

# General Certificate of Education

## Home Economics 5561/6561

*HEC1 – The Consumer and Society*

# Mark Scheme

*2006 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.



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## The Consumer and Society

## HEC1

### Question 1

- (a) **5-6 marks:** Responses will include discussion of the changes in the family structure, reference to more lone female parents, increase in fewer children per family, family type not necessarily married, lone male families. Accurate reference to the date given.

**3-4 marks:** Responses will include reference to above but the level of discussion is more superficial. Data may be mentioned but with less accuracy.

**1-2 marks:** Responses will be general with one or two unjustified points mentioned. Little or no reference will be made to the data.

*(6 marks)*

- (b) **5-6 marks:** Responses will have a clear understanding of ‘dependency ratios’ and the balance between the non-working (dependent) population and the working population, who provide the funding from taxation for all the state benefits. References should be made to the ageing population and unemployment figures, post-16 education provisions. Unemployed may be seen as lazy, therefore tension in the community. Equal opportunities for both men and women and the changing roles of men and women.

**3-4 marks:** Responses will be less accurate and contain less understanding of dependency ratios. One or two points may be justified.

**1-2 marks:** Responses will be general with one or two unjustified points mentioned.

*(6 marks)*

- (c) Homeostasis – the tendency towards a relatively stable equilibrium between independent elements. *(2 marks)*

- (d) 1) Help the Aged, Age Concern or any identified and justified organisation will be accepted. Voluntary or Statutory. *(3 marks)*

2) Gingerbread or any identified and justified organisation will be accepted. Voluntary or Statutory. Child Support Agency. Organisations fund raising or raising awareness.

*(3 marks)*

- (e) **8-10 marks:** Responses will give a balanced view of both positive and negative effects on an ageing population in TWO areas:

**Individuals** – dependency ratio, social pressure, financial, caring, lifestyle, responsibility.

**Family** – extended family, finance, lifestyles, experience to be gained, baby/house sitting.

**Society** – effects on all 5 areas of the Welfare State to be discussed – healthcare, housing, benefits, education, employment.

**5-7 marks:** Responses may include reference to all 3 areas or cover 1 area in detail with well justified points. Subject knowledge may not be consistently accurate and superficial statements may be included.

**1-4 marks:** Responses may cover all 1, 2 or 3 areas superficially demonstrating little understanding of the subject.

*(10 marks)*

## Question 2

(a) Candidates may respond with the 5 social giants/evils: Disease, Ignorance, Squalor, Idleness, Want or the modern day equivalents: Health, Education, Housing, Employment, Benefits  
*(5 marks)*

(b) The Welfare State taking care of an individual from birth to death *(2 marks)*

(c) **8-10 marks:** Responses will include general discussion of the areas identified in the data or 2/3 areas may be discussed in detail with accurate information. Accurate reference to all parts of the data must be made.

**5-7 marks:** Responses will include reference to above but the level of discussion is more superficial. Data may be mentioned but with less accuracy.

**1-4 marks:** Responses will be general with one or two unjustified points mentioned. Little or no reference will be made to the data.

*(10 marks)*

(d) The system of providing financial help to those in need, with specific examples of who may benefit. *(3 marks)*

(e) **8-10 marks:** Responses will explain in detail how the changes in the family structure affect the provision of Housing **and** Healthcare in the UK. Reference to the elderly population, single people, lone parents, changing roles of men and women, new technology, diet, health, lifestyles. Any well-justified points will be credited.

**5-7 marks:** Responses will include reference to above but the level of discussion is more superficial. Some responses will make reference to only Housing or Healthcare.

**1-4 marks:** Responses will be general with one or two unjustified points mentioned.

*(10 marks)*

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