



## General Certificate of Education

# Home Economics 5561/6561 Unit 1 The Consumer and Society

## Mark Scheme

*2005 examination - June series*

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this Mark Scheme are available to download from the AQA Website: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)

Copyright © 2005 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

#### COPYRIGHT

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered centres for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

# Contents

## GCE Home Economics

Unit 1 The Consumer and Society .....	5
---------------------------------------	---



**The Consumer and Society****HEC1****Question 1**

- (a) Responses should include an attempt to accurately describe National Socio-economic classification, designed to provide coverage of the whole adult population based on occupation and income. Economic factors may be taken into account, reference to lifestyles. *(4 marks)*
- (b) Responses should make clear reference to the graph and the data issued. The question clearly states ‘describe’ and ‘account’ for and therefore more detailed responses should make reference to both in order to achieve higher marks. The description of the graph should begin at 1950 and finish at 2000. No credit will be given to issues raised beyond 2000. Candidates may mention that the data suggests an aging population.
- Number of marriages grew during the mid to late 1960s to reach a peak around 1972. Maybe due to the number of babies born in the post war boom reaching marriageable ages and the number of people marrying younger.
  - Total number of marriages then began to decline reaching a low in 1999. Number of first marriages peaked in 1970 and since then has decreased to less than half this number in 2000. Responses may include reference to the increasing expense of marriage and the role of the church in society.
  - Number of divorces doubled between 1961 –1969. Divorce permitted in Northern Ireland after 1969. By 1972 number of divorces in UK had doubled partly due to Divorce Reform Act 1969, came into effect 1971. Act introduced ground for divorce – irretrievable breakdown – established by proving 1 or more certain facts – adultery, desertion, separation with or without consent, unreasonable behaviour. Drop in number in 1973, increased in 1974 and peaked in 1993.
  - Following divorce people often form new relationships and remarry. Remarriages for 1 or both partners increased between 1971 and 1972 and peaked around 1988. Any well justified response will be credited. *(10 marks)*
- (c) Responses should include well justified issues from 1950 to the present day. The roles of men and women may be looked at together or separately. All relevant issues will be credited.

Traditionally women stayed at home, looked after children and men went into paid employment. Men were regarded as head of the household, tax, social security, and pensions were based upon these assumptions. Currently an increase in the number of lone parents of both genders, cohabiting. Equality between men and women, much greater acceptance by men of their responsibilities as fathers and partners. Men now engage in household tasks such as shopping and cooking. Importance of maternal and paternal leave from work. Greater emphasis on paid childminders, society’s attitude towards men and women has changed: socially acceptable for women to socialise as a group and for men to be domestic. Roles of both men and women affected by the increase of domestic technology. *(12 marks)*

- (d) Any well justified strategies will be accepted. For example collection of refuse, newspaper recycling, energy efficiency light bulbs, charity shops, public transport and fuel consumption. *(4 marks)*

**Total 30 marks**

## Question 2

The imbalance between the non working and working population, who have to provide the funding from taxes for all the State benefits. Mention of the number of people below working age and those above it compared to those of working age. *(5 marks)*

- (a) Responses should make clear reference to the graph and the data issued. The question clearly states ‘describe’ and ‘account’ for and therefore more detailed responses should make reference to both in order to achieve higher marks. Projections suggest that the number of people aged 65 and over will exceed the numbers aged 16 and below by 2014. By 2025 there will be far more over 65 than 16 and below. The number of pensioners places greater demands upon health, housing, social services and social security. As a result state pension age will rise to 65 for both sexes between 2010 and 2020. More detailed responses will refer to the effect of the population upon Education, Housing, National Health Service, Employment services. *(10 marks)*
- (b) The role of any well justified group will be credited – help the aged, gingerbread, WRVS, Age Concern *(3 marks)*
- (c) Candidates may choose ONE area and credit must only be given for one area of comparison. The response must be a direct comparison between the private and public systems. A general comparison may be made but with specific issues raised, or 2/3 issues may be discussed in detail with accurate information as opposed to sweeping statements. Responses may reflect geographical locations with specific examples and the candidates own personal experience may be apparent. All responses must be supported and any personal opinion must be adequately justified. *(12 marks)*

**Total 30 marks**

**Total marks for paper 60**