

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced Subsidiary GCE**

**GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**2597**

Government of the UK

Tuesday

**7 JUNE 2005**

Afternoon

1 hour

Additional materials:  
8-page Answer Booklet

**TIME** 1 hour

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer booklet.
- Answer **three** questions. Choose **two** from **Section A** and **one** from **Section B**.
- If you use additional sheets of paper, fasten the sheets to the answer booklet.
- Answers should be written in continuous prose.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- There are **two** sections in this paper.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of your written communication including clarity of expression, structure and presentation of ideas, spelling, punctuation and grammar.

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**This question paper consists of 2 printed pages.**

## GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Answer three questions, choosing two from Section A and one from Section B .

## Section A

Answer two questions from this section.

- 1 (a) Explain what is meant by 'the sovereignty of parliament'. [20]  
 (b) Discuss the view that parliament is no longer sovereign. [20]
- 2 (a) Describe the main features of the membership of the House of Commons. [20]  
 (b) Discuss the view that the Commons should be more representative of British society. [20]
- 3 (a) Describe what is meant by 'prime ministerial style'. [20]  
 (b) Discuss the style of prime ministers since 1979. [20]
- 4 (a) Outline the functions of a government department, a government agency and a quango. [20]  
 (b) Discuss the role of the higher civil service in policy-making. [20]
- 5 (a) Outline the main powers of the prime minister. [20]  
 (b) Discuss the view that the limits on the power of the prime minister are too few and too ineffective. [20]
- 6 (a) Describe the role of the judiciary in the British system of government. [20]  
 (b) Discuss the view that the executive exercises too much control over the judiciary. [20]

## Section B

Answer one question from this section.

- 7 Discuss the view that there is a 'democratic deficit' in the European Union. [20]
- 8 Discuss the view that the Maastricht Treaty has been the most important development in the European Union since the Single European Act. [20]

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