

Tuesday 24 January 2012 – Morning

A2 GCE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

F853/01 Contemporary US Government and Politics

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

OCR supplied materials:

- Insert – F853/01/1 (inserted)

Other materials required:

None

Duration: 2 hours



Candidate forename		Candidate surname	
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Centre number						Candidate number				
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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- The Insert will be found in the centre of this document.
- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the boxes above. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink. HB pencil may be used for graphs and diagrams only.
- Answer **Question 1** and **three** other questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided. If additional space is required, you should use the lined pages at the end of this booklet. The question number(s) must be clearly shown.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

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**.
- You will be rewarded for your ability to draw together the knowledge, understanding and skills which you have acquired from your study of all parts of the course.
- 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 **20** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

CONTENTS	
Question 1(a)	See page 3
Question 1(b)	See page 5
Question 2 to 8 (answer any three)	See page 7
Additional lined pages	See pages 18 – 19

Section A

Answer the question in this section.

Use the source below and your own knowledge to answer Question 1.

Source for Question 1

Congress is frequently criticised as being 'the broken branch' of government. Although there are many legislative proposals in each congressional session, few bills are passed into law. The main reason for this is stated to be the complex legislative process that each bill has to go through to become law. Congressional committees play a key role in this regard but the problem is compounded by the factors which influence voting in both chambers, and the fact that Senate and the House are co-equal chambers.

1 (a) Describe the role of committees in Congress. [10]

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Dotted lines for writing.

Section A Total: [25]

Section B

Answer **three** questions in this section.

Write the number of the questions answered in the margin.

- 2 Evaluate the importance of the 'invisible primary' in the selection of presidential candidates. [25]
- 3 Evaluate the claim that some American pressure groups have too much power and influence whilst others are too weak. [25]
- 4 Discuss the view that the US Constitution is in need of major reform. [25]
- 5 Evaluate the usefulness of the Executive Office of the President in helping recent presidents. [25]
- 6 Assess the importance of political parties in US politics. [25]
- 7 Discuss the view that the Supreme Court is essentially a political institution. [25]
- 8 Discuss the claim that rights and liberties in the United States are better protected in theory than in practice. [25]

(Use this space for planning your answer(s).)

Write the number of each question answered in the margin.

A vertical margin line is positioned on the left side of the page. To its right, there are 25 horizontal dotted lines extending across the page, providing a grid for recording the number of questions answered.

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, starting from the top of the page and extending to the bottom, with a solid vertical line on the left side.

A vertical solid line is positioned on the left side of the page. From this line, 25 horizontal dotted lines extend across the width of the page, creating a series of rows for writing.

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, starting below the page number and ending above the footer. A solid vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page, creating a margin.

A vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page. From this line, 25 horizontal dotted lines extend across the page, creating a series of rows for writing.

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, starting from the top of the page and extending to the bottom, with a solid vertical line on the left side.

A vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page. From this line, 25 horizontal dotted lines extend across the page, creating a series of rows for writing.

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, starting below the page number and ending above the footer. A solid vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page, approximately one-tenth of the way across the width.

A vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page. From this line, 25 horizontal dotted lines extend across the page, creating a series of rows for writing.

A large area of the page is filled with horizontal dotted lines, providing a space for writing. A solid vertical line runs down the left side of this area, approximately one-tenth of the way from the left edge of the page.

Section B Total: [75]

Paper Total: [100]

Additional Page: If you use the following lined page to complete the answer(s) to any questions, the question number(s) must be clearly shown in the margin.

A vertical line is positioned on the left side of the page, creating a margin. To the right of this line, there are 25 horizontal dotted lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for writing answers.

Additional Page: If you use the following lined page to complete the answer(s) to any questions, the question number(s) must be clearly shown in the margin.

A blank sheet of lined paper with a vertical margin line on the left and horizontal dotted lines for writing. The page is otherwise empty.

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE



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