

Wednesday 18 January 2012 – Afternoon

AS GCE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

F852/01/I Contemporary Government of the UK

INSERT

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- You must use your own knowledge and the sources in this Insert to answer Question 1.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This document consists of **2** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Sources for Question 1

Read the sources below and use them when answering Question 1.

Source A

Comments by former Cabinet Ministers about their time in Cabinet

“Vital decisions were simply made elsewhere.”

“The Prime Minister expected us to turn up, have a vigorous discussion, and then agree with her.”

“In the end it was a Cabinet committee which sorted out which bills would go into the Queen’s Speech.”

Source B

The Prime Minister and the Cabinet

Failing to get a majority in the election of 2010 has had a real impact on both the Cabinet and Prime Minister. Traditionally a new Prime Minister had more control over whoever he or she wanted in any ministerial post, and could reshuffle at will. Now key decisions on jobs and policy have to be discussed and agreed with coalition partners. The Cabinet has increased in status as collective responsibility has become much more of an issue because Liberal-Democrats have to support their Conservative colleagues and vice versa.



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