

Examiners' Report
June 2012

GCE History 6HI02 B

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Introduction

It was pleasing to see a good standard of responses from many candidates in this examination series. Indeed, many candidates wrote with understanding and insight about the key themes.

The paper requires candidates to answer two questions in 100 minutes. Examiners commented on the fact that many candidates this series had clearly used their time to very good effect. Although some responses were quite brief, there was little evidence of candidates having insufficient time to answer both questions.

There was a wide range of responses across the mark range, but the paper appears to have worked in the sense that the most able were stretched whilst weaker candidates were still able to attempt answers to both parts of the examination.

In part A, most candidates were very skilled in using the language of cross referencing, but a significant number often matched statements that showed a comparison for agree or disagree and did not explain or draw out the inferences that are necessary to develop a cross reference. In part B, whilst some candidates were very knowledgeable, it was disappointing to note that a significant minority of candidates relied very heavily on the material in the sources. Centres are reminded that candidates are expected to have a reasonable range and depth of knowledge that can be applied to the part B questions.

Candidates should take care that they can spell technical words correctly, especially when those words form part of the question or the sources. Some candidates over-used words such as 'inference' and did not have a secure understanding of its meaning. However, overall, the language used by candidates seemed to contain fewer colloquialisms and slang language this year than in previous examinations.

The candidates' performance on individual questions is considered in the next section.

Question 1(a)

There were some excellent responses to this question. The best answers were able to see the agreement between Sources 1 and 2 in terms of popularity and between Sources 1 and 3 insofar as both highlight O'Connor's deficiencies in terms of leadership. The very best were able to weigh up the evidence and address the fact that popularity does not necessarily make for effective leadership. There were also a number of candidates who included a great deal of their own knowledge in this section, which is not a requirement and cannot be rewarded. The majority of candidates realised the importance of weighing the value of the sources, but this was done with varying degrees of success. Most candidates were unable to recognise both the positive and negative aspects of the provenance of each of the sources. Some candidates perceived Sources 1 and 3 as secondary sources and this impacted on their ability to make meaningful comments.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross . If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross .

Chosen Question Number:

Question 1

Question 2

(a) Q: Fergus O'Connor effective leader?

Ans: Fergus O'Connor was seen to be the main leader of the Chartists and indeed he owned the influential 'Northern Star' newspaper. Source 2 very strongly advocates that O'Connor was an effective leader suggesting that the vast majority of the movement was ~~was~~ behind their "patron." Source 3 strongly disagrees with Source 2, stating that in fact O'Connor was not an effective leader who caused the movement to have "dissensions." Source 1, to an extent, supports both the evidence of Sources 2 and 3 as it suggests that although he was "popular," it was clear to some that he had clear "deficiencies." Overall, the sources suggest that whilst O'Connor was particularly popular, his leadership was not completely effective.

Source 2 strongly advocates that O'Connor was an effective and popular leader. Thomas Cooper describes O'Connor as a "lion of freedom" and this positive language suggests he was both a strong leader "lion" and that he led the movement towards the political freedom it so desired. Indeed, Source 2 also suggests that

O'Connor was effective as he was a "champion" and by using the phrase "we'll" twice, it suggests the majority of people supported their leader and so he must have been effective. Source 1, gives a similar viewpoint to Source 2, to an extent, by stating

((a) continued) that O'Connor was a "popular man" that attracted "in every district... admiration." Certainly, the fact that he was politically popular in such a widespread area would suggest his policies and action were in the eyes of many, effective.

The reliability of Source 2, however, decreases its usefulness to the historian. The fact that it was published, ^{originated} in the 'Northern Star', makes it less reliable since this newspaper was both very pro-Chartism and owned by O'Connor himself. Therefore, Cooper would not say anything overly negative about his leader as the purpose of the publication may well have been to gain support for O'Connor and the movement. Indeed, the fact that it was published right after his release from prison would suggest the positive imagery may well have been hyperbolised to gain more support for the movement in the ~~wake~~ wake of the failed 1839 Newport Rising and rejection of the first Charter. The evidence of Source 1, however, is more reliable than Source 2 since it suggests two sides of the argument and since it was published in 1857, after the Chartists' demise, he would not be under any pressure to state pro-Chartist or pro-O'Connor propaganda. Indeed, since Lavery was present in 1839, he had a good view of O'Connor's development and so could give a well-rounded view of the effectiveness of the man.

Source 3 most strongly gives evidence to suggest that in fact O'Connor was certainly not an effective leader, in stark contrast to the evidence afforded in Source 2. Source 3

((a) continued) states that there was a severe lack of the "spirit of unity" in the Chartist movement. This suggests O'Connor was not an effective leader since to be effective he would have to have brought the movement together in order to push for the 6 Point People's Charter during the 1848 Kennington March. R.G. Gammage directly blames O'Connor for this poor leadership since he was the "main cause of the disunion" and encouraged "enthusiastic but mistaken men." Therefore, Source 3 is strongly against any effectiveness of O'Connor's leadership and indeed to an extent Source 1 agrees with this viewpoint. Whilst Source 1 suggests he was popular, it states how already in 1839 there were those that saw the "deficiencies of his character". Source 1 also suggests that O'Connor was doomed to fail, and thus not effective, due to the "evil results" of his political speeches. Source 3 firmly and Source 1, to an extent, suggest O'Connor was certainly not completely popular or effective.

Source 3 is overall a reliable source, far more so than Source 2 for example. R.G. Gammage was under no political influence for giving Chartist support since the author published his/her work in 1854, six years after the demise of the Chartists following the 1848 Kennington Commons March. Source 3 is also reliable since the author met "many of its leaders" and could thus compare how effective O'Connor was in comparison to other leaders like William Cobbett and James O'Brien. Source 3 is also useful since it refers to events in 1848 and thus considers

((a) continued) the entire length of time he was the leader of the Chartists, allowing for a more balanced and representative viewpoint of his effectiveness as a leader.

Overall, the sources taken as a whole in conjunction with each other suggest that O'Connor, although popular in many places, was in fact not particularly an effective leader. The evidence put forward by Source 3 is most useful since it gives a broader view of O'Connor's leadership throughout and is not limited to events only up to 1839, like Source 1, or a piece of hyperbolised propaganda in his own newspaper, like Source 2. Therefore, it seems O'Connor although popular, at least to start with, was not an effective leader that brought all the people and "leaders" together to get the support for their Charter.



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Examiner Comments

Question 1(a)

There is sustained cross referencing in this answer, not just of content, but also of provenance. The sources are weighed and interrogated throughout. The candidate reaches judgements in relation to the focus of the question. This is a secure level 4 response.

Question 1(b)(i)

This was by far the more popular of the two questions in part b. The very best answers were detailed, analytical responses, driven forward by the sources and supplemented by specific and detailed own knowledge. These looked at the case for the 1832 Act being passed to address the criticisms highlighted in Sources 5 and 6, but were also aware of the need to pacify the external agitation and the threat of revolution argued by sources 4 and 6 and thus break up the middle/working class alliance. Some of these responses also considered other factors that explained the reasons for reform. The most effective responses were able to recognise the subtle difference between the threat and reality of revolution. Such answers also generally had a very secure supporting own knowledge that was able to identify the threats in the period 1830-32. Some candidates tried to fit the sources into a predetermined line of argument; this was generally not such a successful approach as that taken by those candidates who used the sources to drive the argument. Some candidates relied heavily on the material provided by the sources. Some responses discussed events such as Peterloo in considerable detail, but failed to consider the events of 1830-2 at all. It was disappointing to note that many candidates made generic points regarding provenance which cannot be rewarded under AO2b.

Answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) of your chosen question.

* (b) Q: 1832 - 'violent revolution?'

Plan: 1) Violent revolution → Sources 4, bit of 5, bit of 6

2) Problems with current system → Source 5 and 6

Also 3) External influences → Source 1

bi)

The Great Reform Act of 1832 was passed after having been introduced by Lord John Russell, thanks to the help of King William IV in discharging parliament as a favour to the Prime Minister Earl Grey. Source 4 strongly advocates that the key reason for the Act being passed was the threat of 'violent revolution' occurring that would lead to "Chaos and bloodshed". However, Source 5 takes a firmly opposite view that it was rather the problems with current system pre-1832 that was key in the passing of Act, which Palmerston labels as "blemishes". To an extent, Source 6 agrees with Source 4 that there was some influential violence, but it also agrees with Source 5 that the "features of the old system" should be eliminated. There is an alternate view as well that it was external factors like the 'French Revolution', that led to the Act being passed. Overall, all three sources suggest that indeed it was violence that was the most important factor, but this coincided with the need for political changes.

The threat of popular violence was certainly a key issue in explaining the passing of the First Reform Act. Source 4 strongly advocates this viewpoint suggesting that in order to avoid a "violent revolution", which would descend the nation into "chaos

(b) continued) and bloodshed" it was necessary to pass the First Reform Act. Indeed, Source 4 suggests the most pressing issue was the "immediate threat to the security of the state." Indeed, there is evidence to support this with riots throughout the country such as the Swing Riots of 1830, leading to 534 arrests, and the Peterloo Massacre of 1819 whereby 11 people were killed and at least 400 more wounded. Having had the Act being rejected twice already, further riots occurred in Bristol and Leeds; two key manufacturing towns. Indeed, Source 5 has a similar viewpoint to an extent by suggesting there may be violence with the "demands and feelings" of the time and he may be referring to calls for change such as by William Godwin in his book 'Enquiry Concerning Political Justice' in 1793. Indeed, Source 6 presents a similar viewpoint to that of Source 4 and to an extent, Source 5 as it speaks of "lost... confidence" and the need to "restore public order" which suggests there has been a loss of control, as is evident from events such as the 'Days of May' and the need for additional security to stop these revolutions.

However, the sources also give evidence to suggest it was in fact not only the fear of a 'violent revolution' but also fundamental problems with the current political system that led to ~~the~~ the Act being passed. Source 5 strongly advocates this by saying there were "blemishes" such as "corruption", "adequate balances of representation" and disparity in the "distribution of the right to vote." Indeed, there were many problems with the system since it was predominantly led by the aristocrats and land owners, such that in

((b) continued) 1826, 165 MPs were aristocrats and $\frac{1}{3}$ of seats in the House of Commons went to the sons of peers. With regard to the "manufacturing" towns that did not have the vote, in fact Manchester in 1832 had a population of 182,000 and returned no MPs compared to Old Sarum, a rotten borough, north of Salisbury that returned 2 MPs with an electorate of a mere eleven people. Source 6 also has a similar viewpoint to Source 5 suggesting "features of the old system... should be eliminated." Indeed, Source 6 may well be referring to pocket boroughs and rotten boroughs, that were effectively sold to the gentry classes, the fact that by 1832 only $\frac{1}{3}$ of seats were contested and that there were many cases of corruption in the form of plural votes for a people standing for election.

Interestingly, the sources also present an alternative viewpoint for explaining the passing of the First Reform Act, which was the external influences from abroad and new political thinkers. Source 4 upholds this viewpoint suggesting that the "French Revolution of 1789" caused MPs to be scared of a similar revolution. Indeed, King William IV partly allowed Earl Grey to dismiss parliament due to a fear of a similar revolution occurring in Britain. Source 6 gives an arguably similar viewpoint to a small extent since "more radical members" wanted reform to be passed. These people may have been influenced by popular writing the 'Rights of Man' by Paine in 1791 that spoke of the vote being a right not a privilege. Indeed, Henry Hetherington's 'Poor Man's Guardian' caused many to consider how actually the lower classes deserved more of a

((b) continued) political voice in politics. Thus, external factors and thinkers of the time, influenced MPs to an extent to vote for the passing of the First Reform Act.

The evidence provided by Source 5 must be considered, since Sources 4 and 6 are by notable historians and are thus reliable sources. Source 5 is a speech made by the pro-Reform Whig, Lord Palmerston, and as a result it is less useful and reliable since he would have had a clear purpose in ~~part~~ convincing the MPs, particularly the Anti-Reform Tories such as Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Wellington, that reform was necessary. He therefore may hyperbolise the problems with the current system labelling the system with emotional words like "unjust", to gain support for the passing of the Act. As a result, the evidence of Source 5 is least reliable and it is also limited since it gives vague details of the "corruption" and gives little reference to the importance of popular rebellion in passing reform. ~~Thus~~ Thus, perhaps the argument that the most important reason for ~~the~~ the first Reform Act being ~~passed~~ passed is that of the existing problems in the system is weakened, due to the source that most advocates this being the most unreliable ^{one.} ~~source~~

To conclude, the sources as a whole suggest that the predominant reason for the First Reform Act being passed was the threat of a "violent revolution." Since Source 4 and 6 are most reliable and both advocate this viewpoint, it is clear that

((b) continued) the fear that the landed gentry had of being overthrown was most important in explaining the successful passage of the Act. Certainly, however, the problems of the existing system and external influences had their part to play in giving the working and middle classes something to riot about, but ultimately without violence the Whigs would not have been able to pass a reform, as is perhaps most evident by the fact that it was rejected in the first few attempts at getting the first Reform Act passed.



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Examiner Comments

Question 1(b)(i)

This answer shows an awareness of the issues that are involved in this question and the conflicting interpretations of it. The sources and secure own knowledge are integrated to reach a judgement. There is developed reasoning from the sources and a weighing of the arguments in them. This response is level 4 for both assessment objectives.

Question 1(b)(ii)

This question was tackled by fewer candidates but there were some very good responses seen. Such answers often focused on the relative impact of the 1867 Act on party organisation and policies as opposed to leadership and policy. They looked at the case for and against the question and based their answers around the sources, supported and developed with their own knowledge. Weaker responses tended to rely heavily on the sources. If candidates did not have a strong contextual knowledge, they struggled to make sense of Source 7's reference to the 'Birmingham model', although they were able to use the other two sources more effectively. Some candidates lacked focus on 'political parties'. It was disappointing to note that many candidates made generic points regarding provenance which cannot be rewarded under AO2b.

Answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) of your chosen question.

* (b) ii It is ~~not~~ arguable that the 1867 Reforms Act ~~did not bring~~ ~~about~~ significant changes to political parties. ~~The view~~ There is a great deal of evidence for this view in source 7, which addresses the increase in party organisation. Source 9 reinforces ~~some of this~~ the view in question but, in relation to 'significant change' better organisation is ~~not~~ one of the few factors that did change significantly in the parties. At their core, as addressed by Source 8, much of the composition of the parties was the same throughout the period.

Sources 7 and 9 agree with the view in question to a great extent and highlight the issue of party organisation as the main and most important aspect of change to political parties. In Source 7, Chamberlain states bluntly that The Caucus was a 'remarkable success' and a testament to the 'deepened and extended interest felt in the contest'. In conjunction with this,

Source 9, although more mildly, alludes to 'improvements in organisation for both parties'. In addition to this, sources 7 and 9 ~~note~~

((b) continued) mention the change in the electorate and how this subsequently changed the nature of the political parties. It should be noted that the 1867 Reform Act enfranchised 1,200,000 ~~more~~ men, on top of the current 1,400,000 men already enfranchised, bringing the electorate to two fifths of the adult male population. To cater for this change, parties had to become better organised, touched upon in Source 7 by the Liberal Caucus in which the National Liberal Federation instructed voters on who to vote. ~~But~~ The result was that Liberal candidates were evenly elected - something which could not be achieved without this previously unseen level of party organisation. Source 9 also comments on the establishment of 'effective party machines' such as the National Union of Conservative Associations. Furthermore, both Conservative and Liberal parties had vessels through which they could address the working class, which ~~was~~ now made up the majority of the electorate. There ~~ed~~ were ~~not~~ Working Men's Conservative Associations established prior to 1867, which became governed by the Conservative Central

((b) continued) Office established in 1870, headed by John Gorst. Further Conservative organisation can be seen with the establishment of the Primrose League in ~~1873~~ 1883, which also allowed female membership to influence a broader base of people. All this culminates in a change for the Conservative and Liberal party. Nevertheless, the ~~is~~ significance of the change is up for debate as we cannot generalise about change to political parties based solely off of their increased organisation.

To that end, the view that the political parties significantly changed ~~was~~ is flawed. This view ignores many elements of continuity to the parties prior to 1867. For Source 9.7 for example does not address the issue that the Liberal Party was still ~~made~~ very made of groups with different interests. The view that the 'all sections of the party' had been united is somewhat flawed as there were still internal divisions between the Whigs and the radicals. If all sections of the party had indeed been united, the proportions of Whigs to moderate Liberals to radicals

((b) continued) would have remained stable. As it happens, the Whigs in the Liberal Party made up 45% in the 1868-74 - this dropped to ~~to~~ 31% by 1885. The view

also 'disregards the fact' that a two party system had already been established prior to 1867, ~~and that the clarity between the part~~. The view ~~addresses~~ in sources 7 and 9 allow us to infer that the two party system was strengthened through organisation. This change is not very significant given the ^{that} make up ~~of the~~ and motives of party advantage already existed before 1867.

The alternative view, presented largely in source 8 and to a ^{much} smaller extent source 9 is that ^{improved} organisation did not fundamentally alter the parties as is suggested by the question. This view should be credited more as there were more elements of continuity to the political parties than there was change. We can ~~see~~ see this through source 8, which comments on how 'leadership, control of policy and the social composition of the House of

((b) continued) Commons' all remained relatively stable throughout the period of 1867 and beyond. We can also ~~see~~ see this with the fact that in the 1874 election, the Conservatives returned 305 MPs of which 200 had connections to land. The landed interest is ~~an~~ ~~an~~ an example of the 'fundamental nature of ... the Conservative

party' that source 8 addresses. Moreover source 9 comments on there being both 'gains and losses' for both parties and ~~that~~ these 'gains and losses' tie into the 'social composition' of the parties that is expressed in source 8. The Arlington Street Compact saw the Liberals and Conservative Lords meet in secret to discuss the redistribution Act of 1885, following on from the 1884 Franchise Act introduced by Gladstone. This would have threatened the Lords influence in the land as it was proposed that county constituencies would get the vote. The fact that the Lords first opposed this shows how the landed interest was still an overriding factor in British politics. This is also

((b) continued) supplemented by the fact that the 1880 election was the most expensive on record at £2 million. Despite the 1867 Reform Act and 1872 Secret Ballot Act it appears that corruption was still rife - an element of continuity.

In summary, I disagree with the view of in question. We are able to detract some weight from source 7, due to it being written by the radical Joseph Chamberlain.

who would have tried to show as much change in the British political parties as possible. In truth, while organisations increased, fundamentally, politics was still dominated by Lords driven by landed interest - there were ~~only~~ 12 working class MPs in 1885 and women still did not have the vote in the 19th Century.



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Examiner Comments

Question 1(b)(ii)

This is a very impressive answer which uses the sources to drive an argument and integrates this with substantial own knowledge. This is a very good level 4 response in both assessment objectives.

Question 2(a)

Most candidates understood that Sources 1 and 3 supported the representation in the question, and even where they struggled to fully comprehend Source 2, most were able to see that the source did not support the representation. The best answers were able to distinguish between reality and rumour in both Sources 1 and 3 and to use this to weigh the arguments. Whilst these answers were generally able to refer effectively to the provenance of the sources, there were many candidates who made very generalised comments. Candidates should be encouraged to read the provenance carefully and apply its message appropriately. Source 10's provenance, for example, referred to the fact that Malthus' ideas were 'influential in the 1830s', but many candidates focused on the date that the essay was written and criticised its usefulness on that basis. There are still too many candidates who work through the sources sequentially, making some valid links to the question, but rarely engaging in cross referencing the sources. It should also be pointed out that although some own knowledge can be included in order to contextualise the sources, there is no credit for long descriptions; some candidates wrote extensively on the work of Malthus, Chadwick and Bentham.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross . If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross .

Chosen Question Number:

Question 1

Question 2

(a) The New Poor Law was introduced because the Old Poor Law was highly inadequate in social and political factors along with the financial economic factors. The three sources give contrasting views on whether the main reason of introducing the New Poor Law was to prevent mismanagement of poor law funds, or whether it was other factors.

Source 10 was written by Thomas Malthus, a key thinker and economist who was in favour of abolition of the poor laws. His argument in source 10 is that whoever is asked about Old Poor Law seems to agree that the funds 'must be very ill-managed'. This supports the view that the funds are mismanaged and alludes to the fact that because of the mismanagement, the New Poor Law needed introducing. This view also links in to the view of Source 12. Source 12 also suggests that the problems are caused by 'fraud by those entrusted' with managing the poor law funds. Both Sources 10 and 12 have views that suggest

that the New Poor Law was introduced to prevent mismanagement of the Poor Law fund, as both highlight what has happened before with the Old Poor Law funds and why it has caused disruption to the economy.

((a) continued) There were, however, other reasons as to why the New Poor Law was introduced. This is shown in Source 11. Source 11 takes the view that the reason the New Poor Law was introduced was because of the social factors, of what it does to families. ~~The~~ Paraphrasing Source 11, 'nothing weakens family affections more than pauperism' and that it 'destroys the sense of parental obligation'. This source, taken from a report on prison discipline, hints that the Old Poor Laws stop families from being able to function and this social reason is why the New Poor Law was introduced. Source 12 also suggests that social reasons are a factor. Source 12 talks about 'the violence of most of the mobs'. Mobs were quite common around this period, for example the Swing Riots. Because of these mobs, the vested interests ~~wanted~~ ^{knew they had} to protect their power, so the mobs were key in leading toward the introduction of the New Poor Law.

The validity of the sources also comes into ~~another~~ consideration. Source 10 is taken from an economist who is focused on the monetary side of situations. It is also taken from a 1798 publishing, meaning the ideas are behind the time the New Poor Law was introduced. Source 11 is from a report to improve prison discipline, so in stark contrast to Source 10, will not be focused on finances but the behaviour which is to do with the social factors.

((a) continued) of the time.

Source 12, taken from an official Royal Report, is the most valid source. In addition to this, the source is taken from around the time when the New Poor Law was introduced meaning it's views are the most reliable and valid. Due to this, the views in Source 12 outweigh those, although do not discount, the views in Sources 11 and 10. For these reasons, the sources suggest that although the mismanagement of Poor Law funds was important, there were other factors, such as social, that led to the New Poor Law being introduced.



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Examiner Comments

Question 2(a)

This answer clearly is trying to cross reference the sources and is looking for points of challenge and points of support. Although it is not fully developed, it does show some understanding.

The provenance is treated in a separate paragraph and would benefit from being integrated. This is a secure level 3 response.

Question 2(b)(i)

Approximately equal numbers of candidates attempted each question in this section. This question was answered effectively by many candidates. The sources were used very effectively to identify both the positive and negative responses to Chadwick and his work. Many candidates were able to use the references in Source 14 to miasma theory to criticise Chadwick. There was a lot of good supporting knowledge on Chadwick's role at the Board of Health, writing the Report, influencing the 1848 Act and encouraging government intervention. There was also good detail on alternative individuals who it could be argued made a greater impact, like Snow. Some weaker candidates struggled with understanding the message of Source 13 and saw this as proving that Chadwick was making concessions to vested interests, but it was unusual to see answers which did not deal with aspects of the sources with some valid own knowledge. It was disappointing to note that many candidates made generic points regarding provenance which cannot be rewarded under AO2b.

Answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) of your chosen question.

*(b)

Edwin Chadwick was a Utilitarian and a follower of Jeremy Bentham, he was a member of the Board of Health and was therefore involved in public health. Some historians argue that Edwin Chadwick contributed little to the progress made in public health in the years 1838-54 because he reiterated his idea of miasma being the cause of cholera, and because of his lack of judgement and tact. On the other hand, other historians argue that Edwin Chadwick contributed a lot to the progress made in public health in the years 1838-54 because he began large-scale improvements. It can be argued that Edwin Chadwick contributed little to the progress made in public health in the years 1838-54.

~~An initial way~~ It can be argued that Edwin Chadwick contributed little ^{to the} progress ~~to~~ made in public health because he reiterated his idea of miasma being the cause of cholera. Source 14 a Report on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring

population by Edwin Chadwick states 'wherever the attacks of disease are frequent... they are always found in connection with atmospheric impurities.' The words

((b) continued) atmospheric impurities here relate to the idea of miasma or bad air. ~~the~~ Source 14 then goes on to say 'where those circumstances are... decreasing atmospheric impurity, the frequency and intensity of such disease is reduced.' Here Chadwick is referring to the disease cholera. However, John Snow proved that cholera was not spread by miasma and that it was a waterborne disease. He proved this by removing a pump handle from Broad Street where cholera was common and then noticed that the cases of cholera reduced significantly. This therefore ~~agrees~~ agrees with the view that Edwin Chadwick contributed little to the progress made in public health, as he mentions ~~these~~ ideas that were proved to be wrong, and therefore slows down/holds back progress. However, we have to remember that Source 14 is just one source from Edwin Chadwick and he may have had other ideas about the causes of disease.

It can be argued that Edwin Chadwick contributed little to the progress made in public health because of his lack of judgement and tact. Source 15 a book called 'The Black Age' states 'It is difficult to understand how the Government... came to choose the most hated man in England as a member of the

((b) continued) Board of Health; the man they refer to here is Edwin Chadwick. ~~and many of the~~ The Source then goes on to say that 'many of the mistakes to be expected from Chadwick's lack of judgement and lack of tact.' This reiterates the fact that Chadwick made many mistakes and misjudgements and therefore contributed little ^{to the} progress ~~to the~~ made in public health.

~~On~~ On the other hand, it can be argued that Edwin Chadwick contributed a lot to the progress made in public health because he began large scale improvements. Source 13 a book by R. J. Coates states 'He also took a hand in experimenting with glazed earthenware pipes for making sewers... and they were soon regarded as essential for all sanitary engineering.' This supports the view that Chadwick contributed a lot to the progress made in public health as he produced something that was regarded as essential for sanitary engineering. Source 13 then goes on to say that he produced 'really large scale improvements'. This is significant in showing that he contributed a lot to the progress made in public health as he produced large scale improvements that were important/significant in the progress

((b) continued) of public health. However we have to remember that Source 13 is a book made by one person (R. J. Coates) and is therefore subjective in some way as it is his opinion.

In conclusion, it is argued that Edwin Chadwick contributed little to the progress made in public health in the years 1838-54. This was due to ~~his~~ his incorrect theories of miasma being the cause of disease and his lack of judgement and tact, which is both supported by evidence in sources 14 and 15. Although, Chadwick did make some improvements, for example the use of glazed earthenware pipes for making sewers, these improvements/progress were not enough. We also have to remember that source 13 is a book published in 1966 by R.J. Coates and therefore may not be fully reliable as a source as it is only one person's point of view, whereas source 14 and 15 are more reliable as ~~these~~ ^{they} are two people's points of view, one being Edwin Chadwick himself.



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Examiner Comments

Question 2(b)(i)

This response selects relevant material from the sources and integrates it with some valid own knowledge to address the terms of the question directly. It is clearly aware that there is a debate going on and the comments are linked to this. Note that the conclusion finishes by commenting on the provenance of the secondary sources; this is not required and not credited under AO2b. Overall this answer scored a secure level 3 in both assessment objectives.

Question 2(b)(ii)

Approximately equal numbers of candidates attempted each question in this section. There were a range of answers to this question, although the sources were comprehended by most candidates. They used Source 16 and parts of Source 18 to agree with the statement in the question and Source 17 and parts of Source 18 to disagree. Most candidates could offer some supporting knowledge although it was sometimes limited to little more than references to the Andover scandal. Better answers focused on the implementation of the 1834 Poor Law and then analysed to what extent its harshness has been exaggerated. They often pointed out that whilst in many respects it did cause great hardship, there were aspects that were exaggerated and that for many conditions improved as the century progressed. Such answers were able to offer support for the arguments of Source 16, referring to improvements later in the century to medical care, treatment of the elderly and superior education and employment opportunities for some workhouse children. The best answers utilised the sources to debate the question and integrated valid own knowledge with this. Weaker candidates tended to work through the sources, describing some of the worse conditions to be found in workhouses. It was disappointing to note that many candidates made generic points regarding provenance which cannot be rewarded under AO2b.

Answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) of your chosen question.

* (b) ii) The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 was a direct result of the enquiry by the Royal Commission into the workings of the old Poor Law. It was concluded that the poor were being treated with too much generosity, which many did not deserve. It was hence that the principle of "less eligibility" was formed. This was the new aim to deter the able-bodied poor from seeking relief by ~~with~~ restricting outdoor relief and making conditions of the workhouse, their only option of relief, ~~with~~ worse than if they were supporting themselves and thus workhouses were made very ~~with~~ harsh.

There has been much debate over the real harshness of the workhouse system after 1834. Some historians, such as Roberts in Source 16, believe that the harshness of the system was greatly exaggerated: "The regulations of the Commissioners were not so very harsh." It is certainly true that over the years there were significant improvements made for the remaining

harder poor from seeking relief by ~~with~~ restricting outdoor relief and making conditions of the workhouse, their only option of relief, ~~so~~ worse that if they were supporting themselves and their workhouses were made very ~~high~~ harsh.

There has been much debate over the real harshness of the workhouse system after 1834. Some historians, such as Roberts in Source 16, believe that the harshness of the system was greatly exaggerated: "The regulations of the Commissioners were not so very harsh." It is certainly true that over the years there were significant improvements made for the receiving poor. In 1846 the government paid for professional teachers to teach workhouse children while other Unions set up "Industrial Schools" ~~to~~ to teach children a trade. The 1870 Education Act improved things further as workhouse children could now attend new Board Schools. Some Unions, such as the

and its "cottage homes"
(b) continued Manchester Union ~~set~~ set up special accommodation for children away from the workhouse. ~~The~~ The treatment of the sick improved greatly under the new Poor Law too. Hardy, president of the Poor Law Board, said that "the sick are not proper objects for such a system" of deterrence. In 1857, the Metropolitan Asylums Board was set up ~~and~~ with the combination of Poor Law Unions in London and over the next 20 years built 20 infirmaries, 6 fever hospitals and 4 asylums. By the early 1890s there were 83,000 Poor Law hospital beds. Such evidence ~~strongly suggests that the~~ is supported in

Source 16 of "kindly concern for the welfare of the pauper" was being shown. This evidence indicates that the harshness of the New Poor Law was greatly exaggerated.

This view is strongly challenged in Source 17, where Engels argues that the system was one of unacceptable cruelty: "In the workhouse at Greenwich in the summer of 1843, a boy of five years' old was punished by being shut in the dead room, where he had to sleep upon the lid of the coffin." ~~Such~~ such a harsh and cruel punishment indicates that the New Poor Law ~~was~~ was extremely harsh. ~~The~~ The fact that the little girl in Herne was given the same punishment "for getting the bed at night" shows how unfeeling

((b) continued) and ruthless the workhouse system was. This argument can be supported by the Ardener Workhouse Scandal of 1845-46 where inmates had resorted to eating the marrow and gistle of bones they were meant to be cooking ~~due~~ due to hunger. However, it should be remembered that Ardener, and the cases of the two children in Source 17, are just a few examples and not necessarily representative of the workhouse system across Britain. It should also be noted that this source was ~~published~~ published in 1845 ~~and~~ and so the writer may have been influenced by horror stories of the workhouses, writing ~~without~~ without the full picture in mind, his judgement clouded by such things as the "Book of Murder" which told of the gassing of workhouse children, obviously exaggerated events. Nevertheless, this evidence of Ardener and ~~in~~ in Source 17 suggests

that the workhouse system ~~was~~ very harsh for children were treated in such a horrible way, indicating that "less eligibility" affected everyone, not just the able-bodied.

On the other hand, there are those that argue that the system was carefully planned out and not out of control and sadistic, such as Source 18: "The Commissioners were keen to make clear that their intention was not to introduce a system of deliberate cruelty."

((b) continued) Indeed it is true that the principle of "less eligibility" aimed to target and deter the able-bodied poor, ~~not~~ not any other class of pauper. Therefore, rather than ~~inflicting~~ inflicting ridiculous cruelty upon the inmates of the workhouse, they merely ~~made~~ made life dull and unpleasant ~~with~~ with measures like "silent meditation, monotonous work and the absence of even the smallest of extra comforts." ~~It~~ Indeed food was made bland, consisting simply of bread and cheese and water while work consisted of ^{tasks like} oakum picking, which involved unravelling long, tanned and knotted ropes. The argument that the "system inflicted a form of psychological as opposed to physical cruelty" can be supported by the example of ~~the~~ Cretchfield, where over 200 men applied for relief and only 11 accepted the offer of the workhouse, showing that the system aimed to deter not inflict cruelty.

To conclude, it is ~~clear~~ clear that the New Poor Law improved the conditions of the sick and the children ~~significantly~~ significantly, as Source 16 argues. Furthermore, Source 18 supports

the idea that the system was made to be dull and seem tough to deter the able-bodied from entering. Although source 17 and the evidence of Anderson suggest that such cruelty was not exaggerated, these cases are just a few examples

((b) continued) and do not give a clear view of the full system. Hence I agree with the view that the harshness of the New Poor Law, while in some cases existed, was in the main greatly exaggerated.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

Question 2(b)(ii)

This answer uses the sources to construct a line of argument that is supported with an impressive range of own knowledge. It therefore achieves level 4 in both assessment objectives.

Paper Summary

A general summary of the areas for improvement in the approach to this paper which may prove of benefit to centres.

Part A

1. Candidates should spend sufficient time reading the sources to ensure that they understand the nuances of the arguments presented.
2. Candidates should treat the sources as a package in order to facilitate cross referencing. Weaker candidates often resorted to a brief summary of each source in turn. Such responses cannot go beyond level 2.
3. Provenance should be integrated within the argument, rather than treated as a stand-alone paragraph. This aids its use as part of the argument. Candidates should avoid making sweeping assertions from the provenance that could apply to any source.

Part B

1. Candidates need to ensure that their subject knowledge conforms to the specification. Weaker responses usually relied very heavily on information derived primarily from the sources.
2. In order to address the question effectively, candidates need to offer an analysis driven by the arguments raised in the sources, not a descriptive or chronological account.
3. Whilst it may be relevant to use the provenance of the contemporary source(s) to judge the weight that can be assigned to the argument, there is no such requirement for the secondary sources. Indeed, some candidates often engaged in generalised comments that a particular historian is or is not reliable at the expense of developing argument and analysis supported by specific own knowledge.
4. Candidates need to ensure that where the question asks them to deal with a specific time period they do not stray beyond those parameters.

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