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Edexcel GCE

History
Advanced Subsidiary
Unit 2
Option B: British Political History in the 19th Century

Wednesday 22 May 2013 – Afternoon Time: 1 hour 20 minutes	Paper Reference 6HI02/B
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You must have: Sources Insert (enclosed)	Total Marks
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Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer question part (a) and part (b) of the topic for which you have been prepared. There is a choice of questions in part (b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

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P39816A

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PEARSON

6HI02/B – British Political History in the 19th Century

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B1 – Britain, 1830–85: Representation and Reform

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer Question 1, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 1

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) **Study Sources 1, 2 and 3.**

How far do the sources suggest that Britain was close to revolution in the years 1831–32?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 1, 2 and 3.

(20)

EITHER

*(b) (i) **Use Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that weak leadership was the main reason why the Chartists failed to achieve the six points of the People's Charter in the years 1838–48?

Explain your answer, using Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

*(b) (ii) **Use Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that corruption in the political system was the main reason for parliamentary reform in the years 1872–85?

Explain your answer, using Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 1 = 60 marks)



6HI02/B – British Political History in the 19th Century

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Poverty, Public Health and the Growth of Government in Britain, 1830–75

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer Question 2, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 2

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) Study Sources 10, 11 and 12.

How far do the sources suggest that the main reason for wanting to amend the old Poor Law was to improve the character of the poor?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 10, 11 and 12.

(20)

EITHER

***(b) (i) Use Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that under the New Poor Law the administration of poor relief was centrally controlled and uniform?

Explain your answer, using Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

***(b) (ii) Use Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that the improvements made in public health in the period 1830–75 were the result of the work of exceptional individuals?

Explain your answer, using Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 2 = 60 marks)



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

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TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS





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Edexcel GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Unit 2

Option B: British Political History in the 19th Century

Wednesday 22 May 2013 – Afternoon

Sources Insert

Paper Reference

6HI02/B

Do not return the insert with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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PEARSON

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B1 – Britain, 1830–85: Representation and Reform

Sources for use with Question 1 (a)

SOURCE 1

(From a speech made in the House of Commons by John Wilson Croker, a Tory MP, 16 December 1831)

1 An attack was made on the gaol at Derby. In Nottingham, a mob collected, which, if I am rightly informed, gave some hours notice of their intentions. That mob proceeded and burnt the castle in broad daylight, in the presence of magistrates, and within the reach of His Majesty's troops, who were doomed, by the inactivity of
5 the authorities, to remain motionless spectators of the riot.

SOURCE 2

(From a letter written to the Duke of Wellington by the Reverend R. L. Freer, 7 May 1832)

The first point of which I have to assure your Grace is that the meeting of the Political Unions at Newhall Hill, Birmingham, which has been claimed as consisting of 200,000 persons, never amounted to more than a quarter of that number. Indeed, I was assured by a gentleman who was present, that he counted the whole assembly as
10 never exceeding 30,000. Another fact is that at the moment, Birmingham is far from being radical. The majority of respectable persons are decidedly against change.

SOURCE 3

(From *The Annual Register for the year 1831*, reviewing events of that year. It was published in 1831.)

Permanent associations, called Political Unions, had begun to be formed in different parts of the country to put pressure on the government. Their aims were to push for political changes by any means and to make even the government,
15 which they pretended to be supporting, feel, by their violence, that they existed in order to dictate, not to obey. They used language of abuse and intimidation. They were prepared and resolved to extort by force the possession of power.

Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (i)

SOURCE 4

(From a letter written to two members of the National Charter Association by William Lovett, September 1843)

I regard Fergus O'Connor as a man who, by his personal conduct, has been the blight of democracy from the first moment he opened his mouth as its spokesman.
20 By his constant appeals to the selfishness and vanity of man, he succeeded in calling up a spirit of hate, intolerance, and brute feeling, previously unknown among Reformers. For myself, I will have nothing to do with such a man as O'Connor, not only believing him to have done irreparable harm to our cause, but knowing him to be politically and morally dishonest.

SOURCE 5

(From John Charlton, *The Chartists*, published 1997)

25 The carefully organised state repression in 1848 was certainly effective in both the short term sense of obstructing Chartist activity, and in the long term by the demoralisation of the movement's leadership. The vast number of arrests, prosecutions and imprisonments took national and local leadership out of the struggle. The Chartists were crushed by a very well co-ordinated state power.

SOURCE 6

(From Edward Royle, *Chartism*, published 1980)

30 Chartism had its roots in social and economic conditions, but was essentially a movement offering a political solution to these problems. But if Chartism was based on a combination of economic, social and political attitudes, its failure can be explained by the divergence of these attitudes once the Chartist message had proved ineffective and untrue. Not only were the Chartist leaders unable to
35 implement their political solution, being shown to be impotent in 1839, 1842 and again in 1848, but also conditions did begin to improve even without the Charter.

Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 7

(From Sean Lang, *Parliamentary Reform 1785–1928*, published 1999)

The introduction of the secret ballot in 1872 ended much of the traditional rowdiness of open hustings, but elections could still be very violent affairs and were often as openly corrupt as ever – indeed, some thought the Ballot Act made them
40 more corrupt rather than less, since the more dishonest voters could now accept bribes from both parties. Not until the 1883 Corrupt Practices Act was the bribery of electors effectively tackled.

SOURCE 8

(From R. Pearce and R. Stearn, *Government and Reform: Britain 1815–1918*, published 1994)

The Ballot Act of 1872 made the system more representative and democratic because it made it possible for all men to vote freely. As a result, there were now
45 unmistakable signs of untapped Liberal support in the counties, especially among coal-miners. They made it clear that their continued support depended upon a further extension of the franchise. When Gladstone's second ministry of 1880–85 began to lurch from crisis to crisis, with disappointingly few achievements, he was persuaded to agree to moderate parliamentary reform. By this means, he might
50 retain radical support and regain popularity in the country.

SOURCE 9

(From the *Report of the Commissioners into the Existence of Corrupt Practices in the Borough of Sandwich*, published 1881. This was the result of complaints made about the conduct of the 1880 election.)

It did not appear that voting by secret ballot had the slightest effect in preventing bribery. The use of rooms in public houses afforded a method by which the publican and his customers were very easily bribed. The payment of expenses to voters appeared to us to lead very readily into over-payment amounting to a bribe.

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Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Poverty, Public Health and the Growth of Government in Britain, 1830–75

Sources for use with Question 2 (a)

SOURCE 10

(From Thomas Malthus, *An Essay on the Principle of Population*, published 1798)

1 I feel no doubt that the present method of relieving the poor has contributed to the raising of the price of food and goods and the lowering of wages. It has powerfully contributed to that carelessness and unwise spending observed among the poor. Even when they have an opportunity of saving, they seldom exercise it, and all that
5 is beyond their present necessities goes, generally speaking, to the ale-house.

SOURCE 11

(From William Cobbett, *Rural Rides*, May 1830. Cobbett was a radical who sympathised with the problems of the poor.)

The labourers here, who are in need of parish relief, are roundsmen; each farmer maintains a certain number of labourers for a certain length of time. If the farmers did not pay so much towards poor relief, they could afford to give the men more wages. As long as this burden of taxes shall continue, so long the misery will last,
10 and it will go on increasing with accelerated pace. The march of circumstances is precisely what it was in France, just previous to the French Revolution.

SOURCE 12

(From the *First Annual Report of the Poor Law Commissioners*, published 1835. Here the report is commenting on the situation in Cholesbury, Buckinghamshire, under the old Poor Law.)

It appears that in this parish the population has steadily climbed. The poor rates in 1801 raised only £10 10s and just one person received poor relief. In 1832 it had reached £367 per year and then relief suddenly stopped because of the
15 impossibility of continuing to collect the poor rate.

Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (i)

SOURCE 13

(From Geoffrey Finlayson, *England in the 1830s*, published 1969)

The provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act set up a poor law administration that was based on two elements. Firstly, there was central control through the appointment of a central commission of three. Secondly, there was local uniformity of practice and management through the projected poor law unions with their
20 elected guardians and appointed officials. Little was actually said about the principles on which relief would be distributed; this was a matter for the central commission. The understanding was that the workhouse test and the principle of less eligibility would be put into effect.

SOURCE 14

(From Eric Evans, *The Birth of Modern Britain*, published 1997)

Few would claim that the new system operated with ferocious harshness everywhere.
25 Frequent differences of opinion between locally elected Poor Law Guardians and the central authority meant quite good conditions in some parishes and poor ones elsewhere. Plain inefficiency also meant that quite a bit of money continued to be wasted in poor administration.

SOURCE 15

(From a letter written in 1850 by William Martin to the Poor Law Board about his treatment by the Clitheroe Union. Across the letter the Board had written 'State that the Board have no power to order relief, but will make enquiry of Guardians as to his case.')

I have a wife and five children and am reduced to poverty by the five months
30 sickness of my wife. The surgeon said that she was in danger of losing her eyesight. He said that moving to the seashore would help. I appeared at the Board of Guardians and asked them if they would be so kind as to grant me a small amount of money to take her to the seashore. They would not grant me one penny.

Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 16

(From Donald Read, *England 1868–1914*, published 1979)

Edwin Chadwick's brilliant 'Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring
35 Population' appeared in 1842 and inspired the 1848 Public Health Act. The
Act represented an important step towards centralisation and standardisation,
although in many matters it was permissive, not mandatory. It required tactful
application, but Chadwick was decidedly not tactful. The man who, in effect,
40 succeeded Chadwick was John Simon. He was more willing to compromise and
less inflexible than Chadwick, and he began by working as far as possible through
co-operation with the local authorities.

SOURCE 17

(From Asa Briggs, *The Age of Improvement 1783–1867*, published 1959)

Public health could not be regulated by individual or group action, but needed
the intervention of either local authorities or the State. The cause of 'sanitary
reform' was actively supported by doctors, clergymen, novelists and politicians,
45 but since it touched awkward problems of property rights, professional jealousies
and administrative centralisation, there were difficulties in setting up adequate
machinery. After the fall of the General Board of Health in 1854 improvements were
cumulative rather than dramatic.

SOURCE 18

(From the *Annual Report of the City of London's Medical Officer for Health*, published 1865.
John Simon was the author.)

I venture to submit that the time has now arrived when it ought not any longer
50 to be discretionary in a place whether that place shall be kept filthy or not. Powers
sufficient for the local protection of public health have been universally given to
the local authorities. These powers should be exercised in good faith and with
reasonable vigour and intelligence by the local authorities.

Acknowledgements

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