

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS **GOV3**
Unit 3 Features of a Representative Democracy

Tuesday 7 June 2005 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.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GOV3.
- Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.
In Section A, answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.
In Section B, answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- 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.

Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

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

Text from B COXALL, L ROBINS and R LEACH, *Contemporary British Politics*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, p247. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain the term *devolved assemblies* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) ‘Although its composition is undemocratic the House of Lords is too useful simply to be abolished.’ Discuss. (22 marks)

OR

- 2 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Local Government

To many people, central government is still viewed as all-powerful despite the introduction of devolution and the passing of some power upwards to the *European Council of Ministers* and Commission. Local government deals with what are often perceived as being less important, or unimportant, issues – street lighting, parks, refuse collection, etc. Nevertheless, local government plays a major role in Britain. It spends approximately one quarter of total government spending and employs around 10 per cent of the workforce. It is an important aspect of British democracy giving a locally elected body responsibility for local services. It is a case of government actually being closer to the people.

Source: adapted from P COCKER and A JONES, *Contemporary British Politics and Government*
(Liverpool Academic Press) 2002
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- (a) Explain the term *European Council of Ministers* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) Discuss the view that local government brings government ‘closer to the people’. (22 marks)

TURN OVER FOR THE NEXT SECTION

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SECTION B

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

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

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

Text from D WILSON 'Regulating Society: Quangos' in J FISHER *et al*, *Central Debates in British Politics*, Pearson Education, 2003, p375. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain the term *ministers* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) 'Quangos have a number of positive features.' Discuss. (22 marks)

OR

- 4 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Text from M J SMITH 'The Core Executive' in P DUNLEAVY *et al*, *Developments in British Politics 7*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, p79. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain the term *Next Steps Agencies* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) Discuss the view that we do **not** have 'an all-powerful Prime Minister' in Britain. (22 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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