

Examiners' Report  
June 2014

GCE General Studies 6GS03 01

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## **Introduction**

Overall the paper produced a good response from candidates. It allowed them to show a good range of general knowledge and to demonstrate an ability to argue and criticise. Very few blank responses were evident and there were hardly any spoilt scripts or facetious answers.

Marks were in a similar range as last year and some high scoring responses were seen.

### **Section A**

There was a good response to the questions in this section which showed that candidates were aware of, had an interest in and had (sometimes strong) views on the role of art in politics and society.

### **Section B**

This was also a topic to which most candidates could relate. It must be almost impossible for a young adult not to have knowledge of organisations such as WikiLeaks and there were many opportunities for them to express their views on whether it is a force for good or bad.

### **Section C**

Question 11 was by far the most popular of the essay options. Hardly any candidates appeared to run out of time and, if their essay was brief, it was because they had little to say rather than that they were short of time.

Both essays elicited knowledgeable responses, the major difference between a high and a low scoring answer depended on whether it was one-sided and/or on the quality of evidence produced.

## Question 1

This question was in two parts. Firstly candidates were asked to define artistic style and then identify two styles from the passage. Almost invariably they were able to do the latter but, while most had some idea of what is meant by artistic style; very few extended their description enough to be awarded the 2 marks available for this part of the question.

This is an example of a response that scored 2 marks.

### SECTION A

Answer ALL questions.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

Read Source 1 on the separate insert and then answer questions 1–5.

- 1 Explain what is meant by the term 'artistic style' and identify two styles mentioned in the first paragraph of Source 1.

The term artistic style means that something is very artistic, filled with lots of colours and nice drawings. Two styles that were mentioned in the source are; the Soviet socialist realist style and guduna which translates to 'national painting'.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate attempts to define artistic style in the first sentence but the description is too vague and/or irrelevant to be creditworthy. Two styles from the passage are identified for 2 marks.

This is an example of a response that scored 4 marks.

### SECTION A

Answer ALL questions.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

Read Source 1 on the separate insert and then answer questions 1–5.

- 1 Explain what is meant by the term 'artistic style' and identify two styles mentioned in the first paragraph of Source 1.

Artistic style is refers to the genre in which the art is characterised. There are many different artistic styles, but they are ideas and themes that new artists base their work around and therefore characterise their work to be in a certain 'style'.

One method mentioned in the extract is the Soviet Socialist & realist style and another is a style based on European oil painting traditions.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate gives a good description of what is meant by artistic style. Specifically 1 mark was awarded for "genre" and 1 mark for "characterised". Two styles are identified from the passage and so 4 marks are awarded in total.

## Question 2

This question was answered correctly in its entirety by the majority of candidates. It therefore provided little discrimination between candidates.

## Question 3

Candidates tended not to state the meaning of progress nor did they assess the strength/weaknesses of the evidence. Any marks gained tended to be for identifying evidence for and/or against the claim. Candidates gaining higher marks were those who did discuss the meaning of progress and/or assessed the strength/weaknesses of the evidence in addition to identifying evidence for and/or against the claim.

This response was awarded 2 marks.

- 3 It has been claimed that the Chinese Cultural Revolution was an example of progress. Evaluate the evidence in Source 1 for or against this claim.

In source 1 there is evidence against the claim that the Chinese Cultural Revolution was an example of progress. For example, in 1981 'party leaders summed up this chaotic decade as the worst setback for the party, state and people since the founding of the People's Republic of China'.

In addition to this, looking at the views of the artists in the 'revolution' 'suffered ~~to~~ humiliation and destruction', which are both certainly not deemed to be synonyms for progression.



### ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This candidate does not state what he/she considers progress to be nor does he/she assess the strength/weaknesses of the evidence in the source. The candidate only discusses evidence against the claim and, even then, this is fairly limited with marks only being awarded for "chaotic decade as the worst setback for the party" and "artists in the revolution suffered humiliation and destruction".

This response was awarded 7 marks.

- 3 It has been claimed that the Chinese Cultural Revolution was an example of progress. Evaluate the evidence in Source 1 for or against this claim.

It allowed art to progress beyond the bounds of the realist style and guohua and opened up the world of art to younger people, overthrowing the traditional, elitist ~~forms of art~~ world of art. It excited the people into supporting the revolution and the nature of revolution is to bring about a change which is a form of progress. It portrayed Chairman Mao in a positive light and made people eager to follow him.

However, the 'Cultural Revolution pitted young people against older generations' ripping apart the community of the family and the respect young people had for their elders. It ~~may~~ may have made young and old people more equal but the older, traditional artists 'suffered humiliation and destruction' and the art itself went from skilled 'traditional Chinese ink painting' to ~~or~~ woodblock prints that could be repeated over and over again. Instead of introducing a change in culture slowly it was an aggressive and brutal way of eliminating the traditional methods of the past and ~~which~~ led to tensions for years to come.



## ResultsPlus

### Examiner Comments

This candidate addressed the question in some depth.

2 marks were awarded in the first paragraph for stating that revolution was progress because it brought about a change which was positive.

4 marks were awarded for identifying evidence for/against the claim. Specifically these were for "overthrowing traditional, elitist world of art"; "excited the people into supporting the revolution"; "pitted young people against older generations"; "skilled Chinese ink painting to woodblock prints". The latter, while not listed in the mark scheme, is an example of another relevant reference and so is creditworthy.

The final paragraph is a conclusion and so gains 1 further mark.

7 marks were awarded in total.



## ResultsPlus

### Examiner Tip

In questions for which a high number of marks are allocated, always finish with a conclusion.



## Question 4

Most candidates were awarded at least 1 mark. The wide range of acceptable responses may have contributed to this.

This is an example of a response awarded 0 marks.

4 Describe briefly how art might criticise the state.

Art may criticise the state as it was Jiang Qing that forced all art to encourage the revolution and therefore forced all artists to practise in a similar way rather than expressing their inner/personal interpretation.

(Total for Question 4 = 2 marks)



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

What this candidate has written may be factually correct but nothing is actually relevant to the question asked.

This response was awarded 2 marks.

4 Describe briefly how art might criticise the state.

Posters or paintings that mock Mao or his leadership is criticising the state. False, humiliating scenarios of Mao may have been created.

(Total for Question 4 = 2 marks)



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

1 mark was awarded for "mock Mao" as a description and 1 mark for the "way" (posters).

## Question 5

There were many well-developed and balanced answers for AO2, most candidates discussing both the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments given in the text and so achieving 3 or 4 marks, with sound communication for AO4. However, not so many candidates commented about the nature of the evidence – obviously some had been well schooled in this whereas others didn't mention it and just got 1 AO3 mark for a conclusion.

This response was awarded 2 marks.

5 'The arts should reflect society.' How effectively do the evidence and arguments used in Source 1 support this assertion?

In the late 40s and 50s art in China had a purpose to 'serve the people', something that Mao Zedong declared shortly after the founding of PRC. He believed that his party (the Communist party) reflected the purpose of art and that they were there to 'serve the people' also.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This very brief response is a limited, one-sided answer and was, therefore, awarded 1 mark for AO2.

AO3 criteria are not discussed and there is no evidence of a conclusion. Zero marks were awarded.

Barely enough has been written for AO4 to be assessed. 1 mark awarded.

Overall 1+0+1 = 2 marks.

This response was awarded 12 marks.

5 'The arts should reflect society.' How effectively do the evidence and arguments used in Source 1 support this assertion?

If art is done by the people to 'serve the people' it could be argued that the art reflects their own view on society. However, if art is regulated in any way, for example by the government and not allowed 'to criticise the state' there is no way of depicting what the people of society think, as their opinion is greatly restricted. The piece is written by someone who was not present

during this 'chaotic decade' and has the benefit of hindsight and can see the 'repercussions of this decade' clearly. Therefore, the argument is greatly biased, with the writer's knowledge of the outcome.

Using words like 'chaotic' and 'worst setback' and 'decade of turmoil' the writer condemns the project by PRC.

However, when propaganda was used, the art did indeed reflect society, however in a highly superficial way, as it depicted ~~how~~ what society was allowed to think ~~for~~ but it did not portray society's feelings which is an important factor in society. Society may not have supported the regime but the art will have portrayed differently.

The argument of Jiang Qing that art should be 'red, bright and shining' is her opinion on the work of the PRC, and her opinion on art. This cannot be taken at face value, mainly because she is part of the propaganda process and either firmly believes in the PRC's policies or is too close to Mao Zedong to believe differently. In 1949, the way in which artists were allowed to use different methods and 'coexist in art theory and practice' is a way in which people were given choice. Prior to 1966 it is clear that there was more choice than in 1966, when the

government 'took over' the art world for political gains.

The way in which the article is written, favouring the anti-PRC movement means that a conclusion cannot be readily come to, while facts such as 'art did not criticise the state' gives us an acute idea of the restrictions in place on art, making it impossible for it to 'reflect society'.



### ResultsPlus

#### Examiner Comments

For AO2, this is a good answer which examines contrasting viewpoints well. 4 marks were awarded.

In the second paragraph the candidate comments on the quality/authority of the author. The paragraph beginning "The argument of Jing Qing..." not only recognises opinion but also discusses its value. The final paragraph identifies facts and is a conclusion. 4 marks were awarded for AO3.

This is a clear and lucid answer. 4 marks were awarded for AO4.

Overall, 4+4+4=12 marks.



### ResultsPlus

#### Examiner Tip

To achieve high marks in these short essay questions, AO3 must be considered.

## Question 6

Most candidates gained 1 mark, usually for some mention of an anonymous source not being identified. Extending their answer to include one of the other marking points was rarer. Candidates often talked about the reliability of sources which was not a marking point.

No marks were awarded for this response.

### SECTION B

Answer ALL questions.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

Read Sources 2a and 2b on the separate insert and then answer questions 6–10.

- 6 What differences might exist between 'anonymous sources' as mentioned in Source 2a and 'whistle-blower disclosures' as referred to in Source 2b?

Both do the same job - delivering sensitive information from an organisation such as the government to somewhere it can be published. The only difference here is representation - WikiLeaks call their "informants" 'anonymous sources' because it makes them sound reliable. The telegraph names them 'whistle blower' because it makes their work sound dangerous and destructive.

(Total for Question 6 = 2 marks)



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate, incorrectly, focused on reliability.  
Zero marks were awarded.

This response was awarded 2 marks.

**SECTION B**

**Answer ALL questions.**

**You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.**

**Read Sources 2a and 2b on the separate insert and then answer questions 6–10.**

- 6** What differences might exist between 'anonymous sources' as mentioned in Source 2a and 'whistle-blower disclosures' as referred to in Source 2b?

An anonymous source wishes to keep their identity secret, perhaps for fear of retribution or prosecution, whereas a whistle-blower wishes to draw attention to their cause very obviously; they may wish to ~~have~~<sup>gain</sup> recognition of their part in publicising the information.

**(Total for Question 6 = 2 marks)**



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

Marks were awarded for "anonymous source wishes to keep their identity secret" and "whistle-blower ..... may wish to gain recognition".

## Question 7

Many candidates made serious attempts to discuss the moral issues involved – the most common points seen were to do with privacy, endangering lives, national security, etc. Weaker answers tended to concentrate on one moral issue, such as privacy, whereas the question required more than one issue to be considered.

This response was awarded 2 marks.

7 Leaking secret documents for everyone to see raises moral issues. Explain what some of these issues might be.

Privacy issues may arise if they are leaking private documents in order to attack politicians and similar authorities then that isn't fair as private lives shouldn't be interfered with. It also says in source 2b that's the leaks endangered the lives of individuals which obviously should not be happening. However it can be seen as a morally good thing as the leaks contributed to the closure of a detention centre lead by Abu Ghajib which may not have happened without the websites input.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This candidate referred to effects on the government "attack politicians and similar authorities" and to endangering lives but they did not sufficiently develop either point.

This response was awarded 5 marks.

7 Leaking secret documents for everyone to see raises moral issues. Explain what some of these issues might be.

- An issue with leaking secret documents is the disregard of privacy. The right to a private life is threatened if documents are released to the public. One of the USA's Ammendments regards privacy and would be violated if secret information is released.
- People may be concerned about what their government is doing if parts of documents are leaked out of context. This could lead to people turning against the government ~~and~~.
- Source 2b ~~shows~~ states that lives of individuals may become "endangered", which is the case if American military logs are leaked. It can be seen, then, that leaking secret documents is purposefully putting individual lives at risk, which is not in line with peoples' human rights, therefore raising a moral issue.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

The first bullet point refers to privacy issues and is sufficiently developed to be credited with 2 marks.

The second bullet refers to effects on the government - 1 mark.

The third bullet point refers to endangering lives and, again, is sufficiently developed to be credited with 2 marks.

Overall, 5 marks are awarded.



## Question 8

Most candidates gained marks for citing advertising/donations and/or volunteers although other marking points were also frequently seen. Weaker responses just focused on one way or misinterpreted the question by focusing on sources of information rather than sources of funding.

This response was awarded zero marks.

- 8 WikiLeaks is promoted as a 'not-for-profit' media organisation. However, it has a founder, journalists and a substantial internet presence, all of which require resources. How might these resources be found?

WikiLeak may not make a single penny of profit because all of its revenue is used to pay for all its journalists and advertisements.

However this money may also be used in acquiring information by the use of a bribe so essentially WikiLeaks pays for its "anonymous anonymous information"

So WikiLeaks it makes no profit because all its revenue is used to pay off people to acquire their information



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate discussed the issue of "not-for-profit" but did not actually answer the question of how resources may be found.

This response was awarded 3 marks.

- 8 WikiLeaks is promoted as a 'not-for-profit' media organisation. However, it has a founder, journalists and a substantial internet presence, all of which require resources. How might these resources be found?

Typically, internet websites and organisations are self-regulated through selling advertisement space within their website, with WikiLeaks 'substantial internet presence' this is probably very attractive to other companies as a means for advertising, therefore money will most likely be made through this to fund the resources needed. Also as already stated, WikiLeaks does rely on volunteer journalists and most resources are probably acquired through volunteers and donations.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

This candidate refers to advertising, explains why advertisers may choose this site and refers to volunteers - 3 marks are awarded.

## Question 9 (i)

This question, along with the linked 9(ii) and 9(iii), was multiple choice where candidates were asked to identify completely objective statements. Generally, candidates responded well. The commonest error appeared to be to choose response E "Since 2007, when the organisation was officially launched, WikiLeaks has worked to report on and publish important information" in preference to response F "We also develop and adapt technologies to support these activities".

## Question 10

The topic of WikiLeaks, as well as the two sources, enabled most candidates to respond well to this question with many valid strengths and weaknesses discussed. Thus most candidates achieved 3 or 4 marks for AO2.

For AO3 the situation was similar to Question 5 with well-trained candidates achieving 3 or 4 marks and others just getting 1 mark for a conclusion.

This response was awarded 4 marks.

**10** Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the evidence and arguments in Sources 2a and 2b to support the claim that WikiLeaks acts in the public interest.

WikiLeaks must act in public interest due to the public interest being one of the only things that can enable WikiLeaks to stay afloat. If they needed tons of money to be able to pay everyone off then they would still probably need to stay current and in the attention of the public eye because the more free advertisement they can gather - the less expenditure for them. The public interest doesn't always have to be a bad thing, it just means that the more WikiLeaks can do to please the public the more it will work in the favour of the company. ie the more times WikiLeaks is flagged up for bad things the more times people will visit the website and look at the good things as well. To be able to get stories into the public interest is hard, the public are interested in celebrities and social media, so for somebody to be able to get stories in and ~~amongst~~ amongst stories about celebrities is a very hard task to do.

Although acting in the public interest is very important, WikiLeaks decided not to leak something until they had verified the submissions which gives the organisation some more credibility.



## ResultsPlus

### Examiner Comments

This candidate selected and marshalled a limited range of evidence, 2 marks were awarded for AO2.

AO3 criteria are not discussed and there is no evidence of a conclusion. Zero marks were awarded.

The response is broadly understandable, 2 marks were awarded for AO4.

Overall, 2+0+2=4 marks.

## Question 11

This was by far the most popular essay question. There were two elements to the question, namely, the expensive scientific research and the lack of food in the world. Weaker candidates at this level tended to concentrate on one or the other, thereby not providing enough balance to their answers in order to lead to strong conclusions. Higher attaining candidates looked at both elements with strong, supported reasoning.

Many candidates only scored 1 A03 mark for their conclusion as they seemed to get carried away with their discussion and forgot to comment on the strength of the evidence/arguments.

This essay was awarded 7 marks.

Scientific research that is so expensive versus a continuous subject as may in the world struggle to feed themselves.

Scientific research has to be conducted to better the lives of the westernised countries. Granted, the Large Hadron Collider is a huge, unjustifiable waste of money, and continues to be, but research into AIDS, Stencell research and other better than majority, then trickle down to the minority. The money spent on the LHC could have been, and would have been better spent on an ongoing food for the hungry and to support the World Food Programme but Stencell research and other important issues have to be tackled first as the health of the majority outweighs the minority.

⊕ Food <sup>supply</sup> will be greater when issues elsewhere are tackled.

⊖ May not supply from inadequate food sources for the present time.

⊕ Upgrade the LHC are not worth it, especially

ending 912:6b and you deserve 10 years, its  
going to generate nothing for anyone, its a better  
sense of self.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This is a rather superficial answer using a limited amount of evidence. 5 marks were awarded for AO1/AO2.

AO3 criteria are not discussed and there is no evidence of a conclusion. Zero marks were awarded.

This answer is only understandable in parts, the arguments are not clearly expressed and the final "paragraph" is in an inappropriate form for this type of essay. 2 marks were awarded for AO4.

Overall 5+0+2=7 marks.

This essay was awarded 23 marks.

Q11. Naturally, many different priorities exist for the cornucopia of people in the world. Whilst it is true that such issues raise thorny questions, it must be remembered that all causes have a varying degree of importance, based on one's own point of view.

If considered in terms of Maslow's hierarchy, it is evident that malnutrition is far more important than scientific research. Along with shelter and procreation, food and water are the key things necessary to our survival as a race; without food, life would quickly die out, and it would no longer be feasible to carry out ~~the~~ expensive research. When it is clear that food is so fundamental to our survival, we cannot justify spending billions on

scientific discoveries which will only be of interest to a specific few.

To further this point, we must examine the <sup>direct</sup> circle of effect. ~~How~~ how many people will be <sup>directly</sup> affected by more money being spent on nutrition, compared to the money being spent on scientific research? Certainly, scientists and science students will be thrilled by new discoveries in their field, but this pales in comparison to the number of people who would benefit from more food: it is estimated that over a billion people in the world cannot live functional lives, due to a lack of food. ~~It~~ If we consider how much the quality of life can be improved by either an increase in food or an increase in scientific discovery, it goes without saying that scientific research at places such as CERN cannot be justified.

And yet, these scientific discoveries can have enormous implications: ~~from~~ <sup>to</sup> be it the wheel, fire, irrigation or penicillin, science has affected our lives hugely. It cannot be known how the results at CERN will affect our future: if we understand <sup>completely</sup> how matter is constructed, the possibilities are endless. The work being carried out at CERN could be just as important for the

human race 'as the <sup>above-mentioned</sup> medical or agricultural advancements. In this way, the spending would be incredibly justified.

There is a final consideration: the sheer joy of discovery. All ~~various~~ species ~~have~~ have striven to understand ~~the~~ the world around them to the best of their abilities, and few have done more than the human race. Some would argue that the day we cease searching for answers, as we are doing now at the Large Hadron Collider, is the day we cease to be human. Therefore, although global nutrition, of course, is essential to survival, we cannot underestimate the importance of discovery.

By way of conclusion, ~~both~~ both scientific discovery and the nutrition of all people are worthy goals, for a variety of reasons: ~~Personal~~ Personal goals and priorities will always differ from person to person, depending on one's own inclinations and way of life. However, it is wrong to condemn scientific discovery as being unworthy of the money being spent on it, as it, too, is crucial to how the human race will change and progress.





**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This is a good, well-developed answer where the sides of the issue are examined in a balanced way. AO1/2 mid-Level 4, 16 marks awarded.

AO3 criteria are not addressed but a valid conclusion is evident. 1 mark awarded.

This essay is clear, fluent and lucid. 6 marks awarded for AO4.

Overall,  $16+1+6=23$  marks.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Tip**

More marks (AO3) can be gained by commenting on the quality of the evidence used.

## Question 12

Many interesting answers covered the issue of bank bonuses. Weaker responses were often too brief, relying on opinion and assertion, with much recycling of the points raised in the sources. Higher attaining candidates gave balanced and well-reasoned answers with some useful examples/stronger evidence such as RBS and bank bailouts.

This essay was awarded 10 marks.

The main moral issue raised by the section of ~~an~~ the article lifted from the independent is that people are self-serving and this trait, in the people who affect our economy the most such as bankers and the 'high-ups' in the countries biggest businesses and corporations, has ~~led to the public~~ lead to the public's distrust in these people ~~that~~

These people such as bankers and CEOs etc have realised that although ~~and not~~ ~~but~~ bonuses are an incentive for hard work, there are more devious and self-serving ways to ~~receive~~ receive their bonus without working in a way that actually serves the customer or the business as a whole.

The biggest issues raised by the public and the media in recent years is the share size of the bonuses received by bankers. Bankers who are entrusted with the money of the nations people, who are meant to invest and move around money in order to be able to ensure every ones money is

safe ~~into if done~~. They use their position to fill their own pockets when such ~~the~~ funds could be used to ~~be~~ raised interest rates on peoples saving and help the masses.



**ResultsPlus**

**Examiner Comments**

This is a rather restricted answer with limited evidence and the candidate's opinion (although not stated as such for AO3). Upper Level 2 for AO1/2, 6 marks awarded.

AO3 criteria are not discussed and there is no evidence of a conclusion. Zero marks were awarded.

The essay is broadly understandable, 4 marks awarded for AO4.

Overall, 6+0+4=10 marks.

This essay was awarded 23 marks.

In previous years, bankers would put the customer's concerns first, however now they put themselves first. There are many moral issues that can be raised, as the bankers are less likely to be able to act in the favour of the customer's best wishes. Especially under the Conservative government, these issues of profit seeking of bankers has only increased, as the Conservatives favour the incentive of profit for more business and rugged individualism to take place. It's just like the Conservatives embody the beliefs of John Locke who believed in individualism and was a philosopher during the Enlightenment Era.

16 Bankers are more motivated by profits than there is a greater ~~chance~~ chance of humanitarian neglect happening, however it could be argued that the profit motive makes bankers work harder and this means that the customers are treated better. From the extract, it embodies the

believe that bankers' priorities have changed over the years, and this is an argument from cause. However, it's a weak line of argument, because examining the bankers' interests is subjective. Moreover, the rest of the source is very opinionated and gives no solid evidence of bankers neglecting the interests of customers for their own financial goals. Their final assertion is that a 'strong bias will simply make bankers work differently'.

Moral issues which could be brought up could be related to the government being unethical and unfair to allow bankers to grab large bonuses. This is because the government have the power to enforce regulatory bodies who could monitor the banks acting and could be ~~asked~~ ask to restrict a limit on bonus rewards which could be in the interests of the public. Bankers' bonuses are often exorbitant sums of money, which with rates of pay increase being high above inflation, compared to unskilled workers who see a disproportionate increase in the rate of pay which could be lower than the latter's rise in pay. This can create problems, as bankers can become richer, being able to spend a larger sum of their earnings, whereas the people in low skilled labour jobs could become poorer if these increases erode in the high inflation. This could lead to a widening of the income and the wealth gap across England, and due to England's high quality in the delivery of ~~high~~ financial services, there will always be a demand for the bankers, and a bonus system as

as an incentive to enter the financial sector.

In addition, bankers would be able to retire earlier compared to people in lower skilled jobs, which throws up moral issues of inequality.

Bankers with a larger income would also be able to invest their savings in high ISAs and purchase bonds, which pay out interest and would make them more money.

In addition, the bankers access to huge bonuses also throws up the moral issue that it's not in line with the Conservative government's ~~and~~ austerity plans. This is because the plan involved short term pain in terms of falling incomes, in return for long term benefits such as economic growth, prosperity and a reduction in the budget deficit. However, the banking sector would still be booming, and bankers would be reaping the rewards of increased standards of living, whilst the rest of the population would be experiencing falling real wages and falling standards of living. Most of the growth in the financial sector has occurred in London and this has also increased the geographical distribution of income to become less evenly distributed, raising economic grievances, especially amongst people in the north. Moreover, job creation has increased in the south East, with the financial sector receiving more investment and foreign direct investment, which has ~~and~~ <sup>increased</sup> the resources available to grant bankers higher incomes each year. This has especially caused relative poverty in other areas in England, where there

has been a lack of growth in ~~the~~ local industries,  
which raises ethical concerns.

On the whole, I believe that many moral issues have  
come about due to the increase in bankers' bonuses. I  
see this to be <sup>unethical economically</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>issue</sup>, as it increases the wealth in  
and income gap between workers in the UK. So,  
despite the profit motive and incentive of bonuses  
given to bankers being key to the growth in the financial  
industry, I believe that an independent regulatory body  
needs to be introduced to put a cap on bankers' bonuses,  
to reduce the income gap, which ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> the root of the  
moral issues.



## ResultsPlus

### Examiner Comments

This is a well-developed answer where the two sides of the issue are examined in a balanced manner. Mid-Level 4 for AO1/2, 16 marks awarded.

The candidate refers to subjective and opinionated issues towards the bottom of the first page and the final paragraph is a valid conclusion. 2 marks awarded for AO3.

Despite the rather poor handwriting (which is not an issue here) this is a clearly written answer, 5 marks were awarded for AO4.

Overall, 16+2+5=23 marks.

## Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- There is still a need to learn thoroughly about the strength of evidence and the nature of arguments. A few sessions on this would make the biggest difference to candidates' scores.
- Some time spent on considering how bias creeps into argument and discussion could follow the previous point. Both of these could be abstracted daily from the popular press.
- The handwriting and general untidiness of many scripts causes problems for examiners. It is a concern if examiners are unable to award a mark simply because they cannot understand what has been written (after struggling for some time to do so). Please write as clearly and legibly as possible.

Ofqual



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government



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