

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname

Other names

Centre Number

Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Wednesday 17 May 2023

Morning (Time: 1 hour 45 minutes)

Paper
reference

8PL0/01

Politics

**Advanced Subsidiary
PAPER 1: UK Politics**

You must have:

Source Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- There are **three** sections and you must answer **four** questions:
 - in Section A answer **either** Question 1(a) **or** 1(b)
 - in Section B answer **both** Question 2 **and** Question 3
 - in Section C answer **either** Question 4(a) **or** 4(b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
 - *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
 - *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer EITHER Question 1(a) OR Question 1(b).

EITHER

1 (a) Describe what is meant by the term partisan dealignment. (10)

OR

(b) Describe the key features of a multi-party system. (10)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 1(a) ☒ Question 1(b) ☒

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(Total for Question 1 = 10 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 10 MARKS



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SECTION B

Answer BOTH Question 2 AND Question 3.

Read Source 1 on page 2 of the source booklet before answering Question 2 in the space provided.

2 Using the source, explain why election turnouts are important.

*In your response you must use knowledge and understanding to analyse points that are only in the source. You will **not** be rewarded for introducing any additional points that are not in the source.*

(10)

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(Total for Question 2 = 10 marks)



Read Sources 2 and 3 on page 3 of the source booklet before answering Question 3 in the space provided.

3 Using the sources, assess whether think tanks strengthen or weaken democratic decision making.

*In your response you must compare and contrast **similarities** and **differences** and consider competing points by analysing and evaluating them. **Only** analysis and evaluation based on knowledge from the sources will gain credit.*

(10)

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(Total for Question 3 = 10 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 20 MARKS



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SECTION C

Answer EITHER Question 4(a) OR Question 4(b).

EITHER

4 (a) 'Referendums since 1997 have benefitted UK politics.'

How far do you agree that referendums since 1997 have benefitted UK politics?

*In your answer you must refer to **at least two referendums used in the UK since 1997**: you should consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.*

(30)

OR

(b) 'There are no significant policy differences between the established political parties in the UK.'

How far do you agree that the policy differences between the established parties are not significant?

*In your answer you must refer to **at least two of the three established parties**: you should consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.*

(30)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box . If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross .

Chosen question number: **Question 4(a)** **Question 4(b)**

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(Total for Question 4 = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 30 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS



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Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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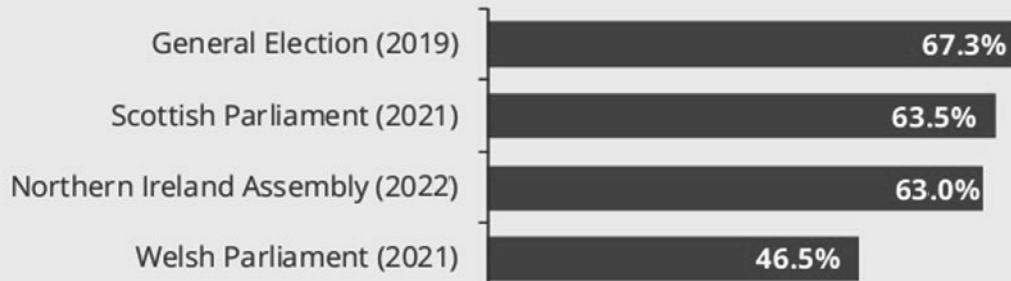


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Source 1 is about election turnouts for the 2019 General Election and devolved elections. The source also has information about turnout patterns.

Source 1

Turnout at UK elections, by type



Turnout is the proportion of people registered to vote who actually do vote.

- Many lower income individuals do not even register to vote.
- Non-voters often believe their vote will make no difference. However, when close results are expected, turnout often increases.
- If a government is expected to easily win turnout is often lower.
- The people least likely to vote are 18–24-year-olds, women, and ethnic minorities. If they had voted, the results could be significantly different.
- Political parties aim to please those who regularly turnout, so the needs and opinions of non-voters are largely excluded from government policies.

(Source: © UK Parliament)



Sources 2 and 3 discuss research bodies called think tanks, which come up with policy ideas that are often adopted by political parties. Professor James McGann supports think tanks believing they help public decision making, but George Monbiot disagrees.

Source 2

Professor McGann claims

Open and transparent decision making is at the heart of a healthy democracy and think tanks contribute to this. They attract funding to undertake vital research and employ experts to offer the best policy. Elected politicians and government ministers can then take or leave the policy options which the think tank provides. It is an important task taken from their workload. Officials and politicians have limits on their ability to research, so think tanks provide ready-made policies. The think tank Centre for Policy Studies (CPS) proudly quotes former Cabinet Minister Sajid Javid, MP declaring 'The CPS played a very important part in forming my principles and values'. Mainstream political party policy is improved with ideas from think tanks and as such they improve democracy.

Source 3

George Monbiot replies

The think tank sector is a major source of research, and this is vital for making good decisions. The problem is that think tanks reduce democracy because they work for the rich and powerful bodies who fund them. It is claimed that 'a few million pounds spent on persuasion buys you all the politics you want'. The think tank sector serves to tip the playing field in favour of the rich. Nobody gives money to think tanks without wanting anything in return. They all want something. Busy officials and politicians may be helped by ready-made solutions provided by think tanks. However, when political party policy is purchased by secretive think tanks, democracy suffers.

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