

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Level Examination



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

GSA6

Thursday 23 June 2005 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

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60 (35 for Section A and 25 for Section B).
- 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).
- 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 data in **Extract A** and discuss what they indicate about changes in British society. *(9 marks)*

- 2** What do you understand by ‘consumerism’? What are the costs and issues implied in **Extract B**? *(9 marks)*

- 3** Using the ideas and arguments in **Extracts C** and **D**, discuss the extent to which the trend towards a 24-hour society is **both** inevitable and desirable. *(8 marks)*

- 4** Using ideas from **Extract E**, discuss the argument that modern society presents us with too many choices. *(9 marks)*

SECTION B

Answer **ONE** only of Questions **5** to **8**. Each of the questions is worth 25 marks.

Write as if you are addressing the intelligent general reader.

- 5 Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of private as opposed to state provision of education and healthcare.
- 6 With marriage in decline, the divorce rate increasing and other pressures such as the '24-hour society', what future do you foresee for the family in the United Kingdom?
- 7 Discuss the major problems affecting transport in the United Kingdom. Comment on the effectiveness of the government's transport policies and suggest what measures should be taken to improve the situation.
- 8 Consider the extent to which global economic development at current levels is unsustainable. Suggest ways in which changes could be brought about and what barriers hinder their implementation.

END OF QUESTIONS

THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE