

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Monday 8 June 2015 – Afternoon

A2 GCE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

F854/01/I Political Ideas and Concepts

INSERT

Duration: 2 hours



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- This Insert is for your **reference only**.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- Questions printed within the Question Paper are **repeated** here.
- You can refer to this copy of the questions to help you when you are answering within the Question Paper.
- This document consists of **2** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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In answering each question, you are expected to cover relevant political ideas and, where appropriate, make reference to the views of political thinkers.

SECTION A

Answer the question in this section.

Use the source below and your own knowledge to answer Question 1.

Source for Question 1

Mao Tse Tung stated, 'Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.' This suggests that power, in a political sense, can be linked to force, and therefore requires governments to exercise military as well as law-making powers. Political theorists have debated the legitimacy of the use of power, with many differentiating power from authority. Within a liberal democracy, there is a tendency to focus upon power in relation to decision-making, but Steven Lukes argues that there are other forms of power as well, most notably agenda-setting and thought control.

- 1 (a) Explain the meaning of political power. [10]
 (b) Compare and contrast decision-making with agenda-setting as a form of political power. [15]

SECTION B

Answer **three** questions from this section.

- 2 'Tyranny of the majority' is the most important argument against democracy. Discuss. [25]
 3 'External sovereignty is the most important factor in the continued existence of a nation state.' Discuss. [25]
 4 Assess the validity of the criticisms of negative liberty. [25]
 5 Assess the legitimacy of civil disobedience in a democracy. [25]
 6 'Rejection of capitalism is the most important principle of socialism.' Discuss. [25]
 7 'Conservatism and nationalism are fundamentally the same.' Discuss. [25]
 8 To what extent is religious fundamentalism ideological? [25]

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