



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

2008

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## Government and Politics

### Assessment Unit A2 1

*assessing*

Module 4: The Government and Politics  
of the USA

Module 5: The Government and Politics  
of the Republic of Ireland

[A2Q11]

TUESDAY 13 MAY, AFTERNOON

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#### TIME

1 hour.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **either** Section A on Module 4 **or** Section B on Module 5.  
Answer **one** question from your chosen section.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 30.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.  
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

#### ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

You should answer **one** question from **either** Section A **or** Section B

## Section A

### Module 4: The Government and Politics of the United States of America

#### 1 The Constitution of the USA

- (a) Identify and explain **two** criticisms of the informal amendment process. [10]
- (b) “The American political system no longer reflects the intentions of the Framers.” Discuss. [20]

#### 2 The United States Supreme Court

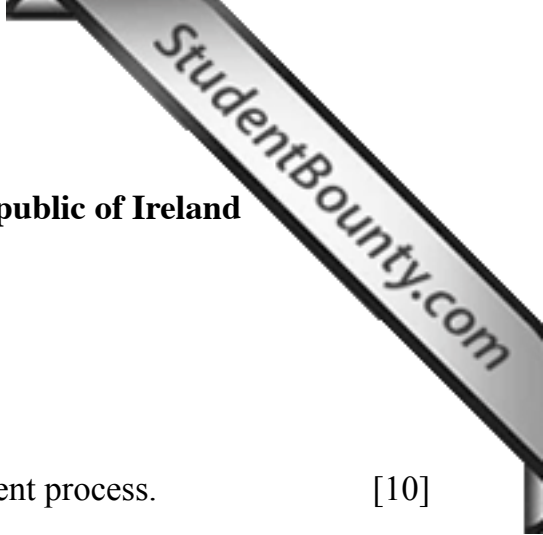
- (a) Identify and explain **two** limitations on the power of the Supreme Court. [10]
- (b) “The primary role of the Supreme Court is to defend the Constitution.” Discuss. [20]

#### 3 United States Political Parties

- (a) Identify and explain **two** policy differences between the Republican and Democrat parties. [10]
- (b) “America has a national party system in name only.” Discuss. [20]

## Section B

### Module 5: The Government and Politics of the Republic of Ireland



#### 1 Bunreacht na hEireann

(a) Identify and explain **two** criticisms of the formal amendment process. [10]

(b) “Bunreacht na hEireann is no longer recognisable as de Valera’s constitution.” Discuss. [20]

#### 2 Irish Local Government

(a) Identify and explain **two** powers of local government in the Republic of Ireland. [10]

(b) “The position of local government has been strengthened in recent years.” Discuss. [20]

#### 3 Irish Political Parties

(a) Identify and explain how support for the Labour Party has changed since 1992. [10]

(b) “Fianna Fail has been in long term decline since 1977.” Discuss. [20]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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