

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname

Other names

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Time 1 hour 45 minutes

Paper
reference

8PL0/01

Politics

**Advanced Subsidiary
PAPER 1: UK Politics**

You do not need any other materials.

Total Marks

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.
- There are **three** sections and you must answer **four** questions:
 - in Section A answer **either** Question 1(a) **or** 1(b)
 - in Section B answer **both** Question 2 **and** Question 3
 - in Section C answer **either** Question 4(a) **or** 4(b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
 - *there may be more space than you need.*
- Calculators must **not** be used.

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.*

Advice

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

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer EITHER Question 1(a) OR Question 1(b).

EITHER

1 (a) Describe the functions of a manifesto.

(10)

OR

(b) Describe the key features of a minority government.

(10)

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TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 10 MARKS



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SECTION B

Answer BOTH Question 2 AND Question 3.

- 2 Source 1 examines the Labour victory in the 1997 general election and the impact that it had on UK politics.

Source 1

After 18 years out of office and four defeats, a revamped Labour Party – described by its leader as ‘New Labour’ – secured in 1997 one of the biggest ever landslides. It was a carefully-planned campaign with attention to detail. Labour faced an opposition that seemed tired and weak. The outcome was that the Conservative Party had lost its moral authority and with no new ideas headed into 13 years of opposition.

Tony Blair declared ‘We won as New Labour. We will govern as New Labour.’ The Labour Party entered office in May 1997 to the song and catchphrase ‘Things can only get better’. The new government embraced and introduced constitutional change and showed a more tolerant attitude to groups sidelined in society. There was economic growth and out of this we saw improved public services.

However, for many, the changes the party made were neither quick nor radical enough. New Labour, which had introduced an acceptance of economic liberalism, abandoned Clause 4, turned its back on its traditional trade union supporters and was unable to handle the economic crash in 2008 or to win elections in 2010, 2015, 2017 or 2019.

Using the source, explain why Labour won a landslide in the 1997 general election and the long-term consequences for the party.

*In your response you must use knowledge and understanding to analyse points from the source **only**. You will **not** be rewarded for introducing any additional points that are not in the source.*

(10)

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- 3 Source 2 and Source 3 cover an exchange of views between Jonathan Aitken and Frances Crook over the issue of whether prisoners in the UK should be given the right to vote. This follows the decision in 2011 of the European Court of Human Rights that prisoners in the UK should be given the right to vote. The decision of the European Court was rejected by the UK Parliament.

Source 2

Jonathan Aitken – against prisoners having voting rights

Society has the right to say that when you commit a crime serious enough to be sent to prison, you lose your freedom, and with that you lose some of your privileges, of which voting is one. A criminal is an outlaw, someone who puts themselves outside the law. You might say people who commit crimes serious enough to go to prison put themselves outside the law-making process. There is a huge amount of public opinion against prisoners having the right to vote. Some of this may be a negative reaction to the European Court of Human Rights telling the UK how to run its political system. Prisoner rehabilitation is vital – but voting will not engineer this. Voting would not be enough to change a prisoner’s character or their behaviour.

Source 3

Frances Crook – in favour of prisoners having voting rights

Voting is not a privilege; it is a right, a human right and a civic responsibility too, recognised by the devolved nations. Human rights cannot be switched on or off for reasons of popularity. Voting is even more important if you’ve lost your freedom. Inevitably, Parliament and the public reacted badly against the European Court’s decision. However, giving prisoners the vote would raise political and social awareness. When you ask, ‘Do you think prisoners should get the vote?’ there is a sense that prisoners are not us, they’re dangerous and we don’t want to give them anything. But when you talk to the public in more depth and say, ‘Do you think prisoners ought to be encouraged to be responsible citizens, live a good life and be rehabilitated into society?’ everyone says yes, and I fully agree.

(Source 2 and 3: adapted from: <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2011/apr/23/prison-votes-jonathan-aitken-frances-crook>)

Using **only** the sources, assess whether the UK Parliament is justified in denying the vote to UK prisoners for general elections.

(10)

*In your response you must compare and contrast **similarities** and **differences** and consider competing points by analysing and evaluating them. **Only** analysis and evaluation based on knowledge from the sources will gain credit.*

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 20 MARKS



SECTION C

Answer EITHER Question 4(a) OR Question 4(b)

EITHER

- 4 (a) 'Pressure groups are now much more important than political parties to the voting public.'

How far do you agree with this view concerning the relative importance of pressure groups and political parties in the UK?

*In your answer you must refer to **at least two** pressure groups and **at least two** political parties in the UK and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.*

(30)

OR

- (b) 'No matter which electoral system is used in the UK the outcomes remain broadly similar.'

How far do you agree with the view that election results are not significantly affected by the electoral system used?

*In your answer you must refer to **at least two** electoral systems used in the UK and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.*

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(Total for Question 4 = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 30 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS



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