



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate  
Principal Subject

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**COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**9770/01**

Paper 1 Concepts and Institutions (UK and/or USA)

**For Examination from 2010**

SPECIMEN PAPER

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Paper/Booklet

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

This paper contains two sections: Section A and Section B.

Answer **two** short essays from the **same** section, **and one** long essay from either Section A **or** Section B.

You are advised to spend 20 minutes on each short essay and 45 minutes on the long essay.

Every short essay is marked out of 25 and every full essay is marked out of 50.

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This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



**Section A: UK Concepts and Institutions****Short essays**

- 1 Explain the relationship between popular and parliamentary sovereignty. [25]
- 2 Explain why judicial neutrality and independence are important. [25]
- 3 Explain the contribution made to the running of a government department by a cabinet minister **and** its senior civil servants. [25]

**Full essays**

- 4 To what extent has the sovereignty of parliament been replaced by the 'elective dictatorship' of the executive? [50]
- 5 Evaluate the degree to which the strengths and weaknesses of the UK constitutional system have been affected by recent constitutional reforms. [50]
- 6 Different electoral systems are currently used within the UK. Evaluate the case for **and** against adopting any one of these systems for elections to the House of Commons. [50]

**Section B: US Concepts and Institutions****Short essays**

- 7 Explain what presidential government is. [25]
- 8 Explain the role of the Supreme Court as part of the US political system. [25]
- 9 Explain how the powers of the states and the federal government are defined and upheld. [25]

**Full essays**

- 10 To what extent does the USA have an entirely two-party system? [50]
- 11 To what extent has George W. Bush reasserted the power of the President over Congress? [50]
- 12 Assess the effect of recent judicial activism on the US political system. To what extent does this uphold the wishes of the Founding Fathers? [50]

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