

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination



GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 6 Space–Time

GSB6

Wednesday 20 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.45 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book
- Source Material (enclosed).

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 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 GSB6.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Answer **Question 1** from **Section A** and **one** question from **Section B**.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- Questions should be answered in continuous prose. You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

There are no questions printed on this page

SECTION A

Answer this question.

1 Read **Source A** and answer the following question:

Source A is about the pressure group ‘Fathers 4 Justice’, its successes, its failures, and a possible new direction.

Is civil disobedience and protest an acceptable way of bringing about reform or should pressure groups work through the normal democratic process?

In your answer consider

- social
- political
- legal
- ethical

points of view.

(40 marks)

SECTION B

Answer **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

EITHER

2 Tastes in music change very fast (**Source B**); whereas the week has not changed since the days of myth and magic (**Source C**).

In what respects would you say we are frightened of change, and in what respects do we appear to welcome it? *(40 marks)*

OR

3 Tower Bridge is a relic of Nineteenth-Century technology (**Source D**); and the Celts are either an ancient people or a modern invention (**Source E**).

Structures and interpretations of the past may no longer be of use to us. How much does it matter whether or not we preserve them? *(40 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Level Examination

GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B)
Unit 6 Space–Time

GSB6



Insert

Source Material to be read in conjunction with questions in Unit GSB6.

There are no sources printed on this page

Source A

Fathers 4 Justice

Love them or hate them, there's no denying that the attention-grabbing antics of the Fathers 4 Justice lobby worked a treat. Kitted out as superheroes and staging protests by scaling landmarks like 100-foot cranes and Buckingham Palace, the barmy dads army instantly raised awareness of its fight to change family law and recognise the rights of fathers denied access to their children after messy divorces and relationship breakdowns. With other high-profile stunts including the flour bombing of Tony Blair in the House of Commons, it's little wonder that Miramax has bought the rights to turn the Fathers 4 Justice saga into a film. And nobody can disagree that the tale already resembles a blockbusting Hollywood plot; since 2003, members have been hijacked by an extremist element (the Real Fathers 4 Justice), infiltrated by undercover police and exposed by a journalist masquerading as a group member. But now that Fathers 4 Justice has split up, following allegations of the splinter group's plans to kidnap the Prime Minister's youngest son Leo, what's next? What of the fathers driven to desperation by a legal system that is heavily biased toward the mother? (For which judge is going to take a mother away from her child because she disobeys the court order allowing the father access?) Dads are being let down elsewhere, too; take Peter Phillips, the 45 year-old found hanging from a tree in Cleveland after paying the Child Support Agency almost a quarter of his weekly wages to support his teenage son from a previous relationship.

Most Fathers 4 Justice offices in the North have disbanded now, but other campaigners have proved themselves more than willing to step into the breach. Peter Molloy – cleared of causing a public nuisance in Liverpool after protesting in a Santa costume on a bridge – has set up the Equal Parenting Alliance. And Daryl Irwin is in the process of registering the Manchester-based Children First Party as a political entity. “We’re offering a lifeline to people who want to continue campaigning for equal access rights for fathers,” he says. “The issues that Fathers 4 Justice campaign for are still very much alive, but the group itself has been in slow decline for the last 12 to 18 months. They were really successful at first, but they needed to step up their game and have just been losing momentum. They had loads of public support at the beginning but the stunts kept on disrupting normal people so they have started to alienate people who used to sympathise with them.” Unsurprisingly, that is not the opinion of Fathers 4 Justice founder Matt O’Connor, who is proud of the work he has done. He told *The Big Issue in the North*: “We achieved a huge amount and went out in a blaze of glory. We raised awareness of the problem through humorous publicity stunts and got people talking, got politicians thinking – do we want to live in a society where children only live with their mothers? That is a climate change in terms of attitudes.”

Acknowledging that militant activists threatened to undo all the good work, he has refused to give up altogether. “I think we need to move the debate on and look at anti-social behaviour. No wonder kids turn to petty crime and drugs if all they have is transient stepfathers and no proper dads to show them love and discipline,” he says.

Source: EMILY PYKETT, *The Big Issue in the North*, January 30 – February 5 2006

- Each day in the UK, the parents of 650 children divorce or separate
- Since 1993, the number of contact orders has grown by 100%; since 2000, there has been a 20% year-on-year increase
- In 2001, 50% of the 55 030 contact orders were broken
- Each day, approximately 100 children lose contact with their fathers
- 40% of all fathers lose contact with their children within two years.

Source: <http://www.fathers-4-justice.org>

Turn over ►

Source B

Source B is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Source C**The Seven-Day Week**

It is almost certainly because of the belief that there were seven so-called planets that this number acquired a mystical status. But the number seven is also linked to the cycle of the moon. From full moon to no moon is about fourteen days – two lots of seven. Full moon back to full moon is just over twenty-nine days – not far from four lots of seven.

This second occurrence of the number seven in the skies is a fluke, of course – the number of days in the moon cycle has nothing to do with there being seven ‘planets’ – but, given mankind’s natural tendency to read meaning into any coincidence, it is hardly surprising that early civilisations believed that the number seven had a fundamental link with the heavens. For convenience and for ritual, the moon cycle was therefore divided into partitions of four lots of seven days.

‘In the beginning’, according to the Bible, God took seven days to create the Earth. Is this an even more fundamental reason for the mystical importance of the number seven? Or did the people who wrote this story choose a number that already carried significance for them because it divided up the lunar month and represented the number of the planets? It doesn’t really matter. The fact is, this story firmly established the idea of a seven-day week in Jewish culture with the seventh day being named the rest day, or Sabbath. The Jews spread the idea across the Middle East, and the Romans adopted it, too, despite the fact that they already had a separate eight-day ‘market’ week of their own whose origin is obscure.

Adapted from: ROB EASTERWAY and JEREMY WINDHAM, *How Long is a Piece of String?* Robson Books, 2003

Turn over for the next source

Turn over ►

Source D

Tower Bridge

London City Architect Sir Horace Jones, and engineer John Wolfe Barry, won a competition in 1884 to design a bridge in East London that would not interrupt the flow of river traffic. Over 11 000 tons of iron were required to build the framework of the bridge, and this was then given a cladding of Cornish granite and Portland stone.

Sir Horace's original design was in keeping with the Gothic Revival Style, popular at the time; but, when he died in 1885, Wolfe Barry assumed responsibility for the design, and he modified it. His solution was less medieval in its detail, and more inventive. Two platforms in the river support symmetrical North and South towers, connected by a walkway at a height of 143 feet above the water. Suspension bridges at both ends lead to what is Tower Bridge's most distinctive feature: the bascule bridge, 30 feet above the water, whose roadway could be raised by 86 degrees in only 90 seconds. In the early period, after the bridge's opening in 1894, the bridge was opened and shut some 6 000 times each year. Now that what shipping there is on the Thames is concentrated farther east of the city, the two halves of the roadway have to be raised rather less often.

Until 1976, hydraulic gears raised the roadway, and these are still visible in the North Tower. An electrical system was installed at about the time that the originally rather dark-coloured bridge was completely repainted red, white and blue, for the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

The South Tower is open to visitors, for exhibitions and for the permanent display of drawings and paintings that illustrate the history of all twenty-nine bridges that span the Thames.

Adapted from: MARIA LAURA VERGELLI in *Wonders of the World*, ed. A.CAPODIFERRO 2004

Source E

The Celts

Within a few months of the first publication of this book something of a mini-storm broke out in which I, as the author, was involved. A group of archaeologists claimed that ‘the ancient Celts did not exist!’ The claim was dumbfounding to the world of Celtic scholarship. It had the same impact as if someone entered a university Classics department and declared that the Ancient Greeks had never existed.

The general public became aware of the furore when archaeologist Dr Simon James published *The Atlantic Celts: Ancient People or Modern Invention?* (1999). He argued that there was no evidence of Celtic peoples in Britain or Ireland during the Iron Age and that the idea of an insular Celtic identity was but a product of the rise of nationalism in the eighteenth century.

Dr James’ main argument was that the term ‘Celtic’ should be abandoned when referring to the ‘Iron Age’ in Britain and Ireland, for the reason that “no one in Britain or Ireland called themselves ‘a Celt’ before 1700.” Dr James also maintained that there were no migrations to, or invasions of, the British Isles by historically attested Celts from the continent.

In response, we can say equally that no one called themselves Anglo-Saxons in the time when everyone accepts Anglo-Saxons existed. Furthermore, though the ‘invasion’ theory may not have been proved, it remains true that something did bring Celtic languages and cultures to the British Isles, and a movement of a few or many people would explain how this could have happened in the days before mass communication. From the inception of Celtic scholarship, the definition of ‘Celt’ has been a people who speak, or were known to have spoken within modern historical times, one of the languages classified as the Celtic branch of Indo-European.

Adapted from: PETER BERRESFORD ELLIS, *A Brief History of The Celts*, Constable and Robinson, 2003

END OF SOURCES

There are no sources printed on this page