How was British society changed, 1890–1918?

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

OCR supplied materials:
- 12 page Answer Booklet (OCR12) (sent with general stationery)

Other materials required:
None

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet. Please write clearly and in capital letters.
- Use black ink.
- Answer all the questions.
- Read each question carefully. Make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- Study the sources carefully. You should spend at least ten minutes doing this.
- Do not write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 53.
- This document consists of 10 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.
- Questions marked with a pencil () will carry 3 additional marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication in Question 5.
How was British society changed, 1890–1918?

Study the sources carefully. You are advised to spend at least ten minutes doing this.

In answering Questions 1–4, you will need to use your knowledge of British society 1890–1918 to interpret and evaluate the sources. When you are asked to use specific sources you must do so, but you may also use any of the other sources if they are relevant.

Your answer to Question 5 should be largely based on your knowledge of British society 1890–1918 but you should also use the sources.

Answer ALL the questions.

1 Study Source A.

How useful is this source as evidence about attitudes towards votes for women around 1890? Use details of the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How similar are these two sources? Use details of the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

3 Study Source D.

What is the message of this source? Use details of the source and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8]

4 Study Source E.

Why was this source published at this time? Use details of the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [9]

5 Study all the sources, A–E.

‘In the period 1890–1918 opponents of female suffrage in Britain were trying to protect women.’

How far do you agree with this interpretation? Use your knowledge of British society 1890–1918 and the sources to explain your answer. [16]

Spelling, punctuation and grammar [3]
How was British society changed, 1890–1918?

Opposition to female suffrage

SOURCE A

To Critics of Female Suffrage: A Reply

I am grateful for this rare opportunity to respond to your recent article ‘Against Female Suffrage’ and indeed the many articles your magazine has published in opposition to women’s suffrage. A large part of the opposition against women’s suffrage is based on the claim that women should be protected from the stresses and burdens of political life. And yet women, even while they are unable to vote in Parliamentary elections, are constantly invited and encouraged by all parties to take part in campaigns by organising meetings, delivering literature and countless other means. If women are fit to advise and persuade men who have a vote then surely they should be able to vote.

The truth is that political parties fear female suffrage because they fear women will not slavishly follow political parties but will dare to vote for what they think is right. We do not want to be bad imitations of men. We neither deny nor minimise the differences between men and women. Those differences are why we should have the vote, and why we believe the great silent majority of thinking women in this country support that view.

From a magazine article written by Millicent Fawcett published in 1890. The magazine was aimed at women readers and was generally hostile to women’s suffrage.

SOURCE B

Mr Cremer argued that if any section of the female population gained the vote this would ultimately lead to the vote for all adults. According to the last census, there were three quarters of a million more female than male adults and perhaps a quarter of a million men who were always unable to vote in elections because of their occupations or other commitments. Adult suffrage meant handing the government of the country over to a majority of the electorate who would not be men but women (this was met with laughter from the MPs). Worse still they would all vote Conservative! (more laughter).

He had too much respect for women to drag them into the political arena and ask them to undertake obligations and duties that they did not understand and that they did not care for. It was a man’s duty to protect women from this fate and he believed most women agreed with him. If the women of the country were asked to vote on this question, he believed that the majority would either not vote or would record their vote against it.

From a report of a speech in Parliament by a Liberal MP in 1907.
SOURCE C

A poster published in 1912.
THE PREHISTORIC ARGUMENT
Stone Age Woman – ‘Why can’t I go out too and see the world?’
Stone Age Man – ‘Because you can’t. Woman’s proper sphere is the cave.’

A cartoon published in 1912.
A cartoon published in January 1918. The caption said 'What women must not do – and why'.

END OF QUESTION PAPER
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