

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 14 May 2025

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). Begin your answer on page 3.

EITHER

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

OR

- (b) Describe the role of lobbyists. (10)

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(Total for Question 1 = 10 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 10 MARKS



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SECTION B BEGINS ON THE NEXT PAGE.



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 Source 1, explain the disadvantages of the Additional Member System (AMS).

*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 Sources 2 and 3, assess whether voting should be made compulsory.

*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 the knowledge from the sources will gain credit.*

(10)

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(Total for Question 3 = 10 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 20 MARKS



SECTION C

Answer EITHER Question 4(a) OR Question 4(b). Begin your answer on page 11.

EITHER

- 4 (a) 'The media now largely determines the outcome of general elections.'

How far do you agree that the outcome of general elections are determined by the media?

*In your answer you must refer to **at least two** types of media and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.*

(30)

OR

- (b) 'The dominance of the established parties, the Conservatives, the Liberal Democrats and Labour, means that minor parties have little influence in UK politics.'

How far do you agree that minor parties have little influence in UK politics?

*In your answer you must refer to **at least two** minor political parties in the UK and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.*

(30)

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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.

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Sources for use with SECTION B.

Source 1 examines the Additional Member System (AMS) as viewed by the Electoral Reform Society.

Source 1

The Additional Member System (AMS) has become popular, as some see the system as a compromise solution. For instance, a compromise is reached on the division between seats awarded to constituencies and additional seats from the party list. The numbers of constituency and list seats can be split differently for different parliaments. But the more first-past-the-post seats (FPTP), the less proportional AMS will be.

Sadly, as a compromise, AMS keeps Westminster's 'safe seats' that rarely change hands. This can be damaging to democracy in many ways. AMS also adds lists of candidates chosen by the political parties, again this is not enhancing democracy. While a massive improvement over the Westminster's system of FPTP, parties still have a lot of control over who gets elected.

Some also argue that the AMS creates two classes of MPs, and that this can create tension. For instance, constituency MPs receive local casework, whilst the party-list MPs do not. In addition, AMS is more likely than FPTP to produce a coalition.

(Source: <https://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/voting-systems/types-of-voting-system/additional-member-system/>)

Sources 2 and 3 are adapted from Parliament's review of compulsory voting. The sources consider the case for and against compulsory voting to be introduced in the UK.

Source 2

The case for compulsory voting.

Decreasing turnout at elections is concerning and has led to calls to introduce compulsory voting in the United Kingdom. This suggestion comes from the belief that voting is a citizen's duty, alongside other duties that are already compulsory. International experience demonstrates conclusively that making voting compulsory ensures that the vast majority of eligible voters participate at elections. In addition, there are strong arguments for making voting compulsory for first-time voters only, so that the habit of voting is developed and continued. Sadly, on all occasions in the last hundred years when the topic of compulsory voting has been placed before the government, this suggestion has been rejected.

Source 3

The case against compulsory voting.

Many believe that voting should not be made compulsory and that people should be free not to participate at elections. Declining turnout is a concern but compulsory voting is not the solution. Compulsory voting is not part of the British democratic tradition and such a scheme may be against British political culture. It would be unpopular and furthermore wrong to force people to vote in a free society; voters should have the right not to vote, and forcing people to vote should be rejected even if used for first-time voters only. There would be problems of enforcement. All governments have rejected the idea of compulsory voting for varied reasons. Political persuasion, to engage people in the act of voting, is better than forcing people to vote.

(Sources 2 and 3: © House of Commons 2023)

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