

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE
GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

Politics of the UK

FRIDAY 23 MAY 2008

2596

Morning
Time: 1 hour

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.
- Answer **all** the questions.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, in the Answer Booklet provided.
- If you use additional sheets of paper, fasten these securely to the Answer Booklet.
- Answers should be written in continuous prose.
- You must use your own knowledge and the source material in your answers

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 will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication including clarity of expression, structure and presentation of ideas, spelling, punctuation and grammar.

This document consists of **2** printed pages.

POLITICS OF THE UK

Read the source material and answer **all** the questions.

Source A

Pressure groups are said to play a vital role in modern democracies but political commentators regularly observe that some pressure groups are vastly more successful than others. The distinction between insider and outsider groups can be unclear but insider groups often have closer links with government, increasing their likelihood of success. Nonetheless, groups without these government links can still achieve success. Changing government policy is not the only goal for pressure groups.

Source B

The Human Rights Act was introduced to give people a clear sense of their rights in an increasingly complicated world. It was passed by a government that wanted citizens to understand their rights and duties more fully, as well as the means of seeking redress. Critics have argued that the Act has created many new problems, including debateable rights of redress for criminals and terrorists at the expense of the law-abiding. It has been said that government departments make decisions that appear to be absurd or dangerous because they fear possible legal consequences.

Original material

- 1 Briefly explain, with **two** examples of each, what is meant by:
 - (i) an insider pressure group;
 - (ii) an outsider pressure group. [10]
- 2 Outline the rights and duties of a UK citizen. [20]
- 3 Evaluate the steps a citizen might take if they felt they had been unfairly treated by a government department. [30]
- 4 Assess the methods used by pressure groups to achieve success. [40]

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