

General Certificate of Education
January 2003
Advanced Level Examination



GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 4 Conflict-Resolution

GB4W

Friday 24 January 2003 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. Do **not** use pencil.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GB4W.
- Read the passage and carry out the instructions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.

Advice

- You will be assessed according to your ability to:
 - select and use a form and style of writing appropriate to purpose and complex subject matter;
 - organise relevant information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary when appropriate;
 - ensure text is legible, and spelling, grammar and punctuation are accurate, so that meaning is clear.

Read the following passage and complete the tasks below.

1

Total for this question: 60 marks

Several years ago, Dafydd Owen, a businessman, Welsh by nationality and living in London, formed a property company buying semi-derelict houses in poorer areas of North Wales. He was proud of his Welsh blood, although he was educated at Eton and had lived most of his life in London.

He bought a terrace of six houses by a picturesque river in North Wales in the hope that others would invest in the area. For a few years the houses stood empty, awaiting refurbishment. During that period, however, the properties were systematically vandalised, with joists and timbers being removed floor by floor. As a result, the owner secured the houses by building breeze-block walls over all accessible doorways and windows.

A few months later, as witnessed by at least some locals, the houses were attacked again. Vandals pickaxed their way through the houses, stealing doors, baths, staircases and electric wiring. No sooner had they been boarded up again than they were attacked once more; this time the windows and frames were removed.

The police were sympathetic; they sent police officers to patrol the properties at certain times, but damage continued to occur. Mr Owen was at his home in London when he received news from the police that the houses had been the targets of an arson attack.

Dafydd Owen returned to Wales, following an absence of a few weeks. On his company van, he found the words 'ENGLISH GO HOME' written in Welsh, in deep scratches on the paintwork.

It was the view of Mr Owen that these attacks were the work of Welsh Nationalists. Many local people, however, believed the looting to be drug related. The owner was unconvinced, saying, 'That hardly explains the arson or the vandalism of my van. I am Welsh and will keep my business in Wales since I represent no threat to anyone.'

Adapted from *The Mail on Sunday* January 6th 2002

Write a report for the local council, which communicates:

- (i) details of the problems experienced by the businessman; (15 marks)
- (ii) what parties are responsible for the problems and why; (15 marks)
- (iii) what steps might be taken to avoid the recurrence of a similar set of problems. (20 marks)

A further ten marks will be awarded for communicating in a concise and logical way in a form appropriate to report writing. (10 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS