

GCE

Government and Politics

Unit **F856**: Political Ideas and Concepts in Practice

Advanced GCE

Mark Scheme for June 2017

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an examiners' meeting before marking commenced.















All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

OCR will not enter into any discussion or correspondence in connection with this mark scheme.

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Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Acknowledged, credit-worthy. Page seen
	Good links made between political theory and modern politics. Good contemporary example/analysis
	Incorrect
	Use of specific contemporary example
	Vague
	Repetition
	Very good
	Relevant theory
	Analysis
	Focus
	Spelling
	Unclear (in combination with other annotations)
	Positive (in combination with other annotations)
	Negative (in combination with other annotations)

NB Examiners should use the above annotations to assist them in deciding their marks. They do not, however, have to use them to annotate every instance seen.

Subject-specific Marking Instructions

When marking, examiners must use both this mark scheme, the table showing the breakdown of marks by levels and assessment objectives (see below), and the Assessment Matrix (see Appendix 1).

Table of Marks by Levels and Assessment Objectives

Level	AO1	AO2	AO3
4	16–20	19–24	6
3	11–15	13–18	4–5
2	6–10	7–12	2–3
1	0–5	0–6	0–1

The Assessment Matrix

Broadly speaking and depending on the question, examiners should look for:

- a balanced and well-focused answer;
- which correctly identifies a number and range of relevant and important factors;
- in detail;
- and communicates these clearly and in a logical, fluent and coherent style;
- containing few, if any, errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

And credit answers which display knowledge and understanding of:

- current examples;
- political concepts, theories and language;
- other political systems including the EU;
- parallels, connections, similarities and difference.

The Mark Scheme

The mark scheme is indicative of the kinds of points likely to be raised by candidates in answering the questions. However, because of the nature of the subject, it cannot be regarded as definitive and the professional judgement and training of individual examiners will apply.

All substantive issues surrounding the paper will be settled at the standardisation meeting and through the arrangements made by OCR to ensure a consistent approach by all examiners. Examiners should contact the Principal Examiner if they have any concerns about the way an individual script should be marked.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
1	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of UK democracy.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of democracy – a political system that seeks to govern either through the direct or indirect input of its citizenship. This can take the form of direct engagement through citizens’ forums or referendums and initiatives. In direct systems, whilst maintaining a professional political class holding this to account through regular, free and fair elections. • The nature of democracy in the UK – The Westminster model is a representative form of democracy that has evolved to provide universal suffrage to elect MPs to the House of Commons using the FPTP electoral system. It has a fused executive and legislature, an uncodified constitution and elements that are unelected and unaccountable – the House of Lords and a constitutional monarch. • Models of democracy – classical, developmental, proletarian and protective style liberal democracy. • Pluralist and elitist models on how democracy operates <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence on whether the UK electoral system provides a fair democratic mandate – answers should provide evidence from recent general elections to consider how proportionate the results are and whether they provide a democratic mandate to winning parties to govern. They might also seek to compare the operation of FPTP with other electoral systems used in UK second order elections or those used abroad. • Case study evidence on how accountable UK 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 6–10, L1 = 0–5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3 to 7 for each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more for each).

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	<p>representatives are – this might take the form of considering the role performed by MPs in representing party, constituency, national and conscience interests – this could include evidence for backbench rebellions, party whipping, agreement to differ votes etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence on an unaccountable ruling elite – this might look at unaccountable elements in UK politics such as the House of Lords, the monarchy, executive agencies, quangos and civil service. • Case study evidence on the opportunity for UK citizens to directly engage in politics through membership of political parties, pressure groups, referendums and community action projects. • Case study evidence on recent reforms to the political process to improve democratic accountability – this could include fixed-term parliaments, extension of devolution through extended powers to devolved assemblies and greater proportionality in second order elections with the use of hybrid and proportional based systems. <p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locke • Mill • Burke • Jefferson • Madison • De Tocqueville • Schumpeter 		

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view that UK democracy is in a healthy state.</p> <p>They should consider relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The case for the UK democracy being in a healthy state – this should emphasise the capacity of UK citizens to engage in the political process adopting a pluralist critique upon the operation of democracy; arguments over the UK conforming to the liberal democratic model of democracy in that it provides accountable government that seeks to protect the rights of its citizens; arguments that the procedures of democracy are functioning well particularly the electoral process. • The case against – this could consider democratic deficits in the institutions and procedures of how democracy functions in the UK; the case that the UK still has a permanent ruling elite controlling real political power through agenda setting and thought control; issues relating to lack of public engagement in the political process – issues such as apathy, declining civic virtue, and alienation could be considered. 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for a description of the trustee model of UK democracy (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 where there is an attempt to discuss the relative health of UK democracy and some attempt to link the theory to the practice of modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these might be inferred). • Award at L3 where there is discussion of a range of factors affecting the health of UK democracy and some attempt to link the theory to the practice of modern politics (expect up to 4 links). • Award at L4 where there is clear and balanced discussion of a wide range of factors affecting the health of UK democracy and a wide range of effective links of relevant theory to modern politics (expect at least 5 to be made). • Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. • Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics. <p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. • Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. • For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
			<p>good effect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
2	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of globalisation.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of globalisation – the development of interconnectedness between different global regions and states, seeing a decline in importance of geographical distances and territorial frontiers. • Different forms of globalisation – economic, cultural and political. <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence of political globalisation – the growth in international political organisations with the capacity to intervene in the affairs of nation states – UN and Syria. Iraq and Afghanistan resolutions. Also the emergence of regional political organisations such as the EU and African Union adopting federal style powers to determine united action. • The ease of global communication – evidence for technological innovations such as the internet, social media and satellite communications making territorial differences less important – creation of the so-called global village. • Case study evidence of economic globalisation – the operation of multinationals in outsourcing labour and encouraging a decline in protectionism. The increased importance of exports and balance of trade figures for economies. • Case study evidence of cultural globalisation – the spread of English as the second world language and prevalence of Western capitalism in advancing western style cultural values and commodities (e.g. global brands in sport, entertainment). Note attempts to resist this trend such as anti-Anglophone legislation affecting French radio and films. 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3 to 7 for each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more of each).

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	<p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hertz • Klein • Ohmae • Scholte • Lenin. <p>AO2: Answers should discuss which form of globalisation has had the greatest impact on western politics.</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relative impact of political globalisation – the impact of international and regional agencies such as the UN and EU seeking to integrate nation states into larger political entities and create adherence to international law – note resistance to this process through the rise of nationalist style parties and nationalist interests dominating over international commitments. • The relative impact of economic globalisation through the influence of multinational corporations and issues relating to limits upon domestic economic policy due to international factors such as oil prices and exchange rates. Note the backlash against multinational companies over issues such as corporation tax, sweat shops and financial mismanagement in light of the World Financial Crisis of 2008. • The relative impact of cultural globalisation – the spreading of the English language and US style capitalist values (cultural imperialism). Note the backlash in Francophone 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for description only of globalisation (this would include very short answers). • Award towards the top of L2 for a limited discussion of which form of globalisation has had the greatest impact and some attempt to link the theory to the practice of modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these might be inferred). • Award at L3 for a balanced discussion of the impact of a range of types of globalisation and attempts made to link the theory to the practice of modern politics (expect up to 4 links). • Award at L4 where there is comprehensive and balanced discussion of a wide range of types of globalisation and a wide range of effective links made between the relevant theory and modern politics (expect 5 or more). • Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. • Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics.

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	countries and rise of Islamic fundamentalism to challenge the expansion of Western style culture.		<p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. • Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. • For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect. • At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
3	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of the operation of political power in the UK.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of political power – the ability to achieve a desired outcome. • The typologies of political power – decision making, agenda setting and thought control. • The location of political power – pluralism and diversification of power; neo-pluralism and unequal allocation of power; elitism and concentration of power. <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence on agenda setting capacity of economic and military elites in the UK. This could come in the form of the role of business organisations and powerful pressure groups over government strategy and policy. • Case study evidence on the capacity for thought control through influence of the media in UK politics. This could come in the form of media influence in elections and bourgeois hegemony through advertising and the underpinning of western society through capitalist values. • Case study evidence on decision making through the power given to democratically elected politicians and the accountability of these through the ballot box and other methods of scrutiny. <p>Answers should be illustrated with the ideas and views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lukes • Dahl • Bachrach and Baratz 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3 to 7 of each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more of each).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schattschneider • Marx • Gramsci • Packard • Marcuse <p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view that agenda setting is the most important form of power in the UK</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The arguments over the influence of agenda setting – neo-pluralist and elitist ideas that powerful elites are able to control what issues are discussed and left out of politics thus shaping the political agenda – this still has links to power as decision making and does not consider the potential manipulation of people’s thoughts. • The arguments over power as decision making – pluralist arguments over the diversification of power and the capacity to control the decision makers through democratic methods of accountability and scrutiny – note criticisms of this by neo-pluralists failing to recognise concentration of power in unaccountable economic and military elite groups. • The arguments over power as thought control – Marxist and post-modernist accusations of manipulation of people’s perceptions in order to promote economic and political agendas – note rejection of these arguments by liberal pluralists who argue that people are able to understand their real interests. 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1= 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for a basic description of political power (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for a limited discussion of the importance of typologies of power in the UK and some attempts made to link relevant theory to modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these might be inferred). If only agenda setting covered award at maximum top L2. • Award at L3 where there is a balanced discussion of the relative importance of the typologies of political power in the UK with appropriate links made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect up to 4 links). • Award at L4 where there is a comprehensive and balanced discussion of the importance of the typologies of power and a wide range of effective links between relevant theory and modern politics are made (expect 5 or more links). • Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. • Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics.

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			<p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. • Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. • For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect. • At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
4	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of the welfare state.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of a welfare state – a system of provision of services from cradle to grave that seeks to prevent citizens from falling into poverty through the redistribution of wealth and state intervention. • Different theories of social justice – rights, deserts and needs based theories. • Different ideological perspectives on the welfare state – socialist promotion based around egalitarian needs based theories of social justice; modern liberal perspectives on promoting positive liberty; classical liberal promotion of a rights based view of social justice where wealth redistribution is rejected and conservative fears of erosion of moral responsibility preferring a deserts based idea of social justice and welfarism. <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence on continued role of the welfare state – this could come in the form of cross- party consensus in acceptance of core welfare procedures in education, healthcare, state pensions and targeted benefits at families, low income and the unemployed. • Case study evidence of cutbacks in the welfare state – this primarily could come in the form of post 2010 reforms to housing benefit, universal credit, child based tax credits and benefit, and expansion of private involvement and market forces in education, healthcare and pensions. <p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p>	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3-7 for each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more for each).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green • Rawls • Titmuss • Crossland • Murray • Nozick <p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view that the UK Welfare State is in decline.</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments in favour of decline – these could be related to New Right fears over state overload through welfare thus ideological commitment to drawing back the state’s commitment to providing a needs based welfare system, especially regarding universality; pragmatic needs to cutback the welfare budget due to economic pressures regarding the budget deficit post 2008; a classical liberal/ conservative emphasis on the need to restore personal responsibility to counter welfare dependency thus policies post 2010 to make work pay by cutting family tax credits and increasing minimum wage to a ‘living wage’. • Arguments in favour of the continuation of the welfare state – left-wing ideological consensus of the need for a fairer based society in which welfare differentials are reduced by wealth redistribution and universal benefits; the continued public commitments to core public services in the NHS, education and state pensions; attempts made to make the welfare state affordable through reform to benefits and management in welfare state institutions – thus reforms based on efficiency not ideological opposition. 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for a basic description of the Welfare State (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for a limited discussion of the view that the UK Welfare state is in decline and some attempts made to link relevant theory to modern politics (expect 1 or 2 albeit these might be inferred). • Award at L3 where there is a balanced and developed discussion of the view that the UK Welfare State is in decline and a range of good links made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect up to 4 links) • Award at L4 where there is comprehensive and balanced discussion of the view that the UK Welfare State is in decline and a wide range of effective links made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect 5 or more links). • Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. • Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics. <p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. • Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. • For L4 answers will have made good use of

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			<p>paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.
5	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of the role of the judiciary in western politics.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of a judiciary in western liberal democracies – to uphold the rule of law by applying the laws as outlined in statute and relevant constitutional documents. The judiciary is expected to be an independent branch of government separated from the legislature and executive. The application of the concept of justice – this can be seen in procedural and substantive forms. Providing judicial oversight of the actions of public bodies including the other branches of government. The concept of judicial activism – this should include the idea of a judiciary willing to be interventionist in applying concepts of natural justice and also be prepared to overrule politicians in politically sensitive matters (note links to strict and loose constructionism in the US). <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case study evidence of judiciaries intervening in sensitive political decisions – in the UK this could refer to cases of judicial review, or Supreme Court rulings relating to the application of the Human Rights Act or European Union 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be between 3 and 7 for each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more for each).

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	<p>Rulings. At a European level this could include cases of ECHR rulings and also decisions reached by the ECJ. There is also scope for case study evidence from countries such as the US with the capacity of the Supreme Court to strike down federal and state legislation and challenge executive decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence of judicial activism where judges have been interventionist in their application of natural justice in interpreting case law and statutes. <p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jefferson • Devlin • Ewing and Gearty • Walzer • Holmes <p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view that judiciaries are too powerful in western politics.</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments that they are too powerful – the capacity of the judiciary to apply the UK Human Rights Act to challenge Parliamentary statutes and also executive decisions (thus considerable increase in judicial review cases being heard); the application of EU directives to be upheld in UK Courts; the commitment of the UK to rulings of the ECHR; the capacity of judges in the US and other western democracies such as Canada to strike down executive decisions and legislation; the difficulty of holding judges to account in the UK and many other western regimes due to 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12 L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for a description of the role of western judiciaries (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for a limited discussion of the relative power of western judiciaries and some attempts made to link relevant theory to modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these may be inferred). • Award at L3 where there is a balanced discussion

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	<p>their appointments process and their security of tenure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arguments that they are not too powerful – in the case of the UK the inability to strike down legislation and executive decisions (New Zealand model) thus reducing the power of judicial oversight; the conventions of judicial neutrality in preventing partisanship in judicial rulings; the importance of judicial oversight in ensuring the maintenance of the rule of law; the judiciary acting as guardians of human rights for minorities against populist agendas by politicians. 		<p>of a the relative power of western judiciaries and good links are made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect up to 4 links).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award at L4 where there is a comprehensive and balanced discussion of the relative power of western judiciaries and there are a wide range of effective links made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect 5 or more links). Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics. <p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect. At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
6	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of conservatism.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of conservatism – a political attitude that promotes opposition to radical change, reflecting centuries of past wisdom and promoting a pragmatic attitude towards current problems. It is debatable whether it is actually an ideology but it does share core values and promotes a particular mindset. • An understanding of traditional conservative values – tradition, sanctity of property, pragmatism, human imperfection, a hierarchical and organic society, and a belief in authority. • Different strands of conservatism – reactionary, One-nation, liberal and the New Right. <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence on the influence of liberal conservatism – this could come in the form of UK Conservative Party policies post-2010 especially in areas such as toleration and legislation including gay marriage. Internationally the acceptance of large numbers of immigrants into Germany under Merkel could be seen as evidence for a more socially liberal policy agenda. • Case study evidence the New Right still being the dominant strand – this could come in the form of anti-austerity measures and cutting back the scope of the state in a number of conservative led governments – adopting a classical liberal economic agenda. • Case study evidence of neo-conservative/ nationalist agendas – this can be seen in socially conservative approaches to moral issues in the US in sections of 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3 to 7 of each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more of each).

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<p>religious right and also nationalistic/ xenophobic aspects of European conservatism reacting to immigration and Islamophobia.</p> <p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burke • Oakeshott • Gilmore • Joseph • Hayek • Buchanan <p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view that liberal conservatism is now the dominant strand in modern conservatism..</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments that liberal conservatism is the dominant strand – liberal social agendas in accepting tolerance of minorities and promotion of immigration, especially in Germany under Merkel. Also arguments might be used over the acceptance of European conservatives over closer economic and political integration in the EU. These issues might be countered by concerns in the UK Conservative Party about UK membership of the EU and also fears over immigration especially from Eastern European and asylum seekers. • Arguments that the New Right is still the dominant strand – this will tend to focus on economic agendas with the continued legacy of Thatcherism on European conservatism and Reaganomics in the US – this might focus around austerity policies introduced after the 2008 financial crisis but also around an ideological desire to 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for a basic description of nationalism (this would include very short answers). • Award towards the top of L2 where answers undertake a limited of the view that liberal conservatism is now the dominant strand in modern conservatism and some attempts are made to link relevant theory to modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these might be inferred). • Award at L3 for a balanced assessment of whether liberal conservatism is now the dominant strand in modern conservatism and a range of good links are made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect up to 4 links). • Award at L4 where there is a comprehensive and balanced discussion as to whether liberal conservatism is now the dominant strand in modern conservatism and there are a wide range of effective links made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect 5 or more links). • Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. • Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<p>reduce the scope of state activity. This might be countered by austerity programmes being pragmatic rather than ideological and the continuation under conservative led governments of infrastructure led investment as a way out of economic recession.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arguments that neo-conservatism has become the dominant strand – this could be centred around immigration and reactions to threats of terror in modern conservative parties and also internationally rejection of socially liberal stances on moral policies such as legal abortion and gun control (especially in US politics). 		<p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect. At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
7	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding of social democracy and democratic socialism.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of social democracy – a strand of socialist thought that accepts a mixed market economy but seeks to achieve social justice through reducing inequality and promoting greater social mobility ('humanise capitalism') • the meaning of democratic socialism – a class based ideology that sees the opportunity to establish a socialist based society through democratic means. <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence of democratic socialism within the Labour Party – this might be seen as the party taking a leftwards move under the leadership of Miliband and Corbyn (rejection of New Labour) with the influence of factions such as Tribune and the Reform group amongst Labour backbenchers and the Momentum amongst the Labour rank and file. Case study evidence might be given in the form of policies from the 2010 General Election manifesto and also policy reviews under Corbyn (e.g. aspirations for nationalisation of the railways). • Case Study evidence on the continued influence on social democracy – this could come in the continued large number of moderate Labour backbench MPs who opposed the leftward shift thus opposing the leadership on key issues such as military intervention in Syria. Evidence of social democratic policies can be taken from the 2010 election manifesto and attempts under recent leaders to extend appeal of the party to middle classes in accepting a mixed market economy and rewarding aspiration. 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 for each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3-7 for each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more for each).

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernstein • Benn • Tawney • Crossland • Giddens <p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view democratic socialism is now more important to the Labour Party than social democracy.</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments that democratic socialism now most important – Miliband and Corbyn’s attempts to mobilise working class opposition to Conservative led austerity programme; growth in wider Labour movement reflecting an anti-Blairite agenda driven by trade unions in promoting the protection of worker rights and welfarism; potential threats to moderate MPs in deselection and shadow cabinet reshuffles; increased influence of rank and file and trade union affiliated membership in selection of party leadership shifting the party to the left (note decrease in donations from wealthy private donors under Miliband and Corbyn) • Arguments that social democracy is still important in continuation of promotion of a rights based agenda and political pluralism – society is seen as more diverse than traditional class model; influence of New Labour still is retained in the Party’s constitution (e.g. Blairite Clause IV has been maintained); majority of Labour backbench MPs still conform to the post-Thatcherite agenda in advocating a mixed-market economy and supporting private enterprise. 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award at L1 for a basic description of socialism (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for a discussion of a few arguments relating to the relative importance of democratic socialism and social democracy and some attempts are made to link relevant theory to modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these might be inferred). • Award at L3 where there is a balanced discussion of a range of arguments as to whether democratic socialism is now more important than social democracy to the UK Labour Party and a range of good links between relevant theory and modern politics are made (expect up to 4 links).. • Award at L4 where there is a comprehensive and balanced discussion of whether democratic socialism is now more important than social democracy to the UK Labour Party and a wide range of effective links between relevant theory and modern politics are made (expect 5 or more links). • Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. • Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
			<p>and evaluation of these through application to modern politics.</p> <p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. • Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp focus on the question throughout. • For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect. • At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
8	<p>AO1: Answers should display knowledge and understanding postmodernism and ideology.</p> <p>Answers should refer to some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of ideology – an account or critique of the existing social order that offers a world view and proposes a process by which an improved society can be achieved, • Understanding of ideologies prevalent in modern politics– conservatism, socialism and liberalism, feminism and environmentalism. • Understanding of postmodernist critique of the end of meta-narratives – post-modern age has seen the end of truisms and world views interpreting events leading to managerialism replacing ideology as the prevalent concern of politicians. <p>Answers should be illustrated with reference to modern politics. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study evidence of moves to the centre ground by the mainstream political parties – populism and pragmatism in party manifestos as opposed to ideological values – issues of economic management and approaches to law and order are relevant here. Managerial style of politics as seen in economic stewardship – evidence from the austerity consensus seen across much of the global solutions to the financial crisis of 2008. Evidence for the changing nature of voting behaviour with class and partisan dealignment resulting in a more dealigned electorate influenced by rational choice factors affecting voting behaviour. • Evidence of continued ideological importance – impact of Thatcherite New Right creating social market consensus adapted by Third Way style approaches. Importance of liberal values in shaping political agenda regarding issues 	50	<p>AO1 [20] – L4 = 16–20, L3 = 11–15, L2 = 6–10, L1 = 0–5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to access the higher mark bands answers must include specific examples drawn from political theory and modern politics. • Award at L1 for basic understanding only (this would include very short answers). • Award at L2 for generalised understanding only, with few specific references to illustrative evidence both in theory and in practice (this might be 1 or 2 of each). Also award at this level where there are references made to modern politics but no reference made to the ideas of political thinkers. • Award at L3 for a range of practical illustrative examples from modern politics and specific use of a range of relevant theorists (this might be 3 to 7 of each). Also award at this level where there is a wide range of theorists used but mostly implicit use of examples drawn from modern politics. • Award at L4 where there is a thorough and sophisticated variety of factual and theory evidence used (this might be 8 or more of each).

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	<p>of toleration, rights and promotion of individual freedom. Evidence of conservative values in issues relating to immigration and national sovereignty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case study evidence of the rise of new ideologies – impact of environmental agenda through emergence of the Green Party in electoral politics and also impact upon mainstream party policies. Nationalist agenda developed in a number of countries reflecting right-wing fears such as UKIP in the UK and Front National in France. <p>Answers should be illustrated with the views of relevant political thinkers. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burnham Bell Fukuyama Liotard Foucault. <p>AO2: Answers should discuss the view that sound management is more important than ideology in modern politics.</p> <p>They should analyse relevant political issues. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arguments that politics has become based on sound management – party convergence in dealing with economic issues; political populism with elections fought over leadership rather than policies; impact of party dealignment seeing increase in rational choice voting. Argument that politics is still ideological – triumph of liberal democracy rather than an end of ideology (Fukuyama thesis); shifting importance of different ideologies with appeal of nationalism and environmentalism challenging traditional ideologies for public support; divergence seen in 		<p>AO2 [24] – L4 = 19–24, L3 = 13–18, L2 = 7–12, L1 = 0–6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award at L1 for a basic description of post-modernism and or ideology (this would include very short answers). Award at L2 for a limited discussion of whether sound management is now more important than ideology in modern politics and some attempts are made to link relevant theory to modern politics (expect 1 or 2 links albeit these might be inferred). Award at L3 where there is an attempt to consider both sides of the discussion and a range of good links made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect up to 4 links). Award at L4 where there is clear and balanced discussion and a wide range of effective links are made between relevant theory and modern politics (expect 5 or more links). Award at the top of L4 where there is clear sophistication in the evaluation. Expect answers in L3 and 4 to make appropriate synoptic links between theory based arguments and evaluation of these through application to modern politics. <p>AO3 [6] – L4 = 6, L3 = 4–5, L2 = 2–3, L1 = 0–1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expect most answers to reach L3 and use 4 as a default mark. Further marks will be awarded if a candidate is able to write with flair and maintains a sharp

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
	party stances over issues such as the economy, welfarism, immigration and the role of the state producing clear ideological alternatives for the electorate.		focus on the question throughout. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For L4 answers will have made good use of paragraphs to separate their arguments and have used the introduction and conclusion to good effect.• At L2 and below, answers will include frequent and intrusive spelling and grammatical errors. The essay will lack focus and be disorganised. Also award at L2 and below for essays that are underdeveloped.

APPENDIX 1

Advanced GCE Assessment Matrix

There are **four** levels of assessment of all three AOs in the A2 units. Level 4 is the highest level that can reasonably be expected from a candidate at the end of an Advanced GCE course.

Level	Assessment Objective 1	Assessment Objective 2	Assessment Objective 3
4	Thorough and accurate knowledge and clear and detailed understanding of relevant concepts, ideas and political systems. Ability to make valid comparisons between them.	High level of skill in the interpretation, analysis and evaluation of relevant political information (including, the identification of parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of the political systems studied). Ability to recognise bias and faulty argument and to reason effectively towards an individual and informed conclusion.	Ability to distinguish relevant and important factors correctly and integrate these into a balanced, well-focused argument. Ability to communicate this clearly and present it legibly and logically in fluent coherent style containing few, if any, errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
3	Good knowledge and understanding of relevant concepts, ideas and political systems. Ability to make some valid comparisons between them.	Good level of skill in the interpretation, analysis and evaluation of the relevant political issues (including, the identification of parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of the political systems studied). Some attempt to recognise bias and faulty argument and to reason sensibly towards a sound conclusion.	Ability to identify the most important factors and present a relevant argument legibly and clearly if, at times, lacking incisiveness. There may be occasional errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
2	Limited knowledge and understanding of relevant concepts, ideas and political systems. Limited awareness of standard points of comparison.	Limited level of skill in the interpretation, analysis and evaluation of the relevant political issues (including, the identification of parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of the political systems studied). Limited attempt to explain a few of the more obvious points central to the question and to recognise and describe some differing viewpoints. Reasoning may be incomplete and, while opinions may be offered, they are unlikely to be supported by argument.	Limited attempt to distinguish relevant material, which is assembled into a limited argument with some sense of order and legibility. There may be some errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.
1	Basic and generalised knowledge and understanding of relevant concepts, ideas and political systems. Such knowledge and understanding will be incomplete and/or of tenuous relevance and may contain significant errors. Basic awareness of standard points of comparison.	Basic skill in the interpretation, analysis and evaluation of some of the relevant political issues (including, the identification of parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of the political systems studied). Basic attempt to explain the simpler points central to the question and it is likely that only one viewpoint will be recognised. There will be little evidence of reasoning.	An attempt is made to shape an argument at a basic level, which lacks coherence, legibility and direction, and is unselective. Contains intrusive errors of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

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1 Hills Road
Cambridge
CB1 2EU

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