



General Certificate of Education

General Studies 6766

Specification B

GSB5 Power – Regulation

Mark Scheme

2005 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.

Unit 5

(GSB5 Power - Regulation)

Answers given in the mark schemes are not necessarily definitive. Other valid points must be credited, even if they do not appear in the mark scheme.

Marks should be awarded in these bands:

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|-------------------|---------------|--|
| Band One | 9 – 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A good response which demonstrates awareness of the issue.• Language and communication skills complement the answer resulting in a concise, logical and clear structure, using appropriate style and expression and accurate use of grammar.• Evidence is well marshalled; examples are well chosen and help clarify assertions.• Understanding of the source is shown, and of the possibilities and limitations of different approaches to the subject. Facts and opinions and implicit and explicit values are clearly distinguished. |
| Band Two | 5 – 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A competent response which shows some awareness of the issue.• Language and communication skills are reasonably good and the structure is reasonably clear and logical. Style and expression are usually appropriate with some errors of grammar.• Evidence is moderately well marshalled using a few relevant examples accompanied by some explanation.• Some understanding of the source is shown and there is some recognition of the limitations of different approaches to the subject. Facts and opinions and implicit and explicit values are sometimes distinguished. |
| Band Three | 1 – 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A limited response in which only one or two basic points are identified.• Language and communication skills are, at best, adequate. Clarity of expression is marred by poor style and inaccuracies of grammar.• Evidence is poorly marshalled, with arguments tending to one side only, and examples being basic and few.• Little understanding of the source is shown or of the distinction between fact and opinion and implicit and explicit values. |
| Band Four | 0 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No response, or no relevant information. |

1 The diagram shows many types of renewable energy.

The UK has the stated aim that renewable energy will contribute 10% of all energy used in the UK by 2020.

How far do you think that this is a worthwhile aim?

(12 marks)

Is a worthwhile aim:

- (a) few finite resources are required for some renewable energy types
- (b) global climate change means that the move towards renewable energy is essential
- (c) many of the fossil fuel forms of energy are rapidly being depleted
- (d) the move towards “green politics” could ensure a more ecological healthy society.

Is not a worthwhile aim:

- (n) there are high costs of initial development of certain types of energy
- (o) some can cause visual pollution e.g. wind farms
- (p) unreliability of wind and sun makes further development pointless
- (q) employment opportunities could be lost, i.e. many of the renewable energy sources are not labour intensive
- (r) prophets of doom have not been proved correct so far
- (s) better to look at alternative means of conserving energy e.g. insulating homes.

A balanced response is preferable: however, it is possible for a one-sided answer to reach Band One.

2 Using the source as a starting point, discuss the desirability of media censorship in the UK.
(12 marks)

In favour of censorship:

- (a) public dimensions of censorship have a particular concern about the protection of the more vulnerable members of society, such as the young, the old, the unwary etc.
- (b) it protects against material which may invade individual rights and privacy in the home through radio, television, video etc.
- (c) with vast increases in media sources, some control is needed to ensure that there is not total licentiousness
- (d) many criminal cases are claimed to have been instigated by viewing violence/pornography
- (e) statutory limitations e.g. Official Secrets Act, Obscene Publications Act, Contempt of Court Act need to be adhered to
- (f) OFF buttons are sometimes not available
- (g) watershed hours do not work with the advent of the video recorder
- (h) paedophiles – use of media to supply images.

Not in favour of censorship:

- (n) who decides what is to be censored?
- (o) no-one is forced to watch or listen to any material they perceive as “dubious”
- (p) we are a sophisticated society that can decide what it wants to see, hear, read etc.
- (q) there is no hard evidence that a lessening of censorship has had an adverse societal reaction
- (r) we are all individuals. We should not have our arts/media tastes proscribed for us
- (s) we all have a basic right to express ourselves
- (t) censorship encourages criminality e.g. pornography business
- (u) what is art? pornography? etc. Tastes change
- (v) freedom of speech; journalists should report the truth, not a censored truth.

A balanced response is preferable: however, it is possible for a one-sided answer to reach Band One.

3 Prisons are full to capacity and the prison population is rising.

How far should we make more use of alternatives to prisons? Give reasons to support your answer.

(12 marks)

Should make use of alternatives:

- (a) many people in prison are there for relatively trivial offences and are not a danger to society e.g. parents who allow offspring to truant
- (b) comparative lack of education/training in prison makes reform far less effective
- (c) prisoners are part of a criminal society, where they can be further criminalised
- (d) alternatives are concerned with educating criminals and getting them to take responsibility for their actions i.e. they are more effective than prisons
- (e) drug treatment for offenders has met with success; this would be harder to achieve in prison
- (f) community service sentencing actually does give restitution back to society and on occasion victims
- (g) the greater use of criminal supervision orders means that small time offenders can be closely monitored within the community
- (h) imprisonment is the ultimate sentence, thus it should be used sparingly.

Should not make use of alternatives:

- (n) if an offence warrants a custodial sentence, then it should occur
- (o) society sees a prison sentence as a punishment and has little regard for other alternatives
- (p) the deterrent concept of imprisonment cannot be mirrored by other alternatives
- (q) the removal of criminal elements from society allows “the greater good for the greater number”
- (r) imprisonment sends the right message to the criminal element.

A balanced response is preferable: however, it is possible for a one-sided answer to reach Band One.

4 How far do you believe that there is less respect for authority figures in the UK today?

(12 marks)

We have less respect today:

- (a) tabloid coverage of sleaze amongst the Royal Family and politicians, e.g. Charles and Camilla, Jeffrey Archer, the Burrell Affair
- (b) lack of deference towards professions e.g. teachers have been moved down the social scale
- (c) the concept of the police or the judiciary always being correct is seriously threatened e.g. mishandling of the Huntley case
- (d) church leaders are perceived as being of far less relevance today e.g. what note is taken of the Archbishop of Canterbury's comments?
- (e) more accountability is expected by the public
- (f) far more inquisitorial media programmes probe more deeply than previously e.g. Today, Newsnight
- (g) there has been a growth in satirical programmes e.g. Bremner, Bird and Fortune: Have I Got News for you etc.
- (h) communication is instant, part of deference was linked to distance.

There is still respect:

- (n) there are still authority figures listened to and revered – they have changed e.g. sports and business leaders such as Clive Woodward, Warren Buffett
- (o) some politicians are still respected e.g. Nelson Mandela
- (p) there is still a large “silent majority” who respect police, doctors, educationalists etc.
- (q) the increasing realisation of rights has led to a new alignment in society with less total deference, but possibly more respect towards authority once earned
- (r) a more educated and sophisticated society can tease and laugh more without losing basic respect.

A balanced response is preferable: however, it is possible for a one-sided answer to reach Band One.

5 To what extent do you agree with the view that all regulators are toothless watchdogs?**(12 marks)****Are toothless watchdogs:**

- (a) general perception is that of failure e.g. the various rail crashes linked to Railtrack
- (b) “naming and shaming” seems to have had little impact
- (c) fines for inability to meet targets do not seem to improve matters
- (d) many are concerned that mistakes may be covered up by media moguls, hence Ofcom can appear impotent
- (e) regulators have limited powers e.g. they cannot control job losses e.g. train drivers and water engineers
- (f) failure to prevent consumers from rampant sales commercialisation by privatised businesses e.g. attempts to persuade people to change their power company
- (g) not able to avoid “fat cat” pay awards for failure
- (h) not able to promote genuine competition e.g. railways.

Are not toothless watchdogs:

- (n) have enforced price controls e.g. Ofcom ensured that British Telecom cut prices if inflation rate was below 4.5% 1997-2001
- (o) have monitored service standards
- (p) have used “name and shame” technique to maintain service standards
- (q) have allowed private investment into run down sectors
- (r) Ofcom can analyse whether any proposed merger of a newspaper group would be in the public interest and report back to the government
- (s) Ofcom’s analysis of the British Broadcasting Corporation has said that it should “take a lead” in preventing the corporation from indulging in copycat programming, aggressive scheduling or buying too many programmes from abroad.

A balanced response is preferable: however, it is possible for a one-sided answer to reach Band One.

Approximate distribution of Assessment Objective marks across Unit 5

Question Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	AO marks per unit
Assessment Objectives AO1	3	3	3	3	3	15
AO2	1	1	1	2	1	6
AO3	3	3	3	3	3	15
AO4	5	5	5	4	5	24
Total marks per Question	12	12	12	12	12	60