

General Certificate of Education
June 2004
Advanced Level Examination



**GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 6 Society, Politics and the Economy**

GSA6

Thursday 24 June 2004 Morning Session

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a copy of the Case Study Source Material (enclosed);
- an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GSA6.
- Answer **all** questions in Section A (Questions 1 to 4) and **one** question from Section B (Questions 5 to 8).
- Write your answers in continuous prose.
- Use your own words, rather than simply repeating those used in the sources, to show your understanding of the points being made.

Information

- This paper consists of Section A (**four** questions based on the Case Study Source Material provided earlier; a new copy is provided as an insert to this question paper) and Section B (essay questions).
- The maximum mark for this paper is 60 (35 for Section A and 25 for Section B).
- Mark allocations for Questions 1 to 4 are shown after each question.
- Part of the assessment will be based on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate.
- The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

Advice

- Where appropriate you may use your own knowledge and ideas to support and enhance your answers to the questions.

SECTION A

Answer **all** of **Questions 1 to 4**.

Total for this Section is 35 marks.

- 1 Briefly summarise the key features of the European Union which emerge from the data in **Extract A**.
(9 marks)

- 2 What are the intended benefits of the proposed Constitution for the European Union and what obstacles may lie in the way of its successful implementation?
(9 marks)

- 3 Explain why opinions on membership of the European Union are so divided in the United Kingdom.
(8 marks)

- 4 Discuss the claim that ‘a European superstate is nothing more than an impossible and undesirable pipedream’. Give reasons for your views.
(9 marks)

SECTION B

Answer **ONE** only of **Questions 5 to 8**. Each of the questions is worth 25 marks.
Write as if you were addressing the intelligent general reader.

5 Discuss the arguments for **and** against the United Kingdom joining the single European currency and explain your preference.

6 What, if any, is the relevance of the Monarchy to the political life of the United Kingdom in the 21st century?

Discuss the need for any changes to the role and position of the Monarchy.

7 The government is considering wide-ranging changes to the AS and A Level curriculum and replacing it with a British-style baccalaureate or diploma. What would be the advantages and disadvantages of such a move?

What would you include in a revised post-16 qualification to meet the future education and employment needs of young people in the United Kingdom who currently follow Advanced Level programmes?

8 With the benefit of hindsight, were the United States and United Kingdom right to take military action in Afghanistan and Iraq?

Discuss how successful these actions have been in combating international terrorism.

END OF QUESTIONS

THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE