Source C is broadly useful in showing many of the problems in government during the reign of Henry VI. It identifies how the king was ‘child like’ and influenced by greedy advisors. This refers to Henry VI’s incapacity to take control of his own kingdom and his reliance on favourites like Suffolk and Somerset at court. This is useful as both directly caused problems. Suffolk’s murder shows a general breakdown in law and order and weakness in the power of the crown, and Somerset’s feud with York led to St Albans in 1455. The source identifies the government debt as a problem and is correct that this was something also caused by Henry’s over-rewarding of land to his favourites like the Beauforts, resulting in high taxation and widespread disorder in 1450 in the form of Cades Rebellion. Finally the source recognises the queen as a problem, something which would have been accurate in 1459, the year Margaret of Anjou called the Parliament of Devils and drove the Yorkists into a fight to the death for the crown.

Nevertheless there are also limitations to the source. Primarily these come from the fact it was published in 1465 during the reign of Edward IV. This strongly suggests it is written from the Yorkist viewpoint, and therefore focuses on the admittedly accurate Lancastrian weaknesses. The source does not recognise York’s role in destabilising the kingdom in the years between Cades rebellion and 1459. It is also quite one sided on Margaret as, while accurate in that she did further divide the two sides, (an example being her establishment of a separate court in the midlands), there is less evidence of her financial corruption, something the source uses against her. It is also limited in its treatment of government debt as it ignores the role the French wars played in causing this. Finally Edward of Lancaster’s legitimacy is only speculation, something the source only barely recognises. Therefore the source is useful in that shows a strong and mostly historically supported viewpoint on the causes of bad government; however this is from a Yorkist viewpoint and therefore highly selective in its focus.