

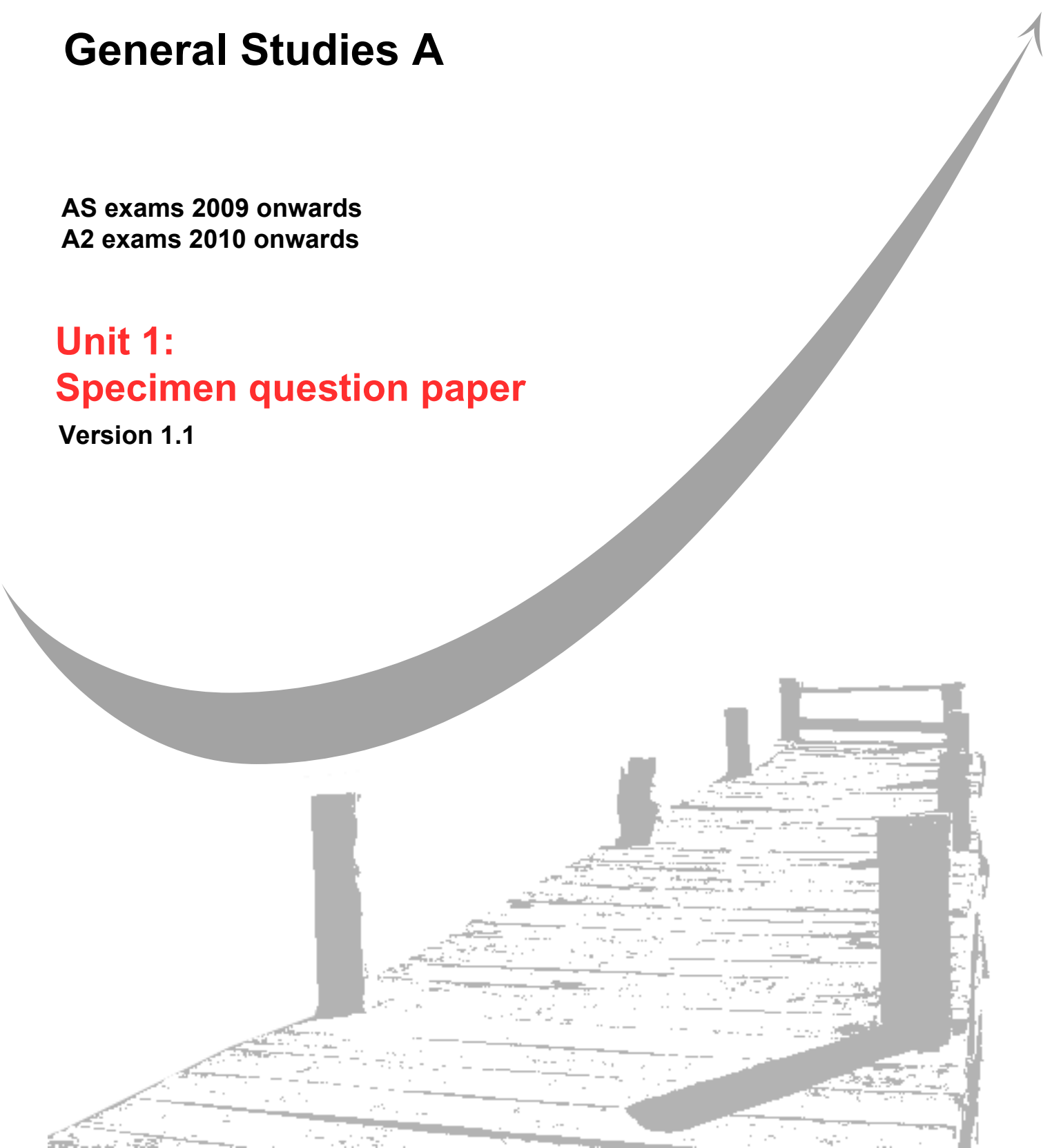
GCE
AS and A Level

General Studies A

AS exams 2009 onwards
A2 exams 2010 onwards

Unit 1: **Specimen question paper**

Version 1.1



SPECIMEN PAPER TO PREPARE FOR THE JANUARY 2009 AND SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS

General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 1 AS Culture and Society

GENA1

Insert

Sources for use with **Unit 1**.

SECTION A

PASSAGE FOR QUESTIONS 1.1 TO 1.30

Intrude At Your Peril

- (1) Talking to two national newspaper editors this week, I heard each confess that the decisions that bring them most anguish and that most upset readers are almost always about photographs that seem to intrude into private grief. That is why I was surprised – as, anecdotally, were many readers – by *The Daily Telegraph's* weepy, tabloidesque front page on Tuesday featuring the photograph of Gordon and Sarah Brown leaving Edinburgh Royal Infirmary after the death of their daughter, Jennifer Jane, and its headline: “Jennifer dies in their arms”.
- (2) After a debate with senior executives, Simon Kelner, the editor of *The Independent*, also decided to use the photograph, although it was, he says, a “hair-line” decision. Next morning he was a troubled man. Both *The Times* and *The Guardian*, which deal with the same constituency of readers, had shunned the picture. A decision which to Kelner had seemed right the night before did not seem quite so right 12 hours later.
- (3) Kelner deserves sympathy. Editors have to make quick decisions on important issues and cannot always get them right. Nor did any of the tabloids have any qualms. Readers of the *Financial Times*, which also used the picture inside, have an obvious interest in the life of the Chancellor. As Sarah Sands (the deputy editor of *The Daily Telegraph*) says, it illustrated a heart-wrenching story – and it was a story, as readers’ letters in *The Sun* demonstrated, in which the whole nation shared the Browns’ anguish.
- (4) Yet there is a danger that since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, we have become desensitised to intrusion into obvious private grief. Editors have lost a sense of discretion. There is no mercy. Instead, in the case of the Browns, there is a gnawing sense of shame (as Jonathan Freedland wrote in *The Guardian*) at being in a room where we do not belong. And there is also, if we are honest, hypocrisy. We cannot help but look, said Freedland, but we want to turn away just as quickly.
- (5) That is why the treatment of the Browns’ bereavement, and stories over the past three weeks about the actress Amanda Holden, Leo and Euan Blair, and Prince William have raised in sharp focus an issue – privacy – that will worry editors increasingly in 2002. Three clauses in the Press Complaints Commission (PCC) Code of Conduct are relevant to all the cases. Their import is that everyone is entitled to respect for their private and family life; that news and pictures must not be obtained by intimidation, harassment or persistent pursuit; and that in cases involving grief or shock, inquiries must be carried out with sympathy and discretion.
- (6) Defining privacy nevertheless usually boils down to an instinct. Unlike most of my friends, but in common with many young mothers and the *Daily Mail*, I do want to know if Tony Blair’s baby, Leo, has been given the MMR vaccine* – although the Prime Minister believes the question is a “horrible and unjustified” invasion of his family’s privacy. I am also fascinated to know if Euan Blair is on his way to Oxford, but unlike *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Spectator's* Stephen Glover, I believe that in this case he has a right to privacy. Blair has made

a complaint to the PCC using the section of the code which says that young people should be free to complete their time at school without unnecessary intrusion (now extended, in the case of Prince William, to university as well).

- (7) Illogical? Maybe, but the question in both cases is whether the child is at the centre of a news story for good reason. How baby Leo has been vaccinated involves a public and controversial policy of the Blair Government. It is a matter of public interest to know if the Blairs have ignored the Government's advice. But Euan Blair is not public property simply because he is the Blairs' son and, unlike Prince William, he won't be the son of a public figure when his father ceases to be Prime Minister.
- (8) On returning from a morning's hunting, Prince William was in the news this week after galloping directly at a photographer, forcing him to drop his camera, and telling him to "***** **** off". The Palace has accepted the PCC's guidance that, given the controversy it arouses, there can be no scope for complaint if the Prince is photographed hunting, so long as there is no intimidation, harassment or persistent pursuit involved. Persistent pursuit might just be the subject of a complaint in this instance, but the greater instinct at work is that the Prince deserves mercy (and mainly gets it).
- (9) More worrying for editors was the settlement of a case just before Christmas in which Amanda Holden, the actress, and her husband, Les Dennis, the entertainer, sued the *Daily Star* for publishing pictures of her topless while they were on holiday at a Tuscan villa. The couple accepted that their lives were of public interest but argued that it had been distressing to be photographed over several days without their knowledge or consent whilst staying at a private holiday villa. They settled for damages of £340,000.
- (10) Why the case should worry editors is that Holden and Dennis chose not to complain to the PCC but to sue under the Human Rights Act for a breach of their right to respect for their private life. As their solicitor said, the PCC had no power to restrain future publication or to award compensation (although a complaint would almost certainly have been upheld).
- (11) So far, attempts within the PCC to rewrite the Code on privacy have been resisted by editors of the tabloids. However, the European Convention on Human Rights includes a statutory right to privacy – and other celebrities have been queuing up behind Holden and Dennis to sue newspapers for intrusion and the judges seem willing to help them. Have editors yet realised how complacent they are being?

Source: Adapted from 'Paper Round' by BRIAN MACARTHUR, *The Times*, 11 January 2002

* MMR is the combined vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella. Some parents believe that their children have developed either an autistic spectrum disorder or bowel disease following MMR vaccination.

END OF PASSAGE

Turn over for the sources for questions 2 to 4

Turn over ►

SECTION B

SOURCES FOR QUESTIONS 2 TO 4

Read **Sources B to D** on **equality of opportunity** and answer **Questions 2 to 4**.

Source B

The text is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Source: Adapted from NIGEL MORRIS and SARAH CASSIDY, 'Race equality head backs Straw on wearing of veil', *The Independent*, 12 October 2006

Source C

By any standards it's a spectacular own goal. The BBC, one of the most politically correct, equality-focused employers in the country has managed to devise a proms season featuring not a single woman composer or conductor. 73 concerts – all directed by men. And 270-odd pieces of music listed in the main concerts – all penned by blokes. The gender imbalance extends to soloists. Apart from singers (where vocal ranges determine gender), there are more than 50 male but only 10 female soloists. On some instruments the ratio is even more askew.

Could the gender imbalance at the Proms reflect a wider problem in classical music? Women play a bigger part in professional music-making now than ever before and there is an overwhelming predominance of girls in youth orchestras. But orchestral players are the squaddies of music's army. What of the officers: the conductors and composers?

Until the 20th century, women composers had a raw deal and even 20th century pioneers were ridiculed for their efforts. And today? It's dangerous to generalise but I would say that women composers are usually less hung-up on mathematical systems than their male counterparts. What, also, of the glamour factor? Do promoters and record executives (90% of them men) tend to favour only those women musicians who are young and pretty? The BBC should be above that. And, in fairness, it usually is.

Source: Adapted from RICHARD MORRISON, 'A monstrously ignored regiment', *The Times*, 14 July 2006

Source D

Wide-ranging action to tackle the culture in schools and workplaces that create job segregation and leave women lagging behind men in the pay stakes is proposed in a ground-breaking report, *Shaping a Fairer Future*.

Proposals include setting up a national World of Work programme to improve vocational training, provide work taster days for primary school pupils, work experience to encourage girls to think about non-traditional jobs and apprenticeships for women. Increasing women's employment and ending the gender segregation where women are concentrated in the five 'c's – the caring, cashier, clerical, cleaning and catering sectors – would benefit the economy by as much as £23 billion.

Commission chair Margaret Prosser said: "Many women are working far below their abilities and this waste of talent is an outrage when the UK is facing competition in the global market and for those women personally. We all recognise that the gender pay gap is complex. There is no one solution but if we do not make the fundamental change necessary to our school and workplace cultures women will continue to lose out."

Source: Adapted from 'Radical programme to end decades of jobs and pay unfairness for women', *Women and Work Commission*, 27 February 2006

END OF SOURCES

SPECIMEN PAPER TO PREPARE FOR THE JANUARY 2009 AND SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS

General Certificate of Education

Advanced Subsidiary Examination



GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 1 AS Culture and Society

GENA1

For this paper you must have:

- an objective test answer sheet
- a loose insert for Questions 1 to 4 (enclosed)
- a 4-page answer book
- a black ball-point pen.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use a black ball-point pen for recording your answers to Section A (Questions 1.1 to 1.30) on your objective test answer sheet.
- Use black ink or ball-point pen for answering Section B (Questions 2 to 4).
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book for Section B. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GENA1.
- Answer **all** questions.
- For each item in Section A there are several different responses. When you have chosen the response which you think is the best answer to a question, mark this response on your answer sheet.
- Do all rough work in this book, **not** on your answer sheet.
- Write your answers to Questions 2 to 4 in the separate 4-page answer book.
- Hand in **both** your answer sheet **and** your answer book at the end of the examination.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 65.
- This paper consists of **two** sections.
Section A contains 30 objective test questions based on material provided as a separate insert. Each question carries 1 mark. You will not lose marks for wrong answers.
Section B contains structured questions. Marks are shown after each question and total 35.

SECTION A

Each of the 30 questions carries 1 mark.

Read the passage entitled **Intrude At Your Peril** which is printed in the separate insert and answer **Questions 1.1 to 1.30** by choosing the answer represented by the letter **A, B, C** or **D** that you think best.

1.1 The author's reaction to the photograph in *The Daily Telegraph* (paragraph 1) is best described as

- A** sympathetic to the subject.
- B** taken aback by the newspaper's stance.
- C** ambivalent about the story.
- D** angry at its inclusion.

1.2 'anecdotally' (paragraph 1) means

- A** a researched finding.
- B** an unpublished impression.
- C** supported by known facts.
- D** a finding of *The Daily Telegraph*.

1.3 Which of the following might describe a 'tabloidesque front page' as mentioned in paragraph 1?

- 1** in poor taste
- 2** thought provoking
- 3** sensationalist
- 4** attention grabbing

Answer

- A** if **1** and **2** only are correct.
- B** if **1**, **2** and **3** only are correct.
- C** if **1**, **3** and **4** only are correct.
- D** if **2**, **3** and **4** only are correct.

1.4 'Nor did any of the tabloids have any qualms' (paragraph 3) implies that newspapers

- A** are lacking in moral standards.
- B** did not hesitate before publishing the story.
- C** lack sympathy when reporting the news.
- D** share the concerns of their readers.

- 1.5** The author's claim in paragraph 3 that 'Readers of the *Financial Times*... have an obvious interest in the life of the chancellor' is an example of
- A** an assertion.
 - B** an exaggeration.
 - C** a fact.
 - D** an understatement.
- 1.6** According to the author, Kelner's decision discussed in paragraph 3 could be defended for each of the following reasons **except**
- A** the story was of genuine interest to readers.
 - B** his was not the only broadsheet newspaper to show the picture.
 - C** the decision to print had to be made quickly.
 - D** the tabloids could not be allowed exclusive coverage.
- 1.7** Paragraphs 1 to 3 suggest each of the following **except** that the author
- A** felt that Simon Kelner had made the wrong decision.
 - B** understood the dilemma that Simon Kelner faced.
 - C** was critical of the insensitivity of the tabloids.
 - D** was surprised that all newspapers had not used the photograph.
- 1.8** 'desensitised' (paragraph 4) implies that we lack feelings of
- A** apprehension.
 - B** indifference.
 - C** scepticism.
 - D** sympathy.
- 1.9** 'hypocrisy' (paragraph 4) implies that newspaper readers
- A** read articles that they think should not have been published.
 - B** oppose press intrusion into the lives of celebrities.
 - C** lack sympathy for the suffering of others.
 - D** want to read more articles about the sufferings of celebrities.
- 1.10** The clauses of the Code of Conduct referred to in paragraph 5 forbid each of the following **except**
- A** use of threats.
 - B** offering money for stories.
 - C** intrusion into privacy.
 - D** unfeeling behaviour.

Turn over ►

- 1.11** When the author states in paragraph 6 that ‘Defining privacy nevertheless usually boils down to an instinct’, he is suggesting that it
- A** is impossible for everyone to agree.
 - B** it is based on an inbuilt sense.
 - C** is impossible to define.
 - D** does not need to be defined.
- 1.12** The use of inverted commas for “horrible and unjustified” in paragraph 6 is to signify that the words are
- A** a deliberate exaggeration.
 - B** the Prime Minister’s own words.
 - C** a paraphrase of the actual words used.
 - D** a quotation from someone other than the Prime Minister.
- 1.13** The author considers the case of Leo Blair (paragraph 7) to be important because
- A** Leo Blair will not be newsworthy once his father is no longer Prime Minister.
 - B** many mothers will choose the vaccine if Leo has had it.
 - C** the use of the MMR vaccine is a controversial Government policy.
 - D** children of famous people should not be the subjects of newspaper stories.
- 1.14** The distinction which the author draws between the cases concerning Leo and Euan Blair in paragraphs 6 and 7 is based on
- A** the issues involved.
 - B** their age difference.
 - C** personal preference.
 - D** the importance of their father.
- 1.15** If Tony Blair had ignored the Government’s advice (paragraph 7) he could most appropriately be accused of
- A** complacency.
 - B** compliance.
 - C** hypocrisy.
 - D** ignorance.

1.16 Which of the following does the author put forward in paragraphs 6 and 7 as criteria which should be used by editors in deciding what is private and what is not?

- 1** the attitude of other editors.
- 2** the public's right to know.
- 3** an instinctive sense of right and wrong.
- 4** the age of the subject of the story.

Answer

- A** if **1** and **2** only are correct.
- B** if **1** and **3** only are correct.
- C** if **2** and **3** only are correct.
- D** if **3** and **4** only are correct.

1.17 The author suggests that the main justification for reporting the incident involving Prince William (paragraph 8) is that

- A** he was not being pursued by the press.
- B** his behaviour was unacceptable.
- C** he is an important public figure.
- D** hunting is a controversial issue.

1.18 Amanda Holden and Les Dennis (paragraphs 9 and 10) were successful in being awarded damages because

- A** the PCC was involved.
- B** they accepted a reasonable sum.
- C** they accepted that their lives were of public interest.
- D** the Human Rights Act was contravened.

1.19 The paragraph which shows the issues involved in deciding whether a story is in the public interest is paragraph number

- A** 7.
- B** 8.
- C** 9.
- D** 10.

1.20 Describing editors as 'complacent' (paragraph 11) implies that they are

- A** changing their view on the right to privacy.
- B** ignoring the PCC code of conduct.
- C** worried about being sued for damages.
- D** satisfied with the situation as it is.

Turn over ►

1.21 A statutory right (paragraph 11) is one based on

- A** the law.
- B** established practice.
- C** the PCC Code of Conduct.
- D** use only by celebrities.

1.22 Which of the following explain why editors should be worried about the Amanda Holden case referred to in paragraphs 9 to 11?

- 1** The case set a precedent.
- 2** The European Convention gave greater protection.
- 3** The courts supported the right to privacy.
- 4** The PCC had no real power to punish newspapers.

Answer

- A** if **1**, **2** and **3** only are correct.
- B** if **1**, **2** and **4** only are correct.
- C** if **1**, **3** and **4** only are correct.
- D** if **2**, **3** and **4** only are correct.

Assertion / Reason questions

For each of Questions **1.23** and **1.24** you are given an assertion followed by a reason. Use the following grid to decide which of the options **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** is correct.

	Assertion	Reason	Argument
A	True	True	Reason is a correct explanation of assertion
B	True	True	Reason is not a correct explanation of assertion
C	True	False	Not applicable
D	False	–	Not applicable

ASSERTION

REASON

1.23 Prince William swore at the press because fox hunting was still legal in England and Wales.

1.24 Amanda Holden and Les Dennis chose not to complain to the PCC because the PCC have no code on privacy.

1.25 Among the views expressed by the author are that

- 1** editors may later regret publishing stories about celebrities.
- 2** many readers are fascinated by stories about celebrities.
- 3** more celebrities may want compensation for stories that intrude on their privacy.
- 4** editors believe that the PCC needs to have wider powers.

Answer

- A** if **1** and **3** only are correct.
- B** if **2** and **4** only are correct.
- C** if **1**, **2** and **3** only are correct.
- D** if all of them are correct.

1.26 The article makes each of the following points **except**

- A** editors can misjudge which stories to run.
- B** invading privacy may prove costly to newspapers.
- C** it is difficult to decide what constitutes privacy.
- D** readers want more stories about celebrities.

1.27 In writing this article the author is most concerned to highlight the problems of

- A** editors.
- B** celebrities.
- C** bereaved families.
- D** politicians.

1.28 The difficulty editors have in identifying privacy is indicated by

- 1** 'defining privacy... boils down to instinct.'
- 2** the ease with which editors decide which stories to run.
- 3** the public desire to know the details versus personal rights.
- 4** the illogicality of giving privacy to one son of the Prime Minister and not another.

Answer

- A** if **1** and **2** only are correct.
- B** if **1** and **3** only are correct.
- C** if **3** and **4** only are correct.
- D** if all of them are correct.

Turn over ►

1.29 An apt metaphor to describe the PCC would be a

- A** toothless bulldog.
- B** slithery snake.
- C** raging lion.
- D** mute swan.

1.30 The author's main purpose in writing the article is **best** described as a

- A** warning to all editors to improve their future conduct.
- B** plea for major changes to the PCC Code on privacy.
- C** defence of the victims of unfair treatment by the press.
- D** review of the issues now facing editors on privacy cases.

END OF QUESTION 1

SECTION B

Study **Sources B to D** provided in the separate booklet and then answer **all** the following questions.

Wherever possible **use your own words** to show you understand the arguments.

You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

2 Read Source B

- (a) Using your own words, give three reasons from **Source B** in favour of removing religious veils. *(4 marks)*
- (b) Using your own knowledge, give three reasons against removing religious veils in certain circumstances. *(4 marks)*

3 Read Source C

Using evidence from **Source C**, and your own knowledge, examine the extent to which there is evidence of gender imbalance and discrimination against women in classical music. *(13 marks)*

4 Read Source D

Using evidence from **Source D**, and your own knowledge, discuss how the main issues raised concerning females and work might best be addressed. *(14 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS