

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE

2961

GENERAL STUDIES

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

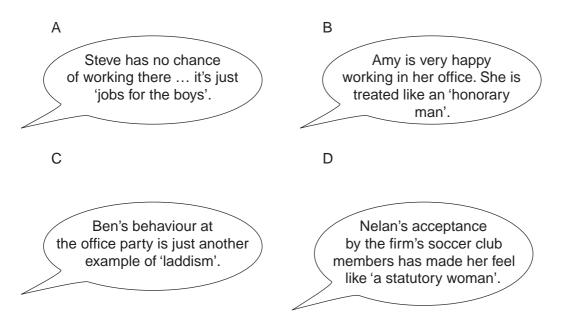
Gender and achievement in UK education.

- 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

Source 2

The following quotations refer to male dominance in the workplace.



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Source 1

- (a) Give two reasons why girls might perform better than boys in the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science.
 - **(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

4

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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