

**ADVANCED GCE
GENERAL STUDIES**

2966

The Social Domain 2

THURSDAY 24 JANUARY 2008

Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Additional materials (enclosed): Answer Booklet (8 page)

Additional materials (required):
None



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- If you use additional sheets of paper, fasten the sheets to the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **all** questions in Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks for each question is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- You are advised to divide your time equally between Sections A and B.
- **Where an answer requires a piece of extended writing, the quality of your written communication will be assessed, including clarity of expression, structure of arguments, presentation of ideas, grammar, punctuation and spelling.**
- Credit will be given for appropriate use of examples.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Section A

You must answer **all** questions.

- 1 Read the information below and use it to answer questions (a) – (c).

In December 2005, BBC Radio Four asked its listeners the question *Who Runs Britain?* The final result highlights how people see the nature of influence in modern Britain – what it is, who has it and why.

1: The President of the European Commission	22%
2: The President of the News Corporation of America	15%
3: The Houses of Parliament	14%
4: The British People	12%
5: The Head of the British Civil Service	10%
6: The Chief Executive of <i>Tesco</i> PLC	7%
7: The Prime Minister	7%
8: <i>Google</i>	6%
9: The Chancellor of the Exchequer	4%
10: The Director of <i>Liberty</i>	3%

In December 2005 these were (1) Jose Manuel Barroso; (2) Rupert Murdoch; (5) Gus O'Donnell; (6) Terry Leahy; (7) Tony Blair; (9) Gordon Brown; (10) Sharmi Chakrabarti.

- (a) **Two** of the individuals and **one** of the institutions are directly accountable to one group in the list. Identify

- (i) the two individuals
- (ii) the institution
- (iii) the group to whom they are accountable
- (iv) the method by which the accountability is effected.

[5]

- (b) Identify **two** business organisations or their leaders referred to on the list. Describe how **one** of them affects daily life in the UK.

[5]

- (c) Assume the findings of the survey to be an accurate representation of the nature of influence in modern Britain.

Assess the implications of these findings, both positive and negative, for everyday life in this country.

[40]

Section B

Answer **ONE** question in this section.

Your answer should be in the form of an essay.

- 2 Active membership of political parties has declined sharply in recent years. What factors may have played a role in this decline?

In your view what communal and social influences may have replaced political ideology as the foundations for individuals' views and values?

[50]

- 3 In the past, people amused themselves by going to watch the lunatics at Bedlam (a hospital for the insane), and public executions drew huge and festive crowds. Today, people watch 'reality' television programmes such as *Big Brother*. Others have access to illegal 'snuff' movies.

What do such entertainments tell us about the societies they amuse?

[50]

- 4 In 2007 the Equality Act made it illegal to discriminate against people on the grounds of their sexual orientation.

The Roman Catholic church in the UK requested an exemption from this law for its adoption agencies, which do not accept gay couples as adoptive parents, although they will refer such couples to agencies who do.

The request was refused, as a result of which the adoption agencies may close.

Describe and assess the legal, ethical and moral implications of this situation.

[50]

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