroes and champions of the poor in popular songs and ballads. This extract is taken from an anonymous ballad that was sung throughout Victoria. On the evening of 25 October 1878, Kelly and his gang killed three policemen in a gunfight at 'Stringybark'.

A sergeant and three constables set out from Mansfield town
 At the end of last October for to hunt the Kellys down.
 They travelled to the Wombat and thought it quite a lark,
 And they camped upon the borders of a creek called Stringybark.
 They had grub and ammunition there to last them many a week,
 And next morning two of them rode out to explore all the creek,

Leaving McIntyre behind them in the camp to cook the grub,
And Lonigan to sweep the floor and bass the washing tub.
Shortly after breakfast Mac thought he heard a noise,
And gun in hand he sallied forth to try to find the cause;
He never saw the Kellys planted safe behind a log,
And he slithered back to smoke and yarn and wire into the grog.
Kelly and his comrades thought they'd take a nearer look,
And being short of grub they wished to interview the cook.
And of fire-arms and of cartridges they found they had too few,
So they longed to grab the pistols and the ammunition too.
Two bobbies at the stump alone they then were pleased to see,
Watching of the billy boiling for the troopers' tea.
They smoked and chatted gaily, never thinking of alarms,
Till they heard the fearful cry behind, 'Bail up, throw up your arms'.
Lonigan started wildly, but Mac he firmly stood,
And threw up his arms while Lonigan made tracks to gain the wood;
He reached for his revolver but before he touched the stock,
Ned Kelly drew his pistol, shot, and dropped him like a rock.

Source E

On 5 February 1879, the Kellys robbed a bank at Jerilderie in New South Wales. After the robbery, Ned Kelly dictated a 10,000-word statement to an employee at the bank. This is a short extract from the 'Jerilderie Letter'.

I give fair warning to all those who has reason to fear me to sell out and give \$10 out of every hundred towards the widow and orphan fund and do not attempt to reside in Victoria but as short a time as possible after reading this notice, neglect this and abide by the consequences, which shall be worse than the rust in the wheat in Victoria or the druth¹ of a dry season to the grasshoppers in New South Wales I do not wish to give the order full force without giving timely warning, but I am a widows son outlawed and my orders must be obeyed.

Source F

This is from a book about banditry written by Eric Hobsbawm (d. 2012), a British historian. It was first published in 1969.

¹ A Irish-English word for 'thirst'.

The point about social bandits is that they are peasant outlaws whom the lord and state regard as criminals, but who remain within peasant society, and are considered by their people as heroes, as champions, avengers, fighters for justice, perhaps even leaders of liberation, and in any case as men to be admired, helped and supported. In these cases where a traditional society resists the encroachments and historical advance of central governments and states, native or foreign, they may be helped and supported even by local lords. This relation between the ordinary peasant and the rebel outlaw is what makes social banditry interesting.

Questions

Study Sources A and B.

1. How does Source A challenge the modern stereotype that Robin Hood robbed from the rich to help the poor? [4]
2. Does the attitude towards banditry and violence in Source B differ from Source A? [4]

Study Source C.

3. What do these posters suggest about the appeal of outlaws and highwaymen in the twentieth century? [6]

Compare Sources D and E.

4. Does Source E make the depiction of Ned Kelly in Source D surprising? [6]

Study all the sources.

5. What do these sources suggest about the reasons why outlaws are often seen as popular heroes? [10]

Total for Section A: 30 marks

Section B: Essay Questions

Answer ONE of the following questions. Use examples from your own knowledge to support your answer. Wherever possible, anchor your arguments in your knowledge of the past. All questions are worth 20 marks.

1. Is historical periodisation useful? If so, when?
2. Discuss the significance in any period or periods of **EITHER** migration **OR** artists.
3. How might historians study emotions such as anger and fear?
4. Does imperial expansion always involve violence?
5. More than 70 countries will hold elections in 2024, involving roughly half the world's adult population. Are elections ever historically significant?
6. Account for a military defeat other than the Battle of Hastings.

Total for Section B: 20 marks