



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

January 2009

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]

MONDAY 19 JANUARY, MORNING



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** ways by which the Constitution can be informally changed. [10]
- (b) “The inflexibility of the Constitution remains a fundamental problem for the United States.” Discuss. [20]

2 The United States Supreme Court

- (a) Identify and explain **two** controversial Supreme Court decisions. [10]
- (b) “The Supreme Court responds to popular opinion.” Discuss. [20]

3 United States Political Parties

- (a) Identify and explain how the Republican and Democratic Parties are organised. [10]
- (b) “There are now major policy differences between the Republican and Democratic Parties.” Discuss. [20]

Section B

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

1 Bunreacht na hEireann

(a) Identify and explain the significance of any **two** formal amendments to the constitution. [10]

(b) “The constitution is what the judges say it is.” Discuss. [20]

2 Irish Local Government

(a) Identify and explain **two** limitations of Irish local government. [10]

(b) “Irish local government is in need of fundamental change.” Discuss. [20]

3 Irish Political Parties

(a) Identify and explain **two** reasons for the decline of the Progressive Democrats since 1989. [10]

(b) “The outcome of recent elections demonstrates the continued dominance of Fianna Fail.” Discuss. [20]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER
