

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE  
GENERAL STUDIES**

**2961**

The Cultural Domain

**THURSDAY 15 MAY 2008**

Afternoon

Time: 1 hour 15 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.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answers in the Answer Booklet.
- If you use additional sheets of paper, fasten the sheets to the Answer Booklet.
- Answer **all** questions in Section A and **one** question in 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.**

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

**Section A**

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

**Source 1****Gender and achievement in UK education.**

- Girls progress more than boys in English throughout school; they also do so in Mathematics and Science but the difference is less.
- At GCSE level, girls continue to perform better than boys at the higher grades; this difference is reduced slightly when the results of vocational qualifications are included.
- The female pass rate at A level has been higher than that for males since 1992 though this gap is narrowing, year by year.
- Women outnumbered men in Higher Education for the first time in 1995 and the proportion has been steadily increasing since then.

Source: Gender and Achievement: Analysis by Gender, Dfes, [www.dfes.gov.uk](http://www.dfes.gov.uk)

**Source 2**

The following quotations refer to male dominance in the workplace.

A

Steve has no chance of working there ... it's just 'jobs for the boys'.

B

Amy is very happy working in her office. She is treated like an 'honorary man'.

C

Ben's behaviour at the office party is just another example of 'laddism'.

D

Nelan's acceptance by the firm's soccer club members has made her feel like 'a statutory woman'.

**Source 1**

- 1 (a) Give **two** reasons why girls might perform better than boys in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science. [6]
- (b) Though girls gain more high grades than boys at GCSE level, this is reduced when vocational examinations are taken into account. Suggest **one** reason for this change. [3]
- (c) Suggest **two** reasons why the difference in pass rates between females and males at A level is narrowing. [6]
- (d) Suggest **two** reasons why the number of women entering Higher Education is increasing. [6]
- (e) Give **one** reason why students might perform better academically in a single-sex school. [3]

**Source 2**

- 2 Choose **two** of the four quotations about male dominance in the workplace and briefly explain what each one means or implies. [6]
- 3 Choose **one** of the following pairs of careers:
- A nursing and the armed forces
  - B primary teaching and the motor trade
  - C building trades and the clerical and secretarial sector.

By comparing the two careers, suggest **two** reasons for the differences in the numbers of women and men who might work in these areas. Include in your answer suitable examples and supporting analysis. [20]

**Total [50] marks**

**Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section. Answers must be in continuous prose.

- 4 (a) Briefly explain **three** ways in which people learn a sense of right and wrong. [10]
- (b) Choose **one** of the moral dilemmas listed below. Analyse **two** contrasting viewpoints on your chosen issue. Illustrate your response with suitable examples or case studies. [40]

Whistleblowing  
Plagiarism  
Persuasive advertising  
Bribery

- 5 (a) Briefly explain **three** ways in which teenagers might be perceived by the adult population in the UK. [10]
- (b) In today's society sixteen is often seen as the age of adult responsibility. Outline and explain **three** important elements of this responsibility and assess to what extent young people are ready and prepared for their future life at this age. [40]
- 6 (a) Briefly explain **three** ways in which developments in media and communication technology have made journalism more controversial. [10]
- (b) Outline **three** ways in which the media can influence public opinion. To what extent is it desirable to limit the freedom of the media to present to the public anything they choose? [40]

**Total [50] marks**

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