

May 2002

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
Department of History

Senior Comprehensive Exams

THE UNITED KINGDOM

Please answer each question separately. Your answer to each question must not exceed five double-spaced typewritten pages. **On the cover of each answer be certain to indicate your name, the appropriate comprehensive field (i.e., The United States, The United Kingdom), as well as the number of the question you have answered.** Your answer should be written in your own words and include the correct citations for any sources you use, as in any paper or final exercise. Be sure to include at the end of your essay the statement "This represents my own work in accordance with University regulations" and sign your name.

All answers must be turned in at the History Department office by **3:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MAY 15th.** **There will be no extensions.** For further explanation of the Grading of Departmental Comprehensive Exams, see page 5 of "Information for Majors."

Answer TWO of the following questions.

1. What resources did fifteenth-century English kings have with which to maintain order?
2. Was Henry VIII an arch manipulator or merely the plaything of fiction?
3. What were the major consequences of the reign of Henry VIII?

OR

What sort of event was the Henrician reformation?

4. How stable was the Elizabethan regime?
5. Were Catholics "persecuted" under Elizabeth I? Analyse the main arguments used by contemporaries to debate this question
6. How stable was the Jacobean church?
7. Why was the Spanish match such a big deal?

OR

Discuss the nature and seriousness of the political crisis of the 1620s.

continued on next page

8. "The great turning point in early Stuart politics was the accession of Charles I" Was it?
9. "Without the Scots war the Personal Rule would have succeeded." Do you agree?
10. "An event without long-term causes but with massive long-term effects." Assess this verdict on the English Revolution.

OR

How would you assess the nature and significance of the regicide?

11. What have EITHER funeral monuments OR country houses OR fashion to tell us about the cultural history of post-Reformation England?
12. What did the Restoration restore?

OR

When was the Restoration over?

13. How skillful a politician was Charles II?
14. What was the exclusion crisis about?
15. "The failure of the Stuart monarchy had just one cause—James II." Do you agree?

OR

"The true revolution of the seventeenth century was 1688." Discuss

OR

"The immediate aftermath of the Glorious Revolution saw the emergence of the first modern state in England." Do you agree?

16. "Massive social and cultural change combined with unequalled political ability." Is this a fair description of Britain between 1715 and 1780?
17. What were the major effects on Britain and its empire of the loss of the American colonies?