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**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**279 0114 ZA**

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**BSc degrees and Diplomas for Graduates in Economics, Management, Finance and the Social Sciences, the Diploma in Economics and Access Route for Students in the External Programme**

**Democratic Politics and the State**

Tuesday, 9 May 2006 : 10.00am to 1.00pm

Candidates should answer **FOUR** of the following **ELEVEN** questions: **QUESTION 1** of Section A and **THREE** questions from Section B.

PLEASE TURN OVER



## SECTION A

Answer all **ten** parts of question 1 (40 marks in total)

1. For each statement, write 'True' or 'False' to indicate your agreement or disagreement, and then briefly explain your answer. You will be awarded 1 mark for judging correctly whether it is true or false and up to 3 marks for your explanation.
  - a) All liberal democracies are parliamentary systems.
  - b) Globalists argue that political regimes have become more similar in recent decades.
  - c) Pluralists regard multi-level governance arrangements as a positive development.
  - d) New right theorists, like traditional conservatives, object to majority rule.
  - e) Modern democracy, like classical democracy, rests on direct citizen participation.
  - f) Liberal feminists argue that gender equality can be achieved through legislative and educational measures.
  - g) Eco-socialists are sceptical about the possibilities for environmental protection in modern capitalist economies.
  - h) Neo-elite theorists argue that citizens exert a powerful influence over public policy in liberal democracies.
  - i) For classical Marxists, the state is an instrument of the capitalist class.
  - j) Neo-conservatives are opposed to government growth under any circumstances.

## SECTION B

Answer **three** questions from this section (20 marks each).

2. How important is the concept of 'polyarchy' in pluralist analyses of liberal democracy?
3. How has the role of political parties changed in liberal democracies during the past few decades?
4. Compare and contrast the new right and the neo-conservative views of the welfare state.
5. Why are pluralists attracted to 'divided government'?
6. On what grounds do green theorists criticize conventional political thought?
7. What are the main differences between classical elite theory and neo-elite theory?
8. 'The liberal democratic state is incapable of resolving the essential conflict between proletariat and bourgeoisie'. Discuss.
9. Why was Mancur Olson's account of 'free-riding' such a challenge to the pluralist theory of interest groups?
10. What causes state growth according to the new right?
11. Does feminism need a theory of the state?

END OF PAPER