

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
Unit 2 Parties and Pressure Groups

GOV2

Tuesday 7 June 2005 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GOV2.
- Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
In Section A, answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.
In Section B, answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

Advice

- You are advised to read through the examination paper before you attempt the questions.
- You are advised to spend the same amount of time on each question.

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

1 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Text from B COXALL, L ROBINS and R LEACH, *Contemporary British Politics*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, pp126-7. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain the term *party discipline* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) ‘With the leadership or with the mass membership?’ Analyse where power lies in modern political parties. (22 marks)

OR

2 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Text from J KINGDOM, *Government and Politics in Britain*, Polity 2003, pp322-3.
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- (a) Explain the term *neo-liberal* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) Assess the influence of ideology on any **one** contemporary major political party. (22 marks)

TURN OVER FOR THE NEXT SECTION

Turn over ►

SECTION B

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

3 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Pressure Groups and Government

During the 1950s and 1960s, the close relationship between policy-makers and pressure groups was described as *corporatism*. This was loosely defined as cooperation between politicians, organisations outside of Westminster, and Whitehall to formulate policies. Margaret Thatcher reversed the trend of corporatism and many pressure groups were simply refused access to the decision-making process. Under John Major, access to central government was opened up to some extent. This process of opening up has developed further under Tony Blair.

*Source: adapted from P COCKER AND A JONES, Contemporary British Politics and Government
(Liverpool Academic Press) 2002*

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- (a) Explain the term *corporatism* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) ‘Westminster or Whitehall?’ Assess the relative importance to pressure groups of these access points. (22 marks)

OR

- 4 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Text from J McCORMICK, *Contemporary Britain*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, p134.
Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain the phrase *direct-action protests* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) 'Only those without the ability to influence government directly resort to political protest.'
Discuss. (22 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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