

X064/701

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2008

THURSDAY, 29 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: Functions of Political Parties

To what extent is the era of two-party domination in politics over?

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and **either** the USA **or** Germany. **(30)**

2. Context B: Functions of Elections

“The strength and legitimacy of a government are strongly influenced by the system used to elect it.”

Discuss in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and **either** the USA **or** Germany. **(30)**

3. Context C: Decision-making in Central Government

To what extent are interest/pressure groups the main influence on decision-making in central government?

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and **either** the USA **or** Germany. **(30)**

4. Context D: Central and Devolved/State Government

To what extent has devolution in the UK created a political system which is now very similar to that found in **either** the USA **or** Germany?

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and **either** the USA **or** Germany. **(30)**

SECTION B

ALL parts of Section B should be answered.

This section is worth 30 marks.

5. You have been asked to use official statistics to report on voter turnout in the UK.

(a) What are the limitations of using official statistics for collecting the information you need? 8

(b) In view of these limitations, you decide to interview a leading political analyst.

In what ways might this method enhance your findings? 7

(15)

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

The following press release was taken from the Conservative Party website.

NEWS – Wednesday August 23, 2006



Conservatives

Latest figures reinforce call for controlled immigration

Conservatives have called on the Government to introduce stricter UK entry controls in expectation that more than three hundred thousand Romanian and Bulgarian migrants will seek to exploit the British jobs market when their nations join the European Union next year.

After new figures revealed that around 450 000 migrants from other former Eastern Bloc states have already registered for work in the UK since EU expansion, Shadow Immigration Minister, Damian Green, said ministers should stop “ducking and diving” and take urgent decisions.

He said: “The latest figures have shown that the number of immigrants from EU accession countries* rose to 427 000, despite Government estimates of a maximum of 13 000 a year. Figures covering all foreigners also showed that the number of work permit holders and dependants admitted to the UK in 2005 rose 10% year on year to 137 000, and there was a 29 percent increase in the number of people settling in the UK to 179 210.”

“It is vital that we learn the lessons of the unprecedented numbers who came into this country after the last expansion of the EU. The Government should impose conditions similar to those applied by most European countries to the last wave of EU accession countries.”

Pointing out that other EU states imposed stricter rules limiting the number of Eastern Bloc immigrants allowed into their countries, Mr Green said: “Controlled immigration makes life much better for everyone involved. It ensures the public service and housing infrastructure can cope and avoids people coming here only to end up without work and on the streets as we are already beginning to see in London. It also helps to promote much better cohesion between the existing population and new entrants into this country.”

*accession countries – new countries joining the EU

(a) To what extent can **valid** and **reliable** conclusions be made from this information? 10

(b) Suggest, with reasons, **one** alternative way in which this information could be presented in order to make it easier for a researcher to use. 5

(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.

- | | <i>Marks</i> |
|--|--------------|
| <p>1. <i>Context A: Theories of Law and Order</i></p> <p>To what extent has the principle of “equality before the law” been undermined in the UK?</p> | (30) |
| <p>2. <i>Context B: Crime and Public Disorder in the UK</i></p> <p><i>“Society prepares the crime, the criminal commits it.”</i></p> <p>How valid is this view in relation to the causes of crime?</p> | (30) |
| <p>3. <i>Context C: Responses to Crime and Public Disorder in the UK</i></p> <p>Critically assess the view that recent government policy has led to “more laws, less order”.</p> | (30) |
| <p>4. <i>Context D: The Penal System</i></p> <p><i>“The revolving door of re-offending is a result of the failing prison system.”</i></p> <p>To what extent is this view justified?</p> | (30) |

SECTION B

ALL parts of Section B should be answered.

This section is worth 30 marks.

5. You have been asked to use official statistics to report on levels of recorded crime in the UK.
- (a) What are the limitations of using official statistics for collecting the information you need? **8**
- (b) In view of these limitations, you decide to interview the Chief Constable of the local police force.
- In what ways might this method enhance your findings? **7**
- (15)**

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

The following press release was taken from the INQUEST website.



For immediate release 17 January 2007

TWO WOMEN DIE IN PRISON WITHIN TEN DAYS

INQUEST is seriously alarmed by the fact that already this year two women have taken their own lives in prison. One 26 year old died on 5 January while on remand at HMP Eastwood Park and a 28 year old died on 15 January at HMP Peterborough. The latter privately-run establishment opened in early 2005 as a Category B prison and is the first purpose-built establishment to hold both male and female prisoners. Many of the women prisoners were transferred to Peterborough after HMP Bullwood Hall was re-roled as a men's prison in May 2006.

There were three self-inflicted deaths of women in prison in 2006 and a number of verdicts were returned at inquests which were highly critical of the prison regimes and of the care afforded to vulnerable women. See the press section of the INQUEST website for further details.

Deborah Coles, Co-director of INQUEST, said in response to the deaths:

"We are saddened and angered by these deaths that remind us of the tragic consequences of criminal justice policies that use prison as a dumping ground for some of the most vulnerable people in society. The government must publish and respond as a matter of urgency to the report of Baroness Corston's review of women in the criminal justice system set up last year in response to parliamentary and public disquiet about deaths of women in prison."

Notes to editors:

INQUEST is the only non-government organisation in England and Wales that works directly with the families of those who die in custody. It provides an independent, free, legal and advice service to bereaved people and conducts policy, research and parliamentary work on the issues arising from the deaths and their investigation.

Deaths of women in prison in the last 5 years							
Classification	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Self-inflicted	9	14	13	4	3	2	45
Other non-natural causes	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Non-self-inflicted	2	1	7	2	3	0	15

Marks

- (a) To what extent can **valid** and **reliable** conclusions be made from this information? 10
- (b) Suggest, with reasons, **one** alternative way in which this information could be presented in order to make it easier for a researcher to use. 5

(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.

Marks

1. Context A: The United Kingdom and the European Decision-making Process

“Conflict between the United Kingdom and other EU members has hindered the development of the European Union.”

To what extent is this an accurate view? **(30)**

2. Context B: Representation in the European Parliament

Critically assess the view that the European parliamentary elections have failed to engage the European electorate. **(30)**

3. Context C: Decision-making in the European Union

“The European Parliament has become a more influential body within the European Union.”

How far is this claim justified? **(30)**

4. Context D: The European Union and the Wider World

Analyse the view that the enlargement of the European Union has caused more problems than it has solved. **(30)**

SECTION B

ALL parts of Section B should be answered.

This section is worth 30 marks.

5. You have been asked to use official statistics to report on the European Union Fisheries policy.

(a) What are the limitations of using official statistics for collecting the information you need? **8**

(b) In view of these limitations, you decide to interview the European Union Fisheries Commissioner.

In what ways might this method enhance your findings? **7**

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

The following press release was taken from the Bruges Group website.

Bruges Group

Press Release For Immediate Release

**HOW MUCH DOES
THE EUROPEAN UNION COST BRITAIN?**

“The question should not be whether we can afford to leave but how can we afford to stay in.”

The combined direct and indirect costs of EU membership costs Britain close to £100,000 per minute.

Set out in the latest Bruges Group research by Gerard Batten MEP, the full costs to Britain have now been calculated.

The facts:

- Britain has given nearly £200 billion to the EU since we joined.
- The EU costs every man, woman and child £873 per year.
- The EU is costing the British economy £50.6 billion this year.

Robert Oulds, Director of the Bruges Group said

“The cost per minute is an enormous sum; over the course of a year the figure is shocking. To put it into perspective, just £1 billion will pay for 222 000 hip replacements, or 46 893 nurses, or 38 782 teachers, or 34,585 police officers.

Imagine what we could do in Britain with the £50.6 billion that the EU costs us each year.”

Sources

Based on original research using the Office of National Statistics *Pink Book* supported by: *A Cost Too Far?* by Ian Milne, published by Civitas; *How much does membership of the European Union cost Britain?* published by UKIP, with additional contributions from the Futurus research group and the Labour Euro-safeguards Campaign.

- (a) To what extent can **valid** and **reliable** conclusions be made from this information? **10**

- (b) Suggest, with reasons, **one** alternative way in which this information could be presented in order to make it easier for a researcher to use. **5**

(15)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Study Theme 1 Section B Question 6—Press release—adapted from *Latest figures reinforce call for controlled immigration* taken from www.conservatives.com on 23 August 2006. Reproduced by kind permission of the Conservative Party.

Study Theme 2 Section B Question 6—Press release, *Two women die in prison within ten days* taken from INQUEST website, 17 January 2007. Reproduced by kind permission of INQUEST.

Study Theme 3 Section B Question 6—Press release—adapted from *How much does the European Union cost Britain* taken from www.brugesgroup.com. Reproduced by kind permission of The Bruges Group.