Eton College King’s Scholarship Examination 2011

HISTORY, DIVINITY AND GEOGRAPHY

(One and a half hours)

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

Start each question on a NEW sheet of paper.
SECTION 1: HISTORY

*You should refer to examples from the periods of History you have studied to answer the essay questions.*

1. Why do empires decline?

2. How far do political revolutions have common causes?

3. ‘We learn more about a historical period from personal diaries than we do from any number of history books.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

4. ‘All written history is the history of men. Women are ignored.’ How far do you agree with this statement?

5. Read Source A. It is an extract from a book on Japan, written in 2001 by a British historian. What can it tell us about Japan and Japanese society in the 1930s?

[No prior knowledge of either the source or Japan in the 1930s is required to answer this question.]

Source A

Despite hardship, between 1933 & 1936 the proportion of Japan’s budget spent on arms rose by 20%. Forced by economic depression and diplomatic isolation, the Japanese fortified themselves against the world and threatened the peace of Asia. Their industry was formidable. Not a shard of metal was wasted. Instead of tin signs they used wood. Hedges did for iron fences and pegs for nails. Bamboo poles took the place of wire clothes lines, something foreigners often noticed since country women often remained naked to the waist whilst hanging out the washing. Japan also bought scrap in bulk, not least broken-up American warships which were transported for recycling straight to the Imperial Navy’s dockyards in Osaka. In a meeting at the time with a British reporter, the Japanese Emperor declared that he wanted ‘peace in the Far East’. But he was dressed in khaki uniform, peaked cap, gold badges of rank and sword.

Piers Brendon, *The Rise of Japanese Militarism*

6. Look at sources B, C & D. They are all sources about Britain during the First World War. What impression do they give about how the war changed life for the people of Britain in the period 1914-1918?

[No prior knowledge of either the sources or wartime Britain is required to answer this question.]

[Turn over]
Source B

A First World War Sugar Ration Card

Source C

The airship was on fire and it was floating down. I could only think of people inside it being roasted to death. I was disgusted to see kind, good hearted people dancing in the street as the men in that airship were dying. When I said it was a terrible thing, my friends said, ‘but they’re Germans, they’re the enemy, they’ve been bombing us.’ That’s what the war did. It turned decent, gentle people into monsters.

An eye-witness description of the shooting down of a German Zeppelin over London during the First World War.

Source D

Official government photograph showing women working in a munitions factory. Women rarely did this sort of work before the war, but as men went to fight, the work women did started to change.
SECTION 2: DIVINITY

1. Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” “I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s keeper?” (Genesis 4:9)
   Explain the meaning and relevance today of the story of Cain and Abel.

2. “Give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.” (1 Kings 3:9)
   Explain the importance of Solomon’s request to God for the gift of wisdom.

3. They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” (Mark 4:41)
   Explain the issues raised by the miracle of the Calming of the Storm.

4. “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (John 20:29)
   Explain the significance of these words with regard to the Resurrection of Jesus.

5. ‘Christian teaching has little to say that is relevant to stewardship and the environment.’
   Discuss.

6. ‘Young men, those of you who can support a wife should marry, for it keeps you from looking at women and preserves your chastity.’
   Explain the significance of these words from the hadiths with regard to marriage and family life in Islam.

SECTION 3: GEOGRAPHY

1. Why is it that different places on the same latitude can have different climates?

2. Describe and explain the role of weathering in the development of landforms in EITHER coastal OR river environments.

3. With reference to examples, discuss the impacts of rapid industrial growth in LEDCs.

4. Why are there such variations in the damage caused by natural hazards?

5. Assess the significance of water in physical geography.

6. To what extent is it possible to reconcile the conflicting aims of recreation and conservation in national parks?

[END OF PAPER]