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General Certificate of Education

2009

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Government and Politics

Assessment Unit A2 1

assessing

Module 4: The Government and Politics
of the USA

Module 5: The Government and Politics
of the Republic of Ireland

[A2Q11]

TUESDAY 12 MAY, AFTERNOON



TIME

1 hour.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **either** Section A on Module 4 **or** Section B on Module 5.
Answer **one** question from your chosen section.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 30.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

You should answer **one** question from **either** Section A **or** Section B

Section A

Module 4: The Government and Politics of the United States of America

1 The Constitution of the USA

- (a) Identify and explain **two** core principles of the US Constitution. [10]
- (b) “The Constitution is in need of fundamental reform.” Discuss. [20]

2 The United States Supreme Court

- (a) Identify and explain **two** ways in which the independence of the Supreme Court can be undermined. [10]
- (b) “The Supreme Court, with neither the power of the sword nor the power of the purse, has still been able to play a vital role in US politics.” Discuss. [20]

3 United States Political Parties

- (a) Identify and explain **two** ways by which the US political parties are funded. [10]
- (b) “Political parties continue to have a significant role in the United States.” Discuss. [20]

Section B

Module 5: The Government and Politics of the Republic of Ireland

1 Bunreacht na hEireann

- (a) Identify and explain **two** strengths of the formal amendment process. [10]
- (b) “Bunreacht na hEireann is in need of fundamental change.” Discuss. [20]

2 Irish Local Government

- (a) Identify and explain **two** powers of Irish local government. [10]
- (b) “Irish local government is no longer fit for purpose.” Discuss. [20]

3 Irish Political Parties

- (a) Identify and explain **two** core principles of Sinn Fein. [10]
- (b) “The Left is no longer a major electoral force in Irish politics.” Discuss. [20]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER
