

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



**GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION A)
Unit 3 Society, Politics and the Economy**

GA3W

Monday 16 May 2005 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a loose insert for Questions 1 to 5 (enclosed);
- an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 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 GA3W.
- Answer **all** questions.
- 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

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- This paper consists of five questions based on material provided as a separate insert.
- 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.

NO QUESTIONS APPEAR ON THIS PAGE

Read **Sources A to E** on the politics of crime and punishment and then answer the questions below.

Answer **all** questions using continuous prose.

1 Read Source A.

Using information from this source **only**, identify five purposes of the community service punishment described. *(5 marks)*

2 Read Source B.

Using both information from the source and your own knowledge, suggest a 5-point plan which might reduce the problem of alcohol-related crime. *(10 marks)*

3 Read Source C.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of this source in informing the public about changes in the prison population? *(10 marks)*

4 Read Source D.

Discuss the legal, moral and social issues that might arise when trying to decide whether or not speeding is acceptable. *(10 marks)*

5 Read Source E.

Using examples from Source E, at least one other source, and your own knowledge, consider the advantages and disadvantages of sending people who have broken the law to prison. *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE

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INSERT

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Source booklet for use with Questions **1** to **5**.

SOURCES FOR QUESTIONS 1 TO 5

Read **Sources A to E** on the politics of crime and punishment
and then answer **Questions 1 to 5**.

Source A

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Source B

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Source C

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Source D

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TURN OVER FOR SOURCE E

Turn over ►

Source E

Prison was no doubt necessary but it was unsettling that prison life was such a mystery to society. There seemed to be an assumption among many on the outside that people in prison were inherently different. Prisoners were not seen as individuals, but as a collective, with the same crude standards, values and culture – a sub-race, almost. Prison life is a mostly continuous repetition of the same day over and over again. Finding a purpose and meaning beyond ‘punishment’ can be a struggle. Often people are not in prison long enough to discover anything worthwhile except a new set of criminal alliances.

For many, sending people to prison is not enough – they must suffer while there. But only somebody who has never been to prison would believe that jails are ‘soft’ places. The harsher a prisoner feels he has been treated, the less of an obligation he will feel to abide by society’s rules: more than 50% of prisoners reoffend within two years of release. But opportunities for personal advancement abound in prison. I have never been to a jail which did not have an education department, library, gymnasium, chapel, psychologists, probation officers and counsellors. Now I have qualifications which include a degree.

Source: ERWIN JAMES (sent to prison for life), A Life Inside, Atlantic Books, 2003

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