

Candidate Name:



St Swithun's
WINCHESTER

History

Sixth Form Academic Assessment

Sample Paper

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions to Candidates

Candidates should answer all questions.

Further Information

Read the instructions carefully before answering.

Guidance about how to divide up your time is given at the start of each question.

Write the number, and particularly for Question 2 the letter, of the question you are answering.

Remember to write in clear, accurate sentences as the quality of your written English is important.

The paper consists of 3 pages, including this cover sheet.

QUESTION 1

Spend about 25-30 minutes on this question.

Read the following, and then use it to answer the question below:

Why Tudor men didn't cry

Debates about men crying in public may seem a modern trend – as media coverage of England's many recent sporting losses will attest. Yet men in Tudor and Stuart England also faced close scrutiny for the ways in which they showed their feelings, new research has revealed.

In a new study, published in the journal *Past and Present*, Bernard Capp from the University of Warwick explores accounts of how tearful men were regarded during the 16th and 17th centuries. His study suggests that the period was marked by a new emphasis on self-control – although only some sections of society were believed to be capable of meeting this standard.

Capp told *BBC History Magazine*: “Men in the period didn't expect women and children to have much control over their emotions, but thought that other men definitely should, especially the educated and the elite. There was a strong class dimension: members of the ruling classes often expressed the idea that, since they were responsible for governing others, they should be able to govern their own emotions.”

An increased interest in classical works, especially the writings of the Stoics, is one of the key reasons for this change, Capp suggests. “My impression is that medieval culture, even for the elite, had been much more uninhibited in the ways in which men displayed their emotions,” he says. “It's likely that what led to the change in attitude was a ‘Renaissance effect’: a greater familiarity among the upper classes with the work of classical writers, and their ideas of self-control, moderation and civility.”

The work of one classical writer, in particular, led to the new focus on male emotions. According to the work of the ancient Greek physician Galen, there is only one human sex, with men and women at different points along a spectrum. Not only that, he also claimed that men and women's sexual organs were simply inversions of each other. “There's been a lot of debate about whether this idea was universally accepted during the 16th and 17th centuries, but there were a number of extraordinary stories of people spontaneously changing sex, with male organs bursting out in women who were physically strong or hyperactive,” says Capp. “This is obviously far-fetched, but there were fears that sexual identity was precarious, and that a man's masculinity might be lost if his behaviour wasn't appropriately ‘male’ – and, therefore, male behaviour needed to be regulated.”

As today, though, men weeping was more acceptable in some situations than others. Failure to express grief at a close personal bereavement, for instance, appears to have been widely seen as unnatural – although a lack of moderation was still regarded as unseemly. Men were also allowed to show emotion in a religious context, either from remorse over personal sin or in gratitude for the redemption brought by Christ's suffering. Indeed, the fact that the Bible features several men crying – including Jesus – made it very difficult to condemn male tears entirely.

And, just as views of men showing their feelings have changed throughout the 20th century, Capp stresses that these shifts are nothing new. “Attitudes towards emotions have not remained constant – indeed, we should see them as part of a cyclical pattern that repeats down the generations,” he says. “However, the 16th and 17th centuries really did mark a dramatic shift.”

Matt Elton, *BBC History Magazine*, November 2014

How far were men discouraged from showing emotion during the 16th and 17th centuries?
(12 marks)

QUESTION 2

Spend approximately 20-25 minutes on this question.

Answer one of the following, drawing on your knowledge of history to support your arguments with specific illustrations:

- a) “Religion has caused more conflict than peace.”
To what extent do you agree with this statement?

- b) “Only a good person can make a great leader.”
To what extent do you agree with this statement?

- c) “People do not learn from the mistakes of the past.”
To what extent do you agree with this statement?

(12 marks)