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Pearson
Edexcel GCE

Centre Number	Candidate Number
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History
Advanced Subsidiary
Unit 2
Option B: British Political History in the 19th Century

Wednesday 20 May 2015 – Afternoon Time: 1 hour 20 minutes	Paper Reference 6HI02/B
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You must have: Sources Insert (enclosed)	Total Marks
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Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer question part (a) and part (b) of the topic for which you have been prepared. There is a choice of questions in part (b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
– *you should take particular care on these questions with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

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6HI02/B – British Political History in the 19th Century

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B1 – Britain, 1830–85: Representation and Reform

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer Question 1, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 1

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) **Study Sources 1, 2 and 3.**

How far do the sources suggest that the arguments of the physical-force Chartists were effective in mobilising support for the movement?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 1, 2 and 3.

(20)

EITHER

*(b) (i) **Use Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that there was more continuity than change in the political system as a result of the 1832 Reform Act?

Explain your answer, using Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

*(b) (ii) **Use Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that the Conservative Party was primarily responsible for parliamentary reforms in the years 1867–85?

Explain your answer, using Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 1 = 60 marks)



6HI02/B – British Political History in the 19th Century

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Poverty, Public Health and the Growth of Government in Britain, 1830–75

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer Question 2, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 2

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) **Study Sources 10, 11 and 12.**

How far do the sources suggest that, in the mid-19th century, paupers were well provided for in the workhouses?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 10, 11 and 12.

(20)

EITHER

*(b) (i) **Use Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that the cost of operating the old Poor Law was the main reason for the decision to change the system in 1834?

Explain your answer, using Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

*(b) (ii) **Use Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that fear of cholera was the key factor in improving public health provision throughout the period 1830–75?

Explain your answer, using Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 2 = 60 marks)



Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ~~☒~~ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen Question Number:

Question 1 ☒

Question 2 ☒

(a)

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(a) continued

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Answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) of your chosen question.

(b)

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((b) continued)

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(b) continued

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P 4 1 6 9 2 A 0 1 3 2 0

(b) continued

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Pearson Edexcel GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 2

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Sources Insert

Paper Reference

6HI02/B

Do not return the insert with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B1 – Britain, 1830–85: Representation and Reform

Sources for use with Question 1 (a)

SOURCE 1

(From a letter written by Richard Moyl, Mayor of Penzance, to Lord John Russell, Home Secretary, March 1839)

Here, loyalty is normal and contentment almost universal. This desirable order of things is threatened by the Chartists who held their first meeting here yesterday. The most seditious and inflammatory language was fearlessly made use of. Her Majesty was insulted, all the established institutions ridiculed, and the working classes were called on to arm themselves. The sensation which this meeting has caused is quite extraordinary: the upper classes of society are in a state of alarm.

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SOURCE 2

(From an article by Henry Hetherington in the newspaper *Northern Star*, 27 April 1839, about the Convention on Ulterior Measures. This discussed the tactics that should be used if the first petition was rejected.)

The manner in which physical force was discussed by some of their members was the cause of a great many persons not taking an active part in the proceedings. The use of such language enabled their enemies to say they believed in a doctrine which they had, as a body, done their utmost to reject. The middle classes invariably raised objections because of this emphasis on physical force.

10

SOURCE 3

(From a letter written by George Julian Harney to Friedrich Engels, 30 March 1846. Harney was a supporter of Fergus O'Connor. Engels was a Manchester businessman of German origin.)

The English people applaud 'physical force' in public meetings, but that is all. Despite all the talk in 1839 about 'arming', the people did not arm, and they will not arm. The English people, without becoming a slavish people, are becoming an eminently peaceful people. To attempt a 'physical-force' agitation at the present time would be productive of no good, but on the contrary productive of some evil – the evil of creating suspicion against the agitators.

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Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (i)

SOURCE 4

(From the diary of Charles Greville, 4 December 1835. Greville knew many of the leading politicians of the day.)

Lord Segrave has got the Gloucestershire Lieutenancy, and this appointment displays all the most objectionable features of the old system, which was supposed to be swept away. He was in London as soon as the breath was out of the Duke of Beaufort's* body. He went to Lord Melbourne, the Prime Minister, and claimed this post because he had used his influence to bring about the election of three Whig MPs, whom the electors did not know by sight. 20

*The previous Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire

SOURCE 5

(From Robert Stewart, *Party and Politics 1830–1852*, published 1989)

The Reform Act was important in setting Britain on the road to electoral democracy. However, the immediate consequences, on the electoral habits of the country and on the social composition of the House of Commons, were far from dramatic. Bribery and corruption, although they certainly diminished, did not vanish overnight. Nearly three-quarters of the MPs in the 1840s were drawn from the aristocracy and gentry. The old landed interests continued to dominate cabinets. 25

SOURCE 6

(From Robert Pearce and Roger Stearn, *Government and Reform, Britain 1815–1918*, published 1994)

The Reform Act brought about a redistribution of parliamentary seats and extended the franchise to include most middle class males in the towns. It ended the worst abuses of the old system, and reinvigorated the political system. It put Britain on the path of peaceful democratic change. The very fact that reform triumphed over reaction changed political attitudes. The Tories had warned that the Act would 'open the floodgates of reform', and their fears were well founded. Once the door was opened, there was no prospect of closing it. 30
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Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 7

(From a speech made in the House of Commons by Robert Lowe, a Liberal MP, May 1867)

The Right Honourable gentleman [Disraeli] has chosen a course which shows his skill as a tactician. He knew that had he first proposed the measure as it is now before us, his party would have started back from it in horror. He has treated them as we treat a shy horse – take him gently up, walk him round the object, and then, when the process has been repeated often enough, we hope we shall get the creature to pass it quietly. Clearly he was determined from the beginning that household suffrage was the principle he intended to introduce.

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SOURCE 8

(From Howard Martin, *Britain in the 19th Century*, published 1996)

The Liberals created a demand for parliamentary reform which could not be ignored. In 1866, the Reform League and the Reform Union organised demonstrations, and in London the Reform League planned a protest meeting in Hyde Park. The new Conservative Home Secretary closed the park and prohibited the gathering. The leadership obeyed but the crowds broke into the park. With police and troops powerless, the Home Secretary had to accept the Reform League's offer to restore order. Reform was kept alive.

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SOURCE 9

(From Malcolm Pearce and Geoffrey Stewart, *British Political History 1867–1991*, published 1992)

It was Salisbury's firm use of the Lords in 1884 to resist the Franchise Reform Bill that forced Gladstone to compromise and agree to introduce a Redistribution Bill. Salisbury himself negotiated the basis of redistribution with Gladstone and Dilke* at his Arlington Street house. Maps were strewn around the floor as deals were rapidly struck. Very cleverly Salisbury preserved as much of the old system as he could, despite the latest surge of the democratic tide.

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*Sir Charles Dilke was a member of the Liberal Cabinet

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Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Poverty, Public Health and the Growth of Government in Britain, 1830–75

Sources for use with Question 2 (a)

SOURCE 10

(From a letter written by Edwin Chadwick to the Clerk of the Poor Law Guardians, Chelsea, London, 27 May 1843)

The Poor Law Commissioners regret to learn that the Chelsea workhouse is in a very unsatisfactory state. There was throughout a lack of order, cleanliness, and ventilation. The heat in the female wards was excessive, because of unnecessary large fires. The Commissioners also learn that extra articles of food are freely admitted to be brought into the workhouse. The Commissioners think it desirable that a dietary regime should be introduced. 5

SOURCE 11

(From Charles Dickens, *A Walk in a Workhouse*, published in *Household Words*, 25 May 1850. Dickens was a novelist and wrote this article after a visit to the Whitechapel workhouse in London.)

I walked through the little world of poverty enclosed within the workhouse walls. It was inhabited by a population of some 1500 to 2000 paupers, ranging from the newly-born infant to the old man dying on his bed. We have come to an absurd situation when the dishonest criminal is, in respect of cleanliness, order, diet, and accommodation, better provided for, and taken care of, than the honest pauper. 10

SOURCE 12

(From Hippolyte Taine, *Notes on England*, published 1871. Taine was a Frenchman who based his work on three visits to England after 1860. Here he is describing a workhouse near Manchester.)

The building is huge, perfectly clean and well-maintained with big courtyards, a chapel, public rooms, gardens, and a view of fields. Compared to the rows of hovels in which the poor live, this place is a palace. Consider this, a labourer in Manchester can barely afford to eat meat once a week, yet has to work ten hours a day. Here, a person works six hours a day and eats minced-meat four times a week. 15

Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (i)

SOURCE 13

(From Eric Hopkins, *A Social History of the English Working Classes*, published 1979)

In 1824, a Select Committee was appointed to examine labourers' wages and especially the subsidising of them. Its Report found fault with a number of features of the Poor Law, especially the Roundsman system and the paying of allowances for each child, which was widespread in the southern counties. The cost of poor relief began to rise after 1826, and by 1831 it was above £7 million. By this time there were very strong feelings that the Poor Law must be reformed. It seemed clear that something had gone wrong with the system. 20

SOURCE 14

(From M.E. Rose, *The Relief of Poverty 1834–1914*, published 1972)

There were fears that the Speenhamland system was undermining the independence of the agricultural labourer. This seemed to strengthen the case for a system of poor relief in which outdoor payments to the able-bodied would be abolished. The new Poor Law's scheme of less eligibility had the attraction of being a good test of destitution. Those who were genuinely in dire need would accept the workhouse rather than starvation. Those who were not in such need, would prefer to remain independent and thus avoid pauperism. 25
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SOURCE 15

(From the *Report of His Majesty's Commissioners into the Administration and Operation of the Poor Laws*, published 1833)

When labourers are out of employment in the parish of Lenham, or only in partial employment, their wages are made up according to a scale. The labourers are sent to work on the roads if there is anything to do, but they are paid according to the scale whether they work or not. On Saturday 13 October last, 27 men were paid at least 12 shillings each, though no work whatever had been done. 35

Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 16

(From *The Report of the General Board of Health*, 1849)

The chief causes of every epidemic, and especially of cholera, are damp, moisture, filth, animal and vegetable waste in a state of decomposition, and, in general, whatever produces atmospheric impurity. All of these have the effect of lowering health and vigour, and of increasing the susceptibility to disease, particularly among the young, the aged and the feeble.

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SOURCE 17

(From M. W. Flinn's introduction to the 1842 *Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of Great Britain*. Flinn was commenting in 1965 on the 19th century report.)

Cholera was swift, dramatic, highly lethal while it lasted and extremely contagious. It struck terror into the minds of the ruling classes, and accordingly led, as no other disease did in the first half of the nineteenth century, to immediate, vigorous, administrative action. Cholera was a more direct threat to the wealthier classes because it was a water-borne disease, and these classes enjoyed greater access to a supply of water than the inferior classes did. Cholera had prompted otherwise obsolete corporations into temporary frantic activity.

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SOURCE 18

(From S.G. Checkland, *The Rise of Industrial Society in England 1815–1885*, published 1964)

Between the 1850s and the 1870s, England made substantial progress against fevers, smallpox and cholera. Deaths from such causes fell by 23 per cent. Edwin Chadwick had done good work before 1854. John Simon, the new Medical Officer of the Privy Council, appointed in 1855 was another dedicated man. Under him, further progress was made. An assortment of acts were passed, affecting common lodging houses, powers to deal with epidemics, burials and various aspects of sanitation. By 1869, the confusion of authorities was so conspicuous that a new Royal Commission was appointed, which called for a national sanitation and health policy.

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