
A-level HISTORY

The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

Paper 2S

Specimen 2014

Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is **2S**.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
-

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

Adapted from Edward Heath's speech to the Conservative Party Conference in 1971.

Twenty five years ago much of Western Europe lay literally in ruins. Economic and industrial life had come to a standstill. For us here in Britain it was different. We were bruised, we were exhausted, but our economy and our industry remained intact. In Europe they were able again to start from scratch but we had to make do and mend. So it was not surprising when those countries, first matched and then overtook Britain in economic performance. A new world was already emerging; and it is to the credit of our Party that from an early stage we recognised that fact. Later we tried to join the united and prospering efforts of the major countries of Western Europe, but then Britain was foiled in the attempt by the veto of President de Gaulle. Our special strength is our stamina, in going on with what needs doing until it is done. We never know when we are beaten and that way we never are beaten. That is why Europe needs us. We speak our mind. We have something to say, and once more when we give our word the world believes us.

Source B

Adapted from the Labour Party Manifesto of February 1974.

Britain is a European nation, and a Labour Britain would always seek a wider co-operation between the European peoples. But a profound political mistake made by the Heath Government was to accept the terms of entry to the Common Market, and to take us in without the consent of the British people. This has involved the imposition of food taxes on top of rising world prices, crippling fresh burdens on our balance of payments, and a draconian curtailment of the power of the British Parliament to settle questions affecting vital British interests. This is why a Labour Government will immediately seek a fundamental re-negotiation of the terms of entry. The Labour Party opposes British membership of the European Community on the terms negotiated by the Conservative Government. We have said that we are ready to re-negotiate. If re-negotiations are successful, it is the policy of the Labour Party that the people should have the right to decide the issue through a General Election or a Consultative Referendum. If these two tests are passed, a successful re-negotiation and the expressed approval of the majority of the British people, then we shall be ready to play our full part in developing a new and wider Europe.

Source C

From a campaign leaflet produced by the Britain in Europe campaign entitled 'Why you should vote yes'. This was distributed to all households by the Post Office during the days immediately before the 1975 referendum on Europe.

For years we argued: should Britain join the EEC or not? At last we did. Our case is based on the real advantages for Britain and Britain's friends of our staying in. It offers the best framework for success, the best protection for our standard of living, the best foundation for greater prosperity. All the original six members have found that. They have done well – much better than we have – over the past 15 years.

Staying in protects our jobs. Jobs depend upon our industries investing more and being able to sell in the world. If we came out, our industry would be based on the smallest home market of any major exporting country in the world, instead of on the Community market of 250 million people. It is very doubtful if we could then negotiate a free trade agreement with the Community. Even if we could, we would have to accept many Community rules without having the say we now have in their making. So we could lose free access not only to the Community market itself but to the 60 or more other countries with which the Community has trade agreements.

| | |
|---|---|
| 0 | 1 |
|---|---|

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying Britain and the EEC in the 1970s.

[30 marks]

Section BAnswer **two** questions.**0 2**

‘Conservative electoral success in the years 1951 to 1964 was mainly due to rising living standards.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**0 3**

‘In the years 1964 to 1979, society in Britain was transformed.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**0 4**

‘It is wrong to blame Margaret Thatcher’s policies for divisions in British society during the years 1979 to 1990.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**END OF QUESTIONS**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Permission to reproduce all copyright has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.

Copyright © 2014 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.
