

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh
National University of Ireland, Galway

First University Examination, Summer 1999
Paper 2 : History of Europe

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Time permitted : **Three** hours
Answer **four** questions

1. Machiavelli acknowledged his 'conversations' with the 'men of old' as the principal source of his knowledge concerning political affairs. Who did he mean by the 'men of old', and what evidence of their influence upon the Prince can you identify?
2. Discuss the impact of trade or manufacturing upon the social or cultural life of any one Italian City during the period of the Renaissance.
3. Discuss the secular character of art and political discourse in Renaissance Italy.
4. What are the features of Utopia by Thomas More which justify its being described as a typical product of Northern Humanism?
5. What were the principal ambitions of the emperor Charles V, and why did they prove unattainable?
6. What did Martin Luther mean by 'The Freedom of the Christian', and why, in your opinion, did this prove to have so much appeal?
7. Assess the impact of printing upon the educational and religious history of Europe, 1600-1650.
8. In what ways did inflation and demographic growth fuel unrest among the peasantry in Germany in the period 1500-1525?
9. Why was Thomas Müntzer seen by the authorities as a dangerous revolutionary?

10. Did the Counter-Reformation movement aim chiefly to counter the Reformation or to reform the Catholic church?
11. In what ways did the progress of the Reformation in England compare and contrast with the Reformation in Germany?
12. Why did Philip 11 send the Armada against England in 1588?
13. Was religious strife the cause of the French Wars, 1560-1598?
14. "In the sixteenth century at least, particularism was a more potent force than patriotism in provoking and sustaining opposition to the rule of Philip 11 in the Netherlands." Discuss.
15. How important for England and Spain were their overseas colonies in the sixteenth century?
16. 'Spain can best be considered as a defender of the *status quo* rather than an aggressor in European politics, 1550-1650.' Discuss.
17. What caused the opening of conflict in Europe in 1618?
18. How was the balance of power in northern and central Europe altered by the terms of the Treaty of Westphalia, 1648?