

General Certificate of Education  
January 2005  
Advanced Level Examination



**GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**  
**Unit 4 Comparative UK/USA Government**

**GOV4**

Thursday 27 January 2005 Afternoon Session

**In addition to this paper you will require:**  
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen. Pencil should only be used for drawing.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GOV4.
- Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed 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**

- You are advised to read through the examination paper before you attempt the questions.
- You are advised to spend the same amount of time on each question.

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Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

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**1**

**Total for this question: 40 marks**

Study the extract below and answer parts (a), (b) and (c) which follow.

Text adapted from GABRIEL ALMOND et al, *Comparative Politics Today*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition (Addison Wesley) 2003. Not reproduced here due to copyright constraints.

- (a) Using the extract, explain the term *federal system*. (8 marks)
- (b) Using the extract and your own knowledge, compare the way in which the membership of the House of Lords and that of the US Senate is determined. (12 marks)
- (c) Evaluate the claim that the US Senate is far more powerful than the UK House of Lords. (20 marks)

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Answer either **Question 2** or **Question 3** or **Question 4**.

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- 2 To what extent do the judiciaries of the UK and the USA play a significant role in the political process? *(40 marks)*
- 3 “Constitutions, whether codified or uncoded, are no longer accurate guides to political reality.” Discuss this view of the constitutions of the UK and the USA. *(40 marks)*
- 4 “Both the UK Prime Minister and the US President are effectively unrestrained in the exercise of executive power in their respective countries.” How far do you agree with this statement? *(40 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**