

General Certificate of Education Advanced Level Examination June 2010

Government and Politics

GOV4A

Unit 4A The Government of the USA

Wednesday 30 June 2010 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

• an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed

• 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 GOV4A.
- Choose two topics and and answer both questions in each topic.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
- use good English
- organise information clearly
- use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to read through the examination paper before you attempt the questions.
- You are advised to spend the same amount of time on each topic.

GOV4A

Choose two topics and answer both questions in each topic.

Each topic carries 40 marks.

Topic 1 The Constitutional Framework of US Government

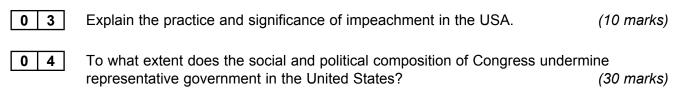


Explain the principle and practice of checks and balances in US government. (10 marks)

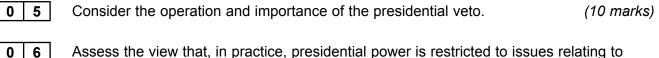


'Far from being rigid, the US constitution is remarkably flexible.' Discuss. (30 marks)

Topic 2 The Legislative Branch of Government: US Congress



Topic 3 The Executive Branch of Government



6 Assess the view that, in practice, presidential power is restricted to issues relating to foreign policy. (30 marks)

Topic 4 The Judicial Branch of Government: The Supreme Court

7 Examine the process for selecting Supreme Court judges in the USA. (10 marks)



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To what extent has the Supreme Court abandoned judicial activism in favour of judicial restraint? (30 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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