Instructions to Candidates

1. Answer ONE question from Section A and answer the question from Section B.

2. You are advised to spend 40 minutes on Section A and 20 minutes on Section B.

3. You are reminded of the importance of clear and orderly presentation in your answers.
Section A

Essay Question

Spend 40 minutes on this section. Answer ONE essay question from the following list. Illustrate the points you make in your essay with relevant examples from any period or area of history that you have studied. Ensure your essay has an argument and that you are not simply writing a descriptive explanation of an event/s. Write in full sentences.

i) ‘All political careers end in failure.’ How valid, in your judgement, is this claim? Develop your answer by specific reference to the political careers of historical figures you have studied. (30)

ii) What is the difference between “myth” and “history”? (30)

iii) Should British history be prioritised in British schools? Discuss. (30)

iv) To what extent was religion important in the culture and society of any historical period that you have studied? (30)

v) ‘Wars between countries create more problems than they solve.’ To what extent do you agree with this view? Develop your answer by specific reference to any historical period or periods you have studied. (30)
Section B

The picture below is of an artefact known as the ‘Wilton Diptych’ held in the National Gallery, London. It is a portable altarpiece (sized 53cm x 37cm) for private prayer on two panels and is hinged like a book. King Richard II, on the left, is kneeling and is surrounded by previous kings of England and St John the Baptist. The king is facing the Virgin Mary and Child.

What does the existence and survival of this artefact tell you about the society, religion and culture of England in the reign of Richard II 1377-99?