



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination  
June 2013

## Government and Politics

## GOV4A

### Unit 4A The Government of the USA

Monday 10 June 2013 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

#### Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

#### Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 GOV4A.
- Choose **two** topics and answer **both** questions on each topic.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
- Use continuous prose.

#### Information

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

#### 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 topic.

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Choose **two** topics and answer **both** questions on each topic.

Each topic carries 40 marks.

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**Topic 1 The Constitutional Framework of US Government**

- 0 | 1** Consider the importance of the Bill of Rights in the USA. (10 marks)
- 0 | 2** Assess the significance of federalism in the USA. (30 marks)

**Topic 2 The Legislative Branch of Government: US Congress**

- 0 | 3** Examine the roles of standing committees in the US Congress. (10 marks)
- 0 | 4** 'Members of the US Congress are too concerned with local matters and not concerned enough with issues affecting the whole country.' Discuss. (30 marks)

**Topic 3 The Executive Branch of Government**

- 0 | 5** Consider the role of the Vice-President in US Government. (10 marks)
- 0 | 6** 'In practice there are no constraints on the power of a popular US president.' Evaluate this statement. (30 marks)

**Topic 4 The Judicial Branch of Government: The Supreme Court**

- 0 | 7** Explain the distinction between strict constructionism and loose constructionism in the USA. (10 marks)
- 0 | 8** To what extent do the constraints on its powers prevent the Supreme Court from performing its functions effectively? (30 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**