

Monday 8 June 2015 – Afternoon

A2 GCE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

F853/01 Contemporary US Government and Politics

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR supplied materials:

Insert – F853/01/I (inserted)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 2 hours



Candidate forename				Candidate surname				
Centre number					Candidate nu	ımber		

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- The Insert will be found in the centre of this document.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes above. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Answer **Question 1** and **three** other questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined page(s) at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.
- Do not write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each guestion or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 100.
- You will be rewarded for your ability to draw together the knowledge, understanding and skills which you have acquired from your study of all parts of the course.
- Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in this paper. This means for example you should:
 - ensure that text is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate so that meaning is clear;
 - organise information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- This document consists of **20** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.



CONTENTS				
Question 1(a)	See page 3			
Question 1(b)	See page 5			
Questions 2 to 8 (answer any three)	See page 8			
Additional answer space	See pages 19 – 20			

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE

SECTION A

Answer the question in this section.

Use the source below and your own knowledge to answer Question 1.

Source for Question 1

The 2008 and 2012 presidential elections are regarded by many as representing a new stage in the evolution of US voting behaviour. The dealignment of the past was less evident as a new 'Obama coalition' emerged. The changing composition of the US population was seen to be critical in this regard. Despite high levels of unemployment, President Obama was able to win a second term. If the Obama coalition represents the realignment of US voters, it would seem that the Republican Party faces a real challenge if it is ever to secure the White House again.

I	(a)	Outline the meanings of dealignment and realignment. [1	0]

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SECTION B

Answer **three** questions in this section.

Write the numbers of the questions answered in the margin.

2	Discuss the view that political parties still have an important role in US politics today.	[25]
3	'Money alone does not make pressure groups successful.' Discuss.	[25]
4	Evaluate the role played by the Executive Office of the President.	[25]
5	Assess the claim that the US Constitution is an obstacle to effective government.	[25]
6	'Congress is a broken branch of government.' Discuss.	[25]
7	To what extent is the Supreme Court a political institution?	[25]
8	To what extent does the protection of rights in the USA depend upon public opinion?	[25]
	(Use this space for planning your answer(s).)	

Write the number of each question answered in the margin.

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ADDITIONAL ANSWER SPACE

number(s)	nal answer space is required, you should use) must be clearly shown in the margins.	the following line	d page(s).	The question



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