

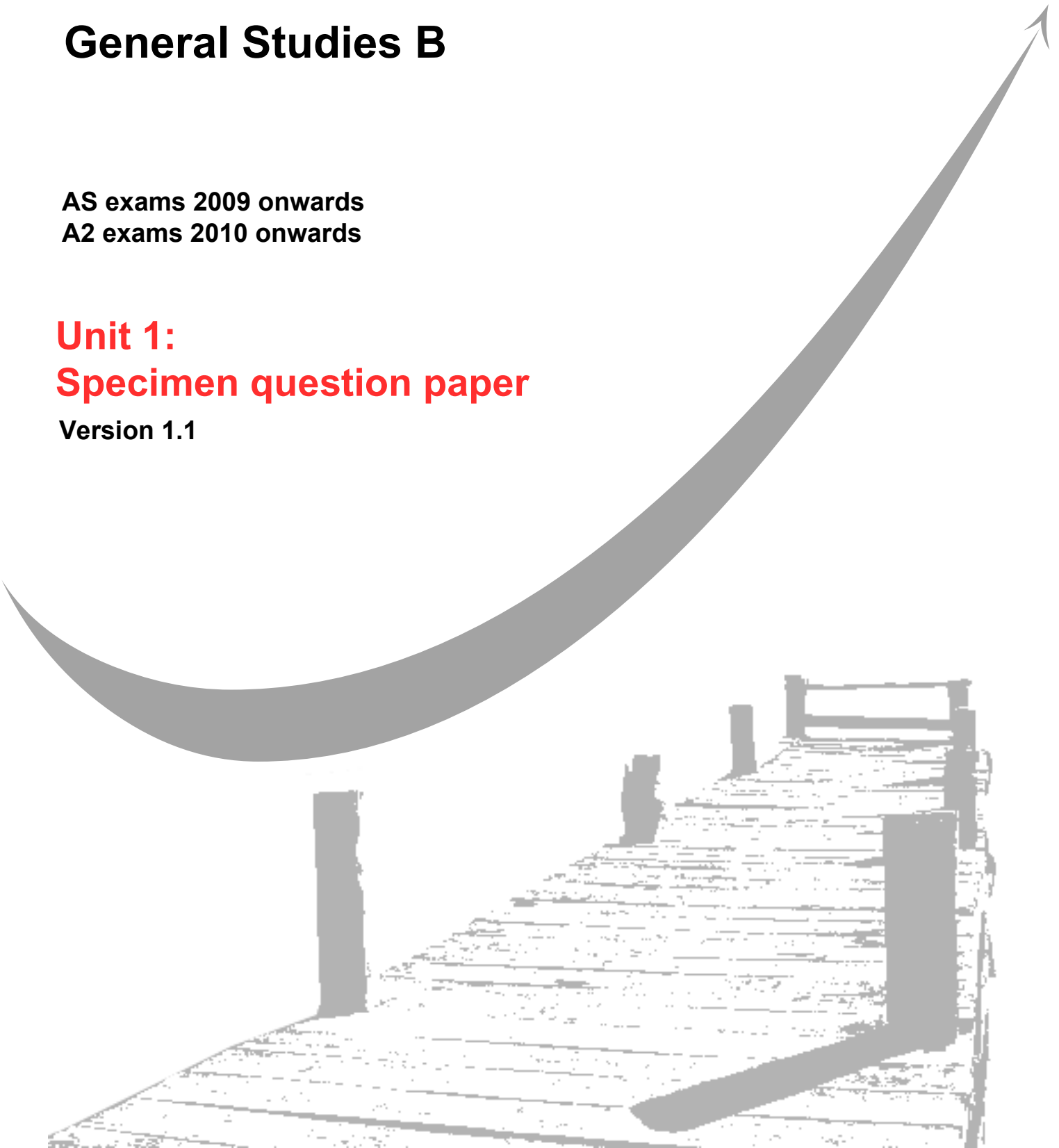
**GCE**  
**AS and A Level**

## **General Studies B**

**AS exams 2009 onwards**  
**A2 exams 2010 onwards**

### **Unit 1:** **Specimen question paper**

**Version 1.1**



# SPECIMEN PAPER TO PREPARE FOR THE JANUARY 2009 AND SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS

General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination



**GENERAL STUDIES (SPECIFICATION B)**  
**Unit 1      Conflict**

**GENB1**

**For this paper you must have:**

- an 8-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use 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 GENB1.
- Answer **three** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.  
There are 30 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate. All questions should be answered in continuous prose.
- Where appropriate use examples to illustrate your answer.

Answer **three** questions

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- 1** 'The World Cup may bring out the worst in some football supporters, but it's a whole lot better than a world war.'

Is it your view that major sports competitions provide an outlet for aggression, or that they give rise to it?

You might consider:

- violent behaviour on and off the field of play
- wearing of national colours and flag-waving
- the values represented in the rules of the sports competitions.

*(30 marks)*

- 2** It is often thought to be a positive part of their development when young people are rebellious.

To what extent is it a positive thing when young people rebel against society in general?

You might consider:

- what outlets there are for legitimate protest
- drug-taking and other illegal activities
- rejection of society's values.

*(30 marks)*

- 3** First there was BBC television then there was 'independent' television.

How far is the BBC different from the channels with which it competes?

You might consider:

- the licence fee that viewers have to pay
- what the BBC's 'public service' role might be
- whether the BBC delivers quality programming.

*(30 marks)*

- 4 'The bosses of big companies earn big salaries and bonuses, but the companies profit from their efforts, and know that they must pay them well if they are to keep them.'

Discuss whether or not it is fair for company bosses to earn so much more than the majority of company employees.

You might consider:

- the importance to the economy of successful companies
- the responsibilities of company bosses
- whether a company can be run democratically.

*(30 marks)*

- 5 'We are compelled to go to school; we have to work for a living, pay taxes, and obey thousands of laws.'

How far do you agree that we live in a free country?

You might consider:

- the fact that we have the vote
- the need to balance rights with duties
- our freedom of belief and expression.

*(30 marks)*

**Total:** 90 marks

**END OF QUESTIONS**