

General Certificate of Education
January 2004
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



**GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 3 Society, Politics and the Economy**

GA3W

Monday 19 January 2004 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a loose insert for Questions 1 to 5 (enclosed);
- an 8 page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

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 GA3W.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Write your answers in continuous prose.
- Use your own words, rather than simply repeating those used in the sources, to show your understanding of the points being made.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- This paper consists of **five** questions based on material provided as a separate insert.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- Part of the assessment will be based 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

- Where appropriate you may use your own knowledge and ideas to support and enhance your answers to the questions.

Read the **Sources A to E** on the impact of economic issues on society and the environment in an international context, provided as a separate insert, and then answer the questions below.

Answer **all** questions using continuous prose.

1 Read **Source A**.

Using information from the source, identify the advantages of the *Fairtrade* scheme. (5 marks)

2 Read **Source B**.

Using your own knowledge and examples from the source, give three reasons explaining why it might be argued that this source is subjective. (5 marks)

3 Read **Source C**.

Identify and explain the strengths of this source in helping to inform the reader about child labour. (10 marks)

4 Read **Source D**.

Examine the reasons why views on the acceptability of Genetically Modified food vary, even when it is stated that a “food crisis threatens more than 14 million people in Southern Africa”. In your answer you may refer to ethical, social, economic, environmental and political reasons. (15 marks)

5 Read **Source E**.

Using examples from at least two of the sources, and your own knowledge, discuss the success of environmental and poverty-relieving pressure groups in allowing people to ‘look forward to a better future’. (15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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INSERT

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Source booklet for use with **Questions 1 to 5.**

SOURCES FOR QUESTIONS 1 TO 5

Read the **Sources A to E** on the impact of economic issues on society and the environment in an international context and then answer **Questions 1 - 5**.

Source A and Source B

The Source Materials for Questions 1 and 2 are not produced here due to third-party copyright constraints. The full copy of this paper can be obtained by ordering GA3W from our publications section. Tel: 0161 953 1170.

Source C

There are 350 million children around the world who have to work in order to survive. The most adverse publicity is attracted by the export industry, where multinational companies employ children to boost the profit margin on internationally marketed goods such as trainers, footballs and clothes.

Children's wages often form a substantial part of their family's income - a quarter or even more in some cases. And children living in extreme poverty are well aware that if they don't work they won't eat. India is the biggest employer of child labour with anything from 14 to 30 million child workers. The key to ending child labour lies in eradicating poverty and providing education.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) is campaigning for an end to child labour. Groups like War on Want and Save the Children argue that outright boycotts and bans on child labour will simply force children into more dangerous employment or further increase their hardship. However, slavery, bonded labour, sex work, armed conflict and exposure to dangerous conditions are never acceptable.

Source: HELEN TAYLOR, Hard Labour, Unison Trade Union Magazine, December 2002

Source D

The food crisis threatens more than 14 million people in Southern Africa. As the crisis deepens so does an anguished debate: should the countries accept Genetically Modified (GM) maize, donated mostly by the USA? It has been rejected by Zambia and has aroused suspicion in other states concerned about the impact on health, the environment and trade.

International environment and development groups accuse the USA of manipulating the crisis to benefit biotech corporations, and of using the United Nations to distribute domestic food surpluses which cannot find a market. America responds that hysteria stoked by Europeans is endangering starving people.

Zambia, with almost 3 million hungry, has rejected GM maize in any form - a hardline stance approved by those who fear that the technology will take root as a result of the crisis. Groups such as ActionAid warn that GM crops would threaten biodiversity and make subsistence farmers dependent on the biotech companies. Nor would the European Union (EU) accept Zambian food imports deemed 'contaminated'. Milling the seed would eliminate EU concerns, most non-government organisations agree.

The debate is no longer about science but about politics. The Zambian president, elected in 2001 in a controversial ballot, has stifled dissent. State radio and newspapers echo his concern about GM and play down the food crisis. An MP who alleged in parliament that three constituents had starved to death was threatened with arrest.

Source: RORY CARROLL Starving Zambia spurns GM food aid, The Guardian, 17 October 2002]

Turn over ►

Source E**Become a Friend of the Earth**

Our supporters are the key to every success we score for the planet and for people. They finance almost all of our work. When you consider what we are up against - governments, powerful industrial interests and the huge resources at their disposal - you can appreciate how important this funding is and how much it achieves.

We can't allow environmental vandals to lay waste to the Earth. Friends of the Earth already has a track record second to none in developing positive solutions to a huge range of problems. It's a real force for change in a world that's stuck in a rut.

Our campaigns get politicians to take action - through persuasive argument, lobbying and the use of the law. Our pioneering research is widely used by governments, commerce, the media and other environmental organisations. We publish a broad range of information to help everyone find out about and take action on environmental problems. We work with all political parties but are aligned to none. From our participation in Friends of the Earth International to the work carried out by over 200 local groups, we are uniquely placed to mobilise public opinion and campaign successfully - locally, nationally and internationally.

Source: Look forward to a better future, Friends of the Earth, July 2002

END OF SOURCES