

X236/701

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2010

TUESDAY, 25 MAY
9.00 AM – 12.00 NOON

MODERN STUDIES
ADVANCED HIGHER

Answer questions from **one** Study Theme only.

Choose **one** Study Theme from:

- **Study Theme 1:** Comparative Politics and Research Methods.
- **Study Theme 2:** Law and Order and Research Methods.
- **Study Theme 3:** The European Union and Research Methods.

In your chosen Study Theme:

- Answer **two** questions from Section A. Each question is worth 30 marks.
- Answer **all** questions in Section B. Section B is worth 30 marks.
- Spend approximately 60 minutes on each question from Section A and approximately 60 minutes on all parts of Section B.

Total for paper: 90 marks.



Answer questions from ONE Study Theme only.

STUDY THEME 1: COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Answer TWO questions from Section A.

Each question is worth 30 marks.

Marks

1. Context A: Political Parties

“Image is now more important than ideology.”

Discuss in relation to the UK (including Scotland) **and** the USA.

(30)

2. Context B: Electoral Systems

Discuss the case for reforming electoral systems.

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) **and** the USA.

(30)

3. Context C: Decision-making in Central and Devolved/State Government

Assess the effectiveness of legislatures in checking the power of their executives.

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) **and** the USA.

(30)

4. Context D: The Politics of Influence

Examine the view that interest/pressure groups enhance, rather than harm, democracy.

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) **and** the USA.

(30)

SECTION B

ALL parts of Section B should be answered.

This section is worth 30 marks.

5. (a) One of the most popular and widely used research methods is **Participant Observation.**

Assess the argument that Participant Observation is **neither** reliable **nor** valid.

You should use specific examples to support your answer.

8

(b) You are carrying out research into politics and the media.

Apart from participant observation, choose **one** appropriate research method.

For your chosen method, justify your choice.

7

(15)

6. Study the source below and then answer the questions which follow.

Ipsos MORI September Political Monitor

Fieldwork: 12–14 September 2008

Ipsos MORI's September Political Monitor, carried out by telephone between 12–14 September 2008 among 1,017 adults age 18 and over, shows the Conservative Party on 52% and the Labour Party on 24%, **a Conservative lead of 28 points**. This is both the highest Conservative lead ever recorded by Ipsos MORI and also the **largest Conservative share we have ever recorded**.

Q1b Which party are you most inclined to support? Base: All absolutely certain to vote (556)	Q1/2 %
Conservative	52
Labour	24
Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem)	12
Scottish/Welsh Nationalist	4
Green Party	4
UK Independence Party	1
Other	3
Conservative lead ($\pm\%$)	+28
<i>Would not vote</i>	1
<i>Undecided</i>	5
<i>Refused</i>	2

Satisfaction among general public age 18+

- Q3 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country?
- Q4 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Gordon Brown is doing his job as Prime Minister?
- Q5 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way David Cameron is doing his job as leader of the Conservative Party?
- Q6 Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way Nick Clegg is doing his job as leader of the Liberal Democrats?

	Satisfied %	Dissatisfied %	Don't know %	Index %
Government (Q3)	18	76	6	-58
Brown (Q4)	24	69	7	-45
Cameron (Q5)	48	32	20	+16
Clegg (Q6)	32	24	44	+8

(a) As a social science researcher, to what extent can **valid** and **reliable** conclusions be drawn from the source above?

8

(b) Discuss the main differences between primary and secondary data.

You should give specific examples to support your answer.

7

(15)

Answer questions from ONE Study Theme only.

STUDY THEME 2: LAW AND ORDER AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Answer TWO questions from Section A.

Each question is worth 30 marks.

Marks

1. *Context A: Rights and Responsibilities in Relation to Law and Order in the UK*
“Safety is more important to the average person than individual freedoms.”
How valid is this view in relation to human rights and civil liberties in the UK? **(30)**

2. *Context B: The Causes and Effects of Crime in the UK*
To what extent can our “broken society” be blamed for crime in the UK? **(30)**

3. *Context C: Responses to Crime in the UK*
How valid is the claim that current law and order policies are failing to protect all citizens? **(30)**

4. *Context D: Penal Systems in the UK*
“The most effective punishments work outside prison walls.”
Discuss. **(30)**

SECTION B

ALL parts of Section B should be answered.

This section is worth 30 marks.

5. (a) One of the most popular and widely used research methods is **Participant Observation**.
Assess the argument that Participant Observation is **neither** reliable **nor** valid.
You should use specific examples to support your answer. **8**

 - (b) You are carrying out research into the Scottish criminal justice system.
Apart from participant observation, choose **one** appropriate research method.
For your chosen method, justify your choice. **7**
- (15)**

6. Study the source below and then answer the questions which follow.

*GLA telephone survey of Londoners with Muslim booster
September/October 2007*

- These results are based on telephone interviews with 1,505 respondents, comprising a representative sample of 1,005 Londoners (including 64 Muslims), and a booster survey of 500 Muslims in London.
- In total, 564 Muslims were interviewed, 500 as part of the booster and 64 as part of the main survey.
- Fieldwork was conducted between 26th September – 7th October.

Perception of crime

Q14 *In this area would you say there is more crime or less crime compared with 12 months ago, or about the same? Is that a lot or a little more/less?*

	Muslims	All Londoners
	%	%
A lot more	13	15
A little more	17	14
About the same	40	53
A little less	18	9
A lot less	6	2
Don't know/Wasn't living here 12 months ago	5	7

Q15 *Would you say that there is more or less anti-social behaviour in your local area now than 12 months ago, or is it about the same? By anti-social behaviour, I mean things like graffiti, vandalism and drunk and disorderly behaviour. Is that much or slightly more/less?*

	Muslims	All Londoners
	%	%
Much more	16	16
Slightly more	16	18
About the same	42	49
Slightly less	17	9
Much less	5	3
Don't know/Wasn't living here 12 months ago	4	4

(a) As a social science researcher, to what extent can **valid** and **reliable** conclusions be drawn from the source above?

8

(b) Discuss the main differences between primary and secondary data.

You should give specific examples to support your answer.

7

(15)

Answer questions from ONE Study Theme only.

STUDY THEME 3: THE EUROPEAN UNION AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Answer TWO questions from Section A.

Each question is worth 30 marks.

- | | <i>Marks</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. <i>Context A: Political Relations</i>
“UK political parties have failed to address the issue of the UK’s position regarding the European Union.”
Discuss. | (30) |
| 2. <i>Context B: Representation and Participation in the European Parliament</i>
“Pressure and interest groups exert too much influence on the European Parliament.”
To what extent do you agree with this statement? | (30) |
| 3. <i>Context C: The European Union and its International Involvement</i>
“Enlargement of the European Union has weakened the security of its member states.”
Discuss. | (30) |
| 4. <i>Context D: Social Developments in the European Union with reference to the UK and the EU.</i>
To what extent have policy directives on rights and freedoms led to disagreement within the European Union? | (30) |

SECTION B

ALL parts of Section B should be answered.

This section is worth 30 marks.

5. (a) One of the most popular and widely used research methods is **Participant Observation**.
Assess the argument that Participant Observation is **neither** reliable **nor** valid.
You should use specific examples to support your answer. **8**
- (b) You are carrying out research into the workings of the European Union institutions.
Apart from participant observation, choose **one** appropriate research method.
For your chosen method, justify your choice. **7**

(15)

6. Study the source below and then answer the questions which follow.

Ipsos MORI 3rd March 2008

Ipsos MORI's recent poll for the Liberal Democrats shows that over half of British adults think that there should be a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union (54%), while a quarter disagree.

Ipsos MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,026 adults in Great Britain aged 18+. Interviews were conducted by telephone between 21 – 26 February 2008.

Q1. Do you think there should be a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union or not?

	%
Yes	54
No	27
Don't know	19

Q2. As you may know, the Lisbon Treaty, currently going through Parliament, makes changes to the way the European Union is run.

If there were to be a referendum on Britain's relationship with Europe, would you prefer it to be a referendum only on the Lisbon Treaty, or a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union altogether?

	%
A referendum only on the Lisbon Treaty	18
A referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union altogether	38
Don't want a referendum at all	10
Both	8
Don't know	26

(a) As a social science researcher, to what extent can **valid** and **reliable** conclusions be drawn from the source above?

8

(b) Discuss the main differences between primary and secondary data.

You should give specific examples to support your answer.

7

(15)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Study Theme 1 Section B Question 6—Source is adapted from *Ipsos MORI Political Monitor September 2008* (Published 18 September 2008, Fieldwork 12–14 September 2008). Permission is being sought from Ipsos MORI.

Study Theme 2 Section B Question 6—Source is adapted from *GLA telephone survey of Londoners with Muslim booster, September/October 2007*. Reproduced by kind permission of Greater London Authority.

Study Theme 3 Section B Question 6—Source is adapted from *EU Referendum Survey* (Published 3 March 2008, Fieldwork 21–26 February 2008). Permission is being sought from Ipsos MORI.