

Exemplar response 25

(c) (ii) 'Religion was the main cause of the Revolt of the Northern Earls in 1569–70.'

How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer:

- Catholic grievances
- the Earls of Northumberland and Westmorland

You **must** also use information of your own.

I think that the main cause of the Northern Revolt was not the religion. That is I think that one of the main causes was the lack of power the Catholic families had was one of the main causes. Under the rule of Mary I the Catholic families had loads of influence and power however when Elizabeth became the Queen they lost loads of power. ~~the Catholic families had loads of power~~ ~~the Catholic families had loads of power~~ ~~the Catholic families had loads of power~~ If Elizabeth did not take away their power I think that they would not start a Northern Revolt and Westmorland would not start a revolt.

I also think that the revolt started because Elizabeth was giving more power to a new smaller families such as the lords that ~~were~~ before were much less powerful than the Catholic and she even gave more power to

The families that were not royal. The fact that these families ~~were~~ had more power than the Northumberland and Westmorland families who were so powerful and ancient families most likely caused them to become enraged and then they decided to start the revolt because if they still maintained their power they would not ~~also~~ want to revolt against Elizabeth because then they would not have power.

However people may agree with this statement because there was high tension between the Catholics and Protestants when Elizabeth became Queen. Many Catholics hated her and ~~also~~ wanted a Catholic heir to the throne. The Northumberland and Westmorland families were ancient Catholic families so they hated having a Catholic heir. Furthermore to Catholics Protestants were heretics so if Northumberland and Westmorland thought that the leader of England was a heretic they were likely going to try to overthrow her and that is ~~also~~ ~~was~~ what happened.

I conclude that the Northern Revolt was not mainly caused by religion because there were other factors that were involved. There were the fact that ~~that~~ Catholic families were losing power and that other smaller families became more powerful than them.

Examiner's commentary

This response focuses on the main cause of the Northern Revolt by addressing the power of the leading families in England and the given factor which is religion. The content really only refers to the stimulus points – Catholic grievance and Earls of Northumberland and Westmorland - and so does not access Level 4. With Strand 1 the material is mainly directed at the focus of the question and there is analysis e.g. shows how Elizabeth's treatment of lesser families angered the Earls. There is a line of reasoning in regard to religion as the main cause which is generally sustained (Level 3). For Strand 2 there is good understanding of the causes of the Revolt and characteristics of the period but there is less detail with regard to knowledge of the Revolt (low Level 3). At Strand 3 - an overall judgement is given which disagrees with the statement and with some justification but the criteria for judgement remain implicit within the main body of the response and are not drawn out either introduction or conclusion. It is implied but not clear why religion not as important (low Level 3). This response is mid-Level 3. It has a strong Strand 1 but justification for judgement and, in a Depth topic, the deployment of sufficient knowledge are weak within Level 3. The content is essentially limited to the stimulus points and so cannot be awarded high Level 3.