

Examiners' Report

Summer 2016

Pearson Edexcel GCE
in History (6HI02) Paper B

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6HI02 B

Introduction

Centres and candidates are once again to be congratulated for their performance this series as examiners reported that the majority of candidates understood the essential requirements of the Unit 2 examination with the different focus of the two parts of the question. In an examination in which the majority of candidates were re-taking the examination paper, there were many impressive answers to be seen and relatively fewer weaker answers than has been the norm in the past.

In part A, the majority of candidates did attempt to cross reference the sources in their answer, although this was developed with varying degrees of success and for some this amounted to merely asserting that the sources either agree or disagree without explaining how they have arrived at this conclusion. Answers of this type are unlikely to have moved beyond level

2. There were a number of candidates who did not consider the provenance of the sources and this meant that they could not advance very far in the mark scheme. There were also proportionately more candidates than in the past who spent considerable amounts of time elucidating their answer with own knowledge - this cannot be credited in this question. Indeed those candidates would have gained more credit if they had focused on cross referencing, a consideration of provenance linked to the arguments and judgements. There were certain stock phrases that were used by some candidates e.g. taken as a set; this is only appropriate if that is what the candidate is doing. In too many cases, the phrase was not accompanied by the action

In part B, there were a number of candidates who relied primarily on the material in the sources. There were also a number of candidates who demonstrated some range and depth of knowledge that could be applied to the part B questions. The best answers used the sources to shape the argument and raise issues which were supported and developed with the use of detailed and specific own knowledge. It continues to be the case that despite comments in previous examiners' reports for all recent exam series regarding the focus of AO2b, candidates continue to comment to a greater or lesser extent on provenance in their responses to part B in this exam series. Such comments are frequently very generic e.g. the historian can be trusted because they have the benefit of hindsight (or they cannot be trusted because they were not an eye witness to the event). In any event, such comments, even if well developed, generally do not contribute to AO2b, which is what is being tested in part B. Some candidates spend an excessive amount of time on this and they would do well to develop their arguments in relation to the question, rather than write whole paragraphs on provenance which can earn no credit under AO2b.

Candidates should take care that they can spell technical words and significant names correctly, especially when those words and names form part of the question or the sources. Where candidates have a few minutes left at the end of the exam, they would be well advised to check their work.

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

Q1a

There were many impressive answers on display with candidates who demonstrated an ability to engage in developed cross referencing and engage with the attribution to reach reasoned arguments about the weight that the sources could bear. The sources were generally well understood, although some missed that Sources 1 and 3 could be used to both support the claim in the question and to challenge it on the basis that there were also political motives. The greatest problem seemed to be posed for a number of candidates by Source 2 who extracted the quote that “the basis of Chartism was strictly economic” without appreciating that Disraeli did not support that view nor developing that this did show that many contemporaries took this to be significant. There were a minority of candidates who used extensive amounts of own knowledge to write a general essay. Such material could not be credited as it does not meet the requirements of the question.

Example script

This answer has limited understanding of the issues raised by the sources, contains one basic comparison and some undeveloped references to provenance. It is sufficient for level 2, but not high in the level.

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) It was clear that many chartists supported the cause for change due to economic and social distress, mainly hunger - however, many leading chartists recognised this an attempted to manipulate it.

This is made clear by leading chartist O'Brien in source 1. The reason he supports chartism is to gain a universal suffrage that will bring food etc. to everyone. At the time this was written, only 18% of males could vote (many had duplicate votes), so working and middle class people didn't get to enjoy the 'privileges' of universal suffrage. The movement was not caused by those with firm political beliefs but those that were hungry, explaining why the movement diminished when the economy was more stable.

Disraeli agrees with that statement in source 2, claiming that the chartists weren't motivated by political rights. The first chartist petition was completely rejected by the house of commons, not even reading it, just passing immediately - again suggesting it to be clear that the chartists

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((a) continued) weren't to be taken seriously as they were purely motivated by social distress. However, in the same source Disraeli points out that chartism was not economic either as economic crisis leads to riots not to organisations. The man who would later become Prime Minister, does not give his views on why chartism was formed - suggesting it can't be something a country as a whole would be concerned about. Despite the fact ^{some} ~~the~~ chartists would eventually ~~convert~~ to physical force suggests there might be more rooting them than just social and economic distress.

In source 3, Benjamin Wilson discusses the political side to the chartist movement - stating that they formed for more reasons than just hunger. It could be argued that he makes these points as he is a chartist - therefore trying to paint a good image of the movement - but both he and O'Brien from source one discuss the chartists' desire to have rights, not just for economic reasons. // Chartists made an active effort to change ~~the~~ Britain and despite some being encouraged by hunger or economic distress, it is clear that there was political motivation shaping the movement.

It could be disputed that, as a Tory, Disraeli



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((a) continued) was trying to give a valid reason for rejecting the petition. Any opposition was bad so if the Tories could step on it and stop it being a problem they would.

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Q1bi

This was the more popular question. Some impressive answers were seen where candidates showed full awareness of all the various ways that the content of the sources could be used to drive an argument that was well supported with own knowledge. However, a number of candidates did not engage with the focus of this question. Rather they used it as an opportunity to discuss the effects of the Reform Act without linking those effects to the extent to which they met the aims of the Whigs. Some candidates tended to follow the sources in sequence and develop a line of argument which followed this route - applying the bulk of own knowledge at the end. This was weaker than candidates who used sources in conjunction with the sources throughout. Some candidates failed to apply own knowledge and concentrated solely on using the sources to answer the question. Despite the fact that the issue of addressing AO2b has been referred to in numerous Principal Examiners' reports, there remain a number of candidates who discuss, sometimes at great length, the provenance of the secondary sources. There is no credit to be gained for this under AO2b.

Example script

This is a well argued response based on issues that have arisen from the sources and with some supporting detail. It is not wide-ranging in its approach and for this reason is level 3/4 borderline rather than securely in level 4.

((b) continued) the opposition of the Commons." and that the system was "far more democratic". This could be considered the case as many Reform bills were removed, ~~and so there were less~~ At So Less MPs who were antiocratic were present in Commons. This is supported by Source 4 ~~who~~ who claims that "they believed, it had brought the Constitution ~~to~~ somewhere near to perfection". ^{but it can be argued that this wasn't the case as the male electorate rose from 11% to 18% which was not abstr.} One of the ~~the~~ Whig notices for reform was largely about public opinion. ~~to~~ ~~and~~ satisfying the public - though it may have satisfied the ~~the~~ middle class - it was not by the working class. This ~~can~~ can be seen to be suggested by ~~Source~~ John Russell's speech in Source 5 who claims the 1832 Reform Act was supposed to be a final measure but goes on to say that "entering again into this question of representation so soon would destroy the stability of our institutions" - suggesting the Commons was already ~~that~~ ~~was~~ debating another Reform Act - suggesting that in fact the Whig's aims were not fulfilled as public opinion was not satisfied. ~~But~~ Source 6 also agrees with this as it states that ~~the~~ the effects of the Act would gradually be felt - it did open a door to reform, and "through that door were to come the later Parliaments".



((b) continued) "Reform Acts of the 19th Century" - such as the Second & Third Reform Act, Secret Ballot Act and Corrupt & Illegal Practices Act. So if public opinion ~~was~~ ~~can~~ ~~also~~ ~~be~~ ~~supported~~ ~~that~~ ~~to~~ was satisfied why would they wish to make many more reforms.

Source 5 was a speech made by Russell in 1837, 5 years after the Reform Act and it was starting to see the emergence of Chartism ~~as~~ as there was starting to have an economic downturn in the country at the time. ~~For this reason~~ Russell ~~was~~ ~~an~~ ~~important~~ ~~figure~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~time~~ ~~who~~ ~~held~~ ~~a~~ ~~lot~~ ~~of~~ ~~power~~. - ~~his~~ ~~reluctance~~ ~~for~~ ~~reform~~ ~~was~~ he was a member of the Whig Party - and after the reorganisation of the Party to the Liberals - and the newly ~~address~~ enfranchised the Whigs had to appeal to a larger electorate therefore, even though it's suggesting the discussion of a new reform, he may just be discussing an idea of a way to appeal to more voters rather than ~~to~~ because the people are wanting one. It also highlights the fact that the Whig Party ~~became~~ ~~to~~ became more radical, this is shown by the fact Russell claims that when he brought forward the 1832 Reform Act, people said it was "too moderate" but now



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((b) continued) They were discussing the possibility for another one. - this is supported by Source 6 where it discusses the future Reform Acts that will be introduced showing the radicalness of the Whigs. However, two of the Reform Acts were passed by the Conservatives rather than the Whigs. *

Overall, the evidence suggests that the 1832 ^{Reform Act} did signify the demise of the Whigs. As Source 4 claims the new ~~institution~~ Constitution was new project, Source 5 claims the 1832 was hoped to be the final reform and Source 6 says that it became far more dramatic. However, even though the Whigs may have been satisfied in preserving the system - still dominated by aristocracy - no ~~public~~ Parliamentary reform (of Lords or Commons). Public opinion was still not satisfied, as there came an emergence of Chartism after the 1832 Reform Act.

* The Whigs also believed that if they enfranchised the middle class - they could form an alliance and effectively block out the Tories. ~~However~~ This did work to some extent as the Whigs were in power for a while. Despite their ready friend alliance with the middle the working class had a distrust & distant dislike of the Whigs.



Q1bii

This was the less popular question. A number of candidates failed to use the full range of dates available and limited their argument solely to the confines of 1867 and its immediate impact. There was a tendency to rely heavily on the content of the sources by many candidates, rather than supporting the arguments with relevant own knowledge. Despite the fact that the issue of addressing AO2b has been referred to in numerous Principal Examiners' reports, there remain a number of candidates who discuss, sometimes at great length, the provenance of the secondary sources. There is no credit to be gained for this under AO2b.

Example script

This answer argues a case with some supporting detail. The sources tend to be used for reference rather than clearly directing the argument. This is level 3 in both assessment objectives.

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

(b)ii plan:

~~led to ¹⁸⁷³ secret ballot + corrupt + ¹⁸⁸⁵ illegal practices
more so than party organisation - Both then encouraged
the organisation
I agree & disagree but quote intro 9 pivot.
importance of NUCCA + NLF~~

Arguably, changes in party political organisation in the years 1867-85 were down to many contributing factors, including the 1867 second Reform Act. However, these changes were not solely down to a result of the Act. Other factors such as the 1873 secret ballot act and the corrupt and illegal practices act of 1885 also encouraged changes in party organisation.

Due to redistribution of seats and changes in party loyalty following the 1867 reform act, parties had 'to ensure that their known supporters were registered as voters', as Whitfield states. This relied strongly on 'the efficiency of the local party organisations'. Webb supports this when referring to the 1868 election with Chamberlain's ^{emphasis} ~~efficiency~~.



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((b) continued) 'to spread radical votes in the most effective way'. This implies that a reorganisation in party political parties was a direct result of the 1867 Reform Act. Both the 1873 Secret Ballot Act and the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Act of 1885 were also direct results of this.

There is also an argument for a change in the organisation of political parties being a result of these two acts. With the introduction of the Secret Ballot Act, ~~parties increased~~ despite the vote now being secret, parties now increased public spending and treating to hopefully maintain the loyalty of their voters and it also impacted on the campaigns with politicians starting to do more for the voter and increase their propaganda - of which 'Chamberlain went on to build up a complex and powerful local machine' (www). This also led to the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Act, which put a limit on ~~political party's~~ the public spending of political parties and prevented aspects of party propaganda such as treating, violence and intimidation. With this, parties now had to focus more on their policies and delivery of these; resulting in 'the emergence of new leading politicians'. The face of the party



((b) continued) became more important than it previously had been. As Bagehot suggests, there would, nevertheless, have been a great change in English politics' with the role reversal following the ~~1874 conservative victory~~ Gladstone's victory in 1874, 'Tories relaxed and the Liberals organised' (Webb). This also led to a greater importance held by the conservative NUCCA and Liberal NLF as, due to the restrictions of the corrupt and illegal practices act, local clubs had a more significant role in their parties when it came to spreading policies and recruiting members or voters.

In conclusion, there is a recognisable change in the party organisation and 'we naturally assume that the reason for this change is the Reform Act', as Bagehot states. ~~With the~~ However, both Bagehot and Webb highlight that the change in party organisation was almost inevitable. With both ~~the~~ Webb, it must be taken into consideration that the publication was considerably later than the period and therefore aspects such as the secret ballot act and the corrupt and illegal practices act had also occurred



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((b) continued) whereas Baghest was published directly after the Act and updated five years after - suggesting that it had been clear from both points that ~~despite the rep~~ there would have been changes to party organisation with or without the Reform Act. It was, debatably, aspects such as the secret ballot act and the corrupt and illegal practices act that held greater significance in the changes to party organisation

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Q 2a

There were many impressive answers on display with candidates who demonstrated an ability to engage in developed cross referencing and engage with the attribution to reach reasoned arguments about the weight that the sources could bear. Often, such answers were able to show how Source 10 was linked to the 'jealousies' referenced in Source 12. A number of candidates wrote about Chadwick and the Poor Law, based on their own knowledge, despite the fact that this set of sources referenced his work in the field of public health. Own knowledge cannot be credited as it does not meet the assessment requirements of the question.

Example script

This is a sound level 2 response. It tends to engage in paraphrasing of the sources, attempts some comparison which is not developed cross referencing and references the provenance but with no development.

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 unpopular view of Edwin Chadwick is emphasised greatly in source 10, whereby this unpopularity is described as 'deserved'. The source also claims that he is irresponsible and arrogant in his belief ^{that} he is always correct. Further to this, the source ~~also~~ claims he is inconsiderate of feelings of the local bodies in charge. The impression of Chadwick in the source is one of dislike, with mostly all negative comments about him. However the source does state that 'he is driven', which, similar to ~~source~~ source 12, 'exerted a striking influence and caused great changes', suggests although his character was ~~disliked~~ ^{disliked} it cannot be argued that he made vast changes. The provenance of source 10 however, is The Times newspaper, suggesting the content may be slanderous of Edwin Chadwick from the offset.

To an extent, source 11 agrees with ~~the~~ the impression of ~~source~~ Chadwick in source 10, as the one suggests Thomas Carlyle could be questioning the validity of Chadwick's report details. In addition, source 12 states the opinion of Chadwick that ~~there~~ there was 'no one more difficult to understand than Mr. Chadwick'

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((a) continued) suggesting that source 11 and 12 in parts agree with the view of Chadwick in source 10.

However, the undeniable fact that Chadwick made great changes, and as evidenced from the provenance, the post Germ Theory discovery in 1861 Louis Pasteur, meant that Chadwick's distinguishing of the link between dirt and disease was important.

In conclusion, it can be argued that Edwin Chadwick and his profound unpopularity ~~created~~ created restraints for the Board of Health and their effectiveness due to objections against them. However, it cannot be argued that Edwin Chadwick was a key individual in poverty and public health in Britain. The extent to which sources 11 and 12 agree with the views of source 10 are minimal, in that it suggests his influence, ^{in source 12} yet agree on his character and lack of sound judgement in source 11.



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Q2bi

This was slightly less popular than the other question in this section. Some candidates struggled to focus their response on the New Poor Law, preferring to discuss the problems of the Old Poor Law. There was a tendency for candidates to rely on the sources for information in the absence of relevant own knowledge. There were, however, many good answers to be seen which were able to argue a convincing case. Despite the fact that the issue of addressing AO2b has been referred to in numerous Principal Examiners' reports, there remain a number of candidates who discuss, sometimes at great length, the provenance of the secondary sources. There is no credit to be gained for this under AO2b.

Example script

In this response the candidate engages in simple statements which are extracted from the sources. It is typical of a level 2 response in both assessment objectives.

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

(b) (ii) The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 arguably faced much opposition and problems regarding its implementation.

Some may argue that the main reason there were issues implementing poor law was due to its primary design in dealing with rural issues. This view is argued in source 13, whereby it states it concentrated too much on a single problem, and that the Royal Commission Report contained weaknesses which hindered its effectiveness. As ~~source~~ ^{source} 15 shows the report of the Poor Law Commissioners, it shows how it highlights specifically the problems they ~~perceive~~ perceive important, of which are unemployment leading to a lack of poor relief being administered. Source 13 argues that due to the commissioners report highlighting this issue, ~~the~~ the implementation of the poor law was hindered as the reformers of 1834 focused the majority of their attention towards rural poverty, and thus caused problems with poor law implementation.

~~An alternate~~ ^{alternate} reason for problems implementing the New Poor Law is suggested in source 14. This source suggests that the lack of control and direct power the Poor Law Commission had, caused problems when implementing the poor law as it was a permissive



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((b) continued) ~~the~~ act. Parishes, Unions, and the Board of Guardians were not compelled to make any changes if they ~~did~~ did not wish to, ~~Source 15 also~~ and therefore proved difficult in commissioning changes required. ~~on alternative~~

In conclusion, it can be argued that the direction of the Poor Law Commissioners report swayed the reformers to direct implementation of the Poor Law Amendment Act towards rural poverty, which limited the effect of the Act as a whole.



Q2bii

This was slightly more popular than the other question in this section. A number of candidates saw the focus of this question as being the reasons for progress in public health, whereas the focus was on the extent (or lack of it) of progress. However, there were many very knowledgeable and well-focused responses that engaged in well developed analysis and supported argument. Despite the fact that the issue of addressing AO2b has been referred to in numerous Principal Examiners' reports, there remain a number of candidates who discuss, sometimes at great length, the provenance of the secondary sources. There is no credit to be gained for this under AO2b.

Example script

This answer achieves level 3 in both assessment objectives, although it is much stronger in the level with AO1 than with AO2b. This is because the source use is at times implicit rather than explicit. The answer does argue a case and does have supporting knowledge.

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

(b) At first sight it seems there was in fact large amounts of progress ^{in public health} which took place between 1830-66.

Edwin Chadwick who was a social reformer brought about much progress to public health. In 1842 he published a report ~~about~~ on a link between health and living conditions, it was a detailed and well argued report which sold 10 000 copies and forced the government to investigate.

In 1844 a health of towns commission was formed and for the first time it caused a number of campaigns to ~~public~~ improve public health. An example was the formation of the Health of towns association which ensured public health was a public issue, more over Manchester, Leeds and Glasgow all used a public health board to appoint a medical officer.

"Full scale legislation had to wait until 1848" (source 17) A Public health act was passed after an epidemic of cholera in 1848 which killed 50 000 causing the 'dirty party' to drop its objectives of opposing health reforms. The Public health act established a general Board of health and ensured all towns with a death rate of 23 in a thousand had a local board in addition towns could have a local Board of health if 10% of tax payers wanted one. The local boards were able to improve sanitation and drainage, ensure old houses were connected to sewers and new houses had proper drainage.



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((b) continued)

Significant progress to public health was made in 1854 by Dr. John Snow. He gave "his opinion that the pump in Broad street was the cause of all pestilence". For the first time the link between cholera and water supply was made he used evidence of a woman who died of cholera who only drank from the Broad street pump, he was given permission to remove the handle and when it was dug out it was found a cesspool was leaking into the water supply. This discovery saved hundreds of lives and brought serious improvement to public health and water supply became a key focus.

The great stink in 1848 brought about a ~~and~~ serious reform to London's sewage system by a man called Joseph Bazett who designed new effective sewers which are still being used in the 21st century.

However there is substantial evidence to argue that "progress to public health was slow, and, where it occurred at all, piecemeal". Firstly the Public Health act 1848 was highly limited in its effectiveness. Firstly "Central government did not attempt to set the pace, but rather to provide the powers which others might, if they wish to". This was the problem with the Public Health act, it was permissive not compulsory and by 1852 only one eighth of the population was covered by a board.



(b) continued) More over scientific knowledge was highly limited and the belief in 'Miasmas' was common at the time which led public reforms in the wrong direction. An example was Chadwicks decision to pump all Londons rubbish into the Thames to stop the spread of disease which in fact was a huge mistake. It wasnt until 1872 where the germ for cholera was discovered.

In conclusion it is unfair to say that little progress was made to public health. Although the progress was limited it was still significantly more than it was and atleast public health became a big political issue where the foundations for real reform was established. An example was Chadwicks progress of putting down 2500 miles of glazed earthenware sewage pipes although these were ineffective his mistakes were learnt from and serious reform ~~was~~ came about as a result.



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All Questions

1. Candidates should proof read their answers at the end of the examination, and correct any instances where they have incorrectly labelled a source, used the wrong names or the wrong dates.
2. Too many candidates use certain phrases, such as 'using the sources as a set', as a substitute for actually engaging in the task that they are claiming.
3. Engaging with the sources needs to go beyond accepting the content at face value and to test it for validity considering provenance in part a and by testing the opinions in part b with knowledge set in the context of the period.

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 work through sources sequentially. Such responses cannot go beyond level 2
3. Provenance should be integrated within the argument and decisions need to be made on the relative strengths and weaknesses of the sources. The attributes of the sources should be discussed, not described. This aids the use of provenance as part of the argument. Candidates should avoid making stereotypical comments about the provenance that could apply to any source and avoid labelling a source as both reliable and unreliable and thus negating any conclusions drawn. The key to a successful response is the ability to weigh the sources to reach a final judgement.
4. The best responses cross reference not only the content of the sources, but also their provenance. This enables candidates to weigh the sources and reach supported judgements.
5. There are no marks available for knowledge in part a. Candidates should avoid arguing from their knowledge since it cannot be credited and often impacts on the amount of time they have available to complete part b.

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. Sources should be used to develop lines of argument and reasoning rather than used for information to develop a descriptive answer.
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 and it is not rewarded in A02b. Many candidates still engage in generalised comments that a particular historian is or is not reliable at the expense of developing argument and analysis tested by specific own knowledge.
4. Candidates need to ensure that they are aware of the focus of the question and the time period specified and that they maintain the focus throughout their answer, to avoid straying into irrelevant areas that cannot be rewarded.

