



**GCE A level**

1404/01

**GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS – GP4α**  
**The Government of the USA**

A.M. MONDAY, 10 June 2013

1½ hours

#### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer any **TWO** questions.

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The maximum mark for this paper is 80.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

You are reminded that assessment will take into account the quality of written communication used in answers that involve extended writing (part *(b)* questions).

*Answer two questions.*

*Each question is worth 40 marks.*

*Choose TWO of the questions that follow, and answer both parts, (a) and (b), for both the questions that you choose.*

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

- (a) Explain how the US Constitution is flexible. [10]
- (b) Assess the extent to which federalism is the most important principle underpinning the US Constitution. [30]

**2. The Legislative Branch of Government: the US Congress**

- (a) Explain the impact of gridlock on the work of Congress. [10]
- (b) Evaluate whether Congress is more effective at law-making than any of its other functions. [30]

**3. The Executive Branch of Government**

- (a) Explain the significance of the presidential veto. [10]
- (b) 'The federal bureaucracy is too powerful.' Discuss. [30]

**4. The Judicial Branch of Government: the Supreme Court**

- (a) Explain the Supreme Court's role as guardian of the Constitution. [10]
- (b) 'The Supreme Court's most effective role is as the champion of the rights of citizens.' Discuss. [30]