RADLEY COLLEGE Entrance Scholarships



HUMANITIES

Wednesday 11th February 2004

Time allowed: 90 minutes

Answer both sections.
Spend about 45 minutes on each section.

Write your answers to the History and the Geography sections on separate sheets of paper.

SECTION A - HISTORY

The Labour Party

A From Encyclopædia Britannica

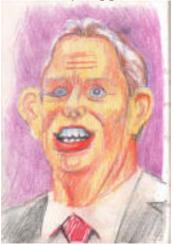
During the 'Winter of Discontent' of 1978 -79, Britain suffered a series of major strikes by the Labour Party's trade union allies and the party lost the election to the Conservatives under Margaret Thatcher. Following this, the Labour Party experienced a number of internal problems. Aided by the leaders of some major trade unions, the party's extreme left wing seemed to have the upper hand. In the 1983 general election the Labour Party suffered its worst national electoral defeat in more than 50 years. The new leader, Neil Kinnock, tried to reestablish the party as a popular party worth voting for. Kinnock modernised the party, and got rid of the extreme left wing. However, the Conservatives still won the elections of 1987 and 1992. The reform of the party continued under John Smith and Tony Blair. This 'New Labour' party finally won the general election of 1997, returning Labour to power after 18 years of Conservative Party rule.

B From Tony Blair's official biography, published by 10 Downing Street

The Labour Party won the 1997 General Election by a landslide, after 18 years in Opposition. At the age of 43, Tony Blair became the youngest Prime Minister since Lord Liverpool in 1812. The government began a major programme of reform, giving power back to the regions (Scotland, Wales and the City of London). The government also reformed the House of Lords considerably. The government also invested £42 billion in health and education.

Tony Blair was re-elected with another landslide majority in the 2001 General Election.

C A cartoon of Tony Blair, published in 'The Guardian' newspaper ('The Guardian' traditionally supports Labour governments)



D From 'The Economist' magazine, September 2003

Mr. Blair will be criticised by his party next week over Iraq, foundation hospitals and university tuition fees. The Hutton inquiry, the problems on the ground in Iraq, problems in the health service and education all seem to be adding up. Mr. Blair is not even as popular within the Labour Party as Gordon Brown. In the event of another election the Labour Party can probably look forward to another big majority. What keeps Blair awake at night, however, is the prospect that he will be seen to have failed to deliver on his domestic promises. And failure now seems more likely than ever.

Questions

1. Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about the history of the Labour Party? (5)

2. Study Sources B and C.

Do these sources suggest that Tony Blair has done a good job as Prime Minister? Give reasons for your answer. (5)

3. Use all the Sources and your own knowledge.

"The Labour Party's only major achievement from 1997 to the present day was to get back into power".

How far do you agree with this point of view? (15)

(25 marks)

SECTION B - GEOGRAPHY

Answer any THREE sections. All carry equal marks. Credit will be given for detailed examples.

Section 1

- i. Why are volcanoes not distributed evenly over the globe?
- ii. Why do so many people live in the vicinity of active volcanoes?

Section 2

- i. Why do the British Isles have such an irregular coastline?
- ii. Outline the factors underlying the distribution of landslides.

Section 3

- i. How do ocean currents affect Britain's climate? How are the main economic activities affected?
- ii. How and why do overnight temperatures within a town vary?

Section 4

- i. Why are some urban functions (such as banks) clustered while others (such as newsagents) usually dispersed? Is the situation changing?
- ii. Outline the positive and negative aspects of the growth of second-home ownership in Britain. Are the effects the same everywhere?

Section 5

- i. Much of the clothing and footwear distributed in Britain by firms such as *Nike* or *Cotton Traders* is actually manufactured in the Less Developed World. What are the main effects of such trade on both Britain and the countries of the Less Developed World?
- ii. Outline the benefits and disadvantages of irrigation.

Section 6

- i. With reference to a National Park that you have studied, show how conflicting demands on land use have arisen and been resolved.
- ii. Using one or more examples that you have studied discuss the benefits and problems with the building of a large reservoir.

(25 marks)