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Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

January 2022

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

In History (WHI01 1D)

Option 1D: Britain, 1964–90

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WHI01 1D: Britain, 1964-90

The entry for this paper was the smallest of the four papers that make up WHI01. Candidates chose two questions from four.

Question 1

This was generally a well answered question. There was a clear understanding of the censorship issues and candidates balanced this with other features, such as, changing attitudes towards women, role of youth and the swinging sixties.

Question 2

Some candidates who answered this question tended to ignore that the issue was about considering which of the two stated factors was the more important issue and included knowledge of many other factors facing British governments in the years 1970-79. While this did not mean their answers were invalid, it did limit their consideration of the issue raised by the question. Those that focused on the issue in the question and made considered judgements about the view scored well.

Question 3

This question was popular with candidates. Again, as with question two, those that focused on the actual issue raised by the question scored well. Some candidates described the many reasons why Margaret Thatcher fell from power.

Question 4

There were varied responses to this question. There was a lot of knowledge about legislation and its impact on the feminist revolution. Those that balanced this with other impacts, such as the contraceptive pill, the role of high-profile feminists and expanding opportunities score well.

Points to consider:

- This is a 'Depth study with Interpretations' which means that knowledge on its own is not enough. Knowledge needs to be applied to the interpretation that is raised by the question and judgements made.
- The time allowed for this examination is sufficient to allow a small amount of planning time for each answer.
- When judgments are made, they need to be supported with criteria – it is not sufficient to state that a factor or consequence/effect/impact is the most 'important' or 'significant' without explaining the basis upon which that judgment has been made.