

2004 Modern Studies

Advanced Higher

Finalised Marking Instructions

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STUDY THEME 1: COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

1. Context A: Functions of Political Parties

"The main political parties in the UK (including Scotland), the USA and Germany have as many divisions within them as between them."

Discuss in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and either the USA or Germany.

(30)

General points:

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis.
- High quality answers will compare across their chosen countries regularly throughout the answer rather than having a large section on the UK and a smaller section on either the USA or Germany tagged on at the end. Expect more emphasis on the UK from most candidates.
- Credit highly answers that put the quote in proper perspective ie if as many divisions within as between then parties would fracture and disband.
- Credit highly candidates that recognise parties are coalitions of views and some philosophical differences exist within them.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

Credit reference to:

UK (including Scotland)

Expect some reference to some of the following:

- New Labour now experiencing more internal dissent than at any time since 1997. The revival of 'old labour' is mooted. Credit detailed discussion here of the social democrat v democratic socialist debate.
- Continuing debate within the Conservative Party over Europe and the direction to take the party to achieve electoral success. The one nation perspective and the neo-liberal perspective; traditionalists v modernisers. Look for detailed discussion here.
- Defection of some Scottish Tories to the Scottish Peoples Alliance.
- Within the Liberal Democrats there is debate about how close to get to New Labour. Discussion about the differences in approach within Westminster and Holyrood.
- SNP debate about how high up the priority list 'independence' should be. The SNP leadership election could be alluded to.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

USA

- Republicans – hawks v doves; neo-liberal and libertarian wings; significant divide between the libertarian and Conservative wings especially on social policy.
- Democrats – debate between the various wings since the defeat in Presidential election of 2000 and subsequent problems with mid-term Congressional elections in 2002.
- Democratic primaries and the differences, or lack of, that emerged between the leading contenders.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

Germany

- Debate within the SPD over how to tackle the country's economic crisis and the party's dealings with organised labour.
- Philosophical divisions between the modernisers and traditionalists in SPD.
- Debate with SPD over various issues eg coalition partner (The Greens); how to deal with the aftermath of the 2002 election and the loss of key Lander.
- CDU – some divisions over the direction of the party in light of the failure to win in 2002.
- CDU – modernisers v traditionalist debate.
- G. Schroeder's decision to stand down as party leader but remain Chancellor
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

2. Context B: Functions of Elections

Examine the view that the party system of a country is, fundamentally, a reflection of the type of electoral system that it uses.

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and either the USA or Germany.

(30)

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis.
- High quality answers will compare across their chosen countries regularly throughout the essay. Expect most reference to the UK.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.

Credit reference to:

UK (including Scotland)

- UK and USA use first past the post and have, broadly speaking, a two party system.
- Scotland and Germany use PR and have multi-party systems.
- UK system perpetuates a two-party system. Expect development here.
- Size of overall majority a crucial factor.
- Some examples whereby UK has not had a two-party system eg Lib-Lab Pact, John Major's administration had to make deals with the nationalists and Ulster Unionists in the mid-1990s.
- Blair invited Liberal Democrats to join a cross party Constitutional Affairs Committee in the early years of his administration. The reasons for this can be debated.
- Almost inevitable that PR leads to coalitions.
- Scotland's Labour-Liberal Democrat coalition. The extent of influence of third parties is open to debate. Expect development and exemplification here.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

USA

- Scant evidence of third parties doing anything at national level.
- Varied picture at more local levels but even there it tends towards the Democrats and the Republicans who dominate.
- Indirect influence evident eg the Reform party dented Republican hopes in 1992 and 1996. Similarly the Greens inflicted damage to Al Gore's chances in 2000.
- Size of the USA and campaign costs are hugely important in acting as a disincentive for third parties.
- Indirect influence of third parties on the main parties can be a factor. Credit development and exemplification.
- Some states' rules militate against third party candidates.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

Germany

- Third parties the norm eg CDU and CSU/FDP coalitions of SPD and Green or SPD and FDP coalitions.
- Degree of influence open to debate.
- Many voters use second vote tactically to ensure coalitions exist.
- A varied picture exists across the sixteen Lander in terms of the nature of the coalition arrangements.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

3. Context C: Decision-making in Central Government.

"In recent years there has been a reduction in the effectiveness of the checks on decision-making in central government".

Is this an accurate assessment of the UK (including Scotland) and either the USA or Germany?

(30)

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis. This will be difficult for candidates, as this question is a broad one open to a wide variety of interpretations. Credit those who outlined their understanding of the question and give their response a particular focus and appropriate prioritisation.
- High quality answers will compare and contrast across their chosen countries.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.

Credit reference to:

UK (including Scotland)

- The size of New Labour majorities makes effective scrutiny more difficult.
- Tony Blair's reform of the House of Lords reduces the effectiveness thereof.
- In recent times Labour backbenchers now seem more likely to give their government a difficult time eg number and size of revolts in recent time have been significant. Credit examples here.
- Ineffectiveness of the Conservative opposition should be discussed.
- The Hutton Inquiry is likely to be discussed by some candidates at length. Credit as appropriate but do not pass essays that **only** deal with such a narrow perspective.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

USA

- The 'catch all' nature means there is little division between the parties in certain areas. This can be good and bad for effective scrutiny.
- The re-emergence of the party system in US politics leads to more partisanship within the legislature.
- The Republican Party's control of Congress helps the executive get their policies through more easily.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

Germany

- Coalition politics leads to many effective checks even before legislation is initiated. Look for some development and discussion here.
- The shaky nature of the current coalition and public opinion on it strengthens the hand of the CDU in the Bundestag.
- The Bundesrat is now more strongly CDU after the loss of key Lander in 2002. This strengthens the scrutiny role, although it can be argued that it means the Executive has little power to carry out what it has been elected to do.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

4. Context D: Central and Devolved/State Government.

"Compared to the states of the USA or the Länder in Germany, devolution in the UK has yet to provide real benefits to its people."

Discuss.

(30)

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis.
- Candidates may offer a variety of interpretations. Do not expect a standardised approach to this question. Credit candidates who outline their structure at the outset and offer sustained analysis.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.

Credit reference to:

- Federal systems have their powers outlined within a written constitution.
- In the USA and Germany federalism is the norm and people are used to it.
- In the UK the new constitutional arrangements have not had the time for any effective judgements to be made. Look for some discussion on this, especially from a party political perspective ie unionist (compare and contrast the Conservative view with that of Labour and the Liberal Democrats) and independence.
- Expect some references to tuition fees, free personal care for the elderly, land reform and so on.
- The argument for fiscal independence may be mentioned and discussed by some candidates. This is to be commended and should be rewarded accordingly.
- Opinion poll data does show some disaffection with regard to the Scottish Parliament, especially over the cost of Holyrood. However, most want to keep it and many want more powers given over to the devolved parliaments.
- Credit any other relevant arguments.

SECTION B

Marks

5. **"Researchers often test public opinion through the use of postal questionnaires followed up by individual interviews, either face to face or over the telephone."**
- (a) **Describe the advantages and disadvantages of using postal questionnaires for research purposes.** (10)
- Award up to 6 marks for either advantages or disadvantages.
 - One point well explained could merit 3 marks.
 - Do not double credit.
 - Points to look for include – speed of response, response rate, lack of personnel to explain/elaborate, cost, time to think things through without pressure, qualitative responses can be given.
- (b) **What are the limitations of face to face interviews as a follow-up to postal questionnaires?** (5)
- Award up to 3 marks for a point that is well developed.
 - Points to look for include – size and representative nature of sample, time lapses, interview bias.
6. (a) **What factors would a researcher consider when weighting the results of an 'online' poll?** (4)
- Award up to 3 marks for a point that is well developed.
 - Two points must be included for full marks.
 - Points to look for include – weighting according to gender, age, social class, geographic location, party affiliation and so on.
- (b) **What might be the limitations of this Sunday Times online poll?** (5)
- Award up to 3 marks for a point that is well developed.
 - Two points must be included for full marks.
 - Points to look for include – one off poll, time when poll was taken, media interest usually at a time of crisis for party or its leaders and so on.
- (c) **To assess whether the findings of this online poll could be used as a reliable predictor of the views of the public in the UK, other factors would need to be looked at. What might these factors be?** (6)
- Award up 3 marks for a point that is well developed.
 - Do not over credit repetitious points from (b). Look for elaboration and development relative to the context of this question.
 - Points to look for include – look for trends over time, use of a variety of other indicators eg other opinion poll data from other agencies, media etc

STUDY THEME 2: LAW AND ORDER AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

1. Context A: Theories of Law and Order

"The public are placing greater responsibility on the politicians, the police and the courts. The idea of a partnership of state and citizen based on a sense of duty belongs to a different era."

Discuss.

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have a good structure balance and coherence.
- Candidates should draw a well balanced conclusion at the end, but credit highly candidates who draw valid and reliable conclusions which they have based on the evidence presented throughout.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Candidates should exhibit a broad range **of both** knowledge and analysis in order to answer this question well.
- A response that merits an 'A' will exhibit a depth **of both** knowledge and analysis. Beware candidates who present a solely historically based response.
- Since this is a discussion question candidates should refer to both sides of the argument. A candidate who only examines one side of the argument should not be given a mark higher than fourteen.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

Credit reference to:

For

- Public are far less likely to get involved in the judicial process than in the past, eg
 - ◆ Reluctance to come forward as witnesses.
 - ◆ Evidence that the public are less likely to report certain types of crimes eg assault, vandalism, petty crime.
 - ◆ Reluctance to participate in juries.
 - ◆ Citizens' arrests in decline.

Candidates may also mention:-

- Greater sense of alienation from authority and downright hostility towards those enforcing the law from some sections of society eg ethnic minorities after inner city riots and Stephen Lawrence case.
- Loss of confidence felt by some of the authorities ability to deal with crime and criminals.
- Increasing use of civil disobedience as a tactic by pressure groups and protesters.
- As voting levels go down so Government (and thus those entrusted by Parliament to enforce the laws) lose legitimacy in the eyes of some.
- Law and order is now a much bigger election issue than in the past, suggesting the public are placing responsibility on the politicians.

- In the past society was more tightly controlled and homogenous. Now with many different ideas, cultures and beliefs it is more difficult to have shared values and ideals.
- Sense of duty declining as society becomes individualistic.
- Credit any other relevant points.

Against

- Classical model is of public police and judiciary being part of a shared process. The police to enforce laws, the courts to administer and the public to act as jury, deciding on guilt or innocence. Laws would be made by politicians elected by the people and thus in theory the people made the laws which were implemented for their benefit. Since the majority still vote and since in a democracy most have the right to vote then legitimacy remains.
- Public participation in searches eg missing children, and through television eg Crimewatch.
- Police still enjoy majority support from the general public.
- Increased reporting of certain types of crimes eg sex offenders.
- Success of community initiatives in some neighbourhoods eg Neighbourhood Watch, citizens patrols etc.
- Public approval and support of initiatives such as spotlight initiatives.
- Credit any other relevant points.

2. Context B: Crime and Public Disorder in the UK

Critically examine the different reasons used to explain the increase in drug related crime in recent years.

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have a good structure balance and coherence.
- Candidates should draw a well balanced conclusion at the end, but credit highly candidates who draw valid and reliable conclusions which they have based on the evidence presented throughout.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Candidates should exhibit a broad range of both knowledge and analysis in order to answer this question well.
- Candidates discussing theories of the causes/growth of crime should be rewarded.
- A response that merits an 'A' will exhibit a depth **of both** knowledge and analysis.
- Some candidates may focus on more general explanations for increases in crime; this should be credited appropriately.

Credit reference to:

General Factors

- Increasing liberalisation of society based on individualism which has broken down traditional barriers and has encouraged experimentation and self gratification.
- Drugs regarded openly by many groups in society, (particularly, though not exclusively the young) as acceptable on a recreational basis.
- Increased affluence, particularly among the young who now have more disposable income to spend.
- Creation of a significant underclass where different norms and values are created. In these sub sections of society drug taking can be expected.
- Drug culture evident in many of the role models for the young.
- 'Status frustration' for some of the poor, disposed etc drug related crime through selling/dealing offers in relative terms large amounts of wealth which would otherwise be denied them. This in turn leads to the ability to gain status both in their own community, and the wider community through the purchase of status symbols such as cars, designer goods etc.

Particular Factors

- Greater availability of drugs, therefore easier to try which leads to greater number of addicts thus more crime.
- New generation of drugs capable of different physiological effects eg crack cocaine, ecstasy, super skunk can make drugs more attractive and addictive.
- Failure of the police to deal with drug related crime.
- Failure of the courts to prosecute effectively.
- Failure of customs and excise to stop the flow of drugs.
- Failure of government to provide the resources required for the fight against drug related crime to the police the courts or customs and excise.
- Increased alienation of the young.
- Failure to liberalise laws relating to drugs which criminalises those who claim to be carrying out a victimless crime.

- Involvement of organised crime in what is a multi-billion pound industry. As they become more involved they promote drugs in order to increase profits, and ensure availability to feed habits.
- Greater worldwide travel making it easier to experiment and smuggle.
- For some of the poor, the dispossessed etc drug taking is seen as means of escape from a humdrum existence.
- Opening up of trade routes Afghanistan Iran
- Credit any other relevant points.

3. Context C: Responses to Crime and Public Disorder in the UK

To what extent are the law and order policies of the main political parties in the UK similar?

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have a good structure balance and coherence.
- Candidates should draw a well balanced conclusion at the end, but credit highly candidates who draw valid and reliable conclusions which they have based on the evidence presented throughout.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Candidates should exhibit a broad range of both knowledge and analysis in order to answer this question well.
- A response that merits an 'A' will exhibit a depth **of both** knowledge and analysis.
- Candidates should respond in a way that allows them to a balanced judgement on the basis of the evidence presented. Since the question is to what extent there should be an attempt made to look at the evidence for and against the proposition.

Credit reference to:

For

- Little in terms of 'clear blue water' between Conservatives and the Labour Party as the Labour Party have moved to the right in terms of law and order issues.
- Labour's policy of 'tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime' has come in for little criticism in terms of its premise, rather it has come under attack for its failure in operation.
- Labour in Scotland have been in coalition with the Liberal Democrats, because of this and the fact that it is a Liberal Democrat in charge of law and order issues, common policy has been essential.
- Coalition in Scotland has made it difficult for Liberal Democrats to criticise Labour's national policy, as it does not significantly diverge from policy in operation in Scotland.
- The Conservatives are currently undertaking a major policy review, with law and order policy an area under scrutiny. While this is being undertaken there are no policies to compare with the government.
- Credit any other relevant points.

Against

- Labour has been consistently attacked for its policies on drugs. The reclassification of cannabis to a class C drug was vehemently opposed by the Conservatives. At the same time this was criticised by Liberal Democrats for not going far enough.
- Criticism has been aimed at the government for failing to provide either enough police, or enough resources for the fight against crime.
- Criticism by the Conservatives that the Youth Justice system (across the UK) was failing to deal effectively with youth crime. Banning orders and curfews are either not being put into operation or are too difficult to enforce.
- Suggestion by some Conservatives that the Human Rights Act be repealed, as it is claimed that it protects the guilty and stops the police from dealing effectively with criminals.
- The Conservatives are currently undertaking a major policy review, with law and order policy an area under scrutiny (2003).
- Advocation of the adoption of 'three strike' policy in the UK by some Conservatives.
- Law and order questions still as popular as ever in the House of Commons, particularly at PMQ's.
- Credit any other relevant points.

4. Context D: The Penal System

"The idea of prisons as state-run centres of rehabilitation has gone. State-run prisons are being replaced by privately-run establishments run for profit and based on an ideology of incarceration and punishment."

Discuss in relation to the UK and at least one other country.

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have a good structure balance and coherence.
- Candidates should draw a well balanced conclusion at the end, but credit highly candidates who draw valid and reliable conclusions which they have based on the evidence presented throughout.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Candidates should exhibit a broad range of both knowledge and analysis in order to answer this question well.
- A response that merits an 'A' will exhibit a depth **of both** knowledge and analysis.
- Candidates may well make reference to the historical ideology of the prison service and this should be given credit where appropriate. However, the main focus of the response should be an examination of contemporary prison policy. Thus a candidate whose response is based on a historical perspective should be marked to a maximum of fourteen.

The response is potentially quite open-ended so credit highly reference to the international experience, however, do not over penalise candidates whose response is based solely on the UK. Similarly, be aware that candidates may have studied a country with no private prisons: they may use this to attack the quote.

Credit reference to:

For

- Private prisons are run for the benefit of shareholders rather than the best interests of prisoners and/or society.
- Government keen to replace existing state prisons with more private ones.
- The prison population continues to grow even though there is a dispute about whether there is any more crime, and indeed some research suggesting that crime has fallen.
- Attempts by the government to save money through the closure of some prisons: particular example of Peterhead which was earmarked for closure and was only reprieved after a high profile campaign. Candidates may use this as an example of a lack of interest in rehabilitation as Peterhead houses a renowned centre for the rehabilitation of sex offenders.
- Re-offending rates for those with recent prison experience are rising, suggesting rehabilitation may not be the priority it was.
- Prison inspectors have continually criticised prisons for poor conditions, lack of facilities, and poor rehabilitation programmes.
- Chief Inspector for Prisons was not reappointed after criticising government policy on prisons, and in particular the emphasis on punishment and incarceration.
- Judges under pressure from the police, public and politicians to punish offenders more heavily.

- Examples from other countries eg: California 'three strikes' policy where an offender is given a life sentence for committing three separate offences – little rehabilitation as by definition the prisoner will not be released into mainstream society again.
- Any other relevant points.

Against

- Prisons have always been places of incarceration; no place of rehabilitation would have been designed in the way that some of the older prisons are.
- Incarceration and punishment have always been acknowledged as part of the function of prisons; the fact that someone is incarcerated and punished does not preclude them from being rehabilitated.
- It can be argued that the proportion of offenders being sent to prison is declining.
- A greater number of alternatives to prisons are being encouraged and utilised.
- Since it costs more money to send and keep someone in prison then it would seem a contradiction to send more people to prison and at the same time attempt to save money, when there are cheaper alternatives available.
- Saving money on building and operating prisons means more money is available for rehabilitation programmes and alternatives to prison.
- Private prisons are inspected in the same way as state run prisons and thus conditions and rehabilitation programmes are safeguarded.
- The fact that the service of looking after prisoners is done for profit does not mean that rehabilitation cannot or will not take place. Indeed it will be in the best interest of the operating company to have successful rehabilitation programmes.
- As part of the contract to operate prisons rehabilitation programmes must be run. These are monitored and evaluated and if they do not meet the required standard the contract will be lost.
- Credit any other relevant points.

SECTION B

Marks

5. "Researchers often test public opinion through the use of postal questionnaires followed up by individual interviews, either face to face or over the telephone."

(a) Describe the advantages and disadvantages of using postal questionnaires for research purposes.

(10)

- Award up to 6 marks for either advantages or disadvantages.
- One point well explained could merit 3 marks.
- Do not double credit.
- Points to look for include – speed of response, response rate, lack of personnel to explain/elaborate, cost, time to think things through without pressure, qualitative responses can be given.

(b) What are the limitations of face to face interviews as a follow-up to postal questionnaires? (5)

- Award up to 3 marks for a point that is well developed.
- Points to look for include – size and representative nature of sample, time lapses, interview bias.

6. (a) To what extent could a researcher, using these tables, draw valid conclusions as to the changing patterns and levels of crime among young offenders in the period 1992-2001? (10)

Credit reference to:

For drawing conclusions

- Information is based over a significant number of years.
- These are official statistics so some reliability and consistency can be assumed.
- The information is presented in the same way for both sexes.
- Crimes are spread over a range of sentences to allow comparison of major and less serious crimes.
- Two separate sets of figures allow for easy comparison.
- Life sentences are only given for the most serious crimes eg murder. The differences in numbers sentenced can give an indication whether females commit as many serious crimes as males.
- Credit any other relevant points.

Against drawing conclusions

- No information as to sentencing policy which will affect the numbers being sent to prison.
- Not enough information on the nature of the crimes committed to allow comparison.
- Levels of crime for females can alter dramatically from year to year due to the small numbers involved.
- No information as to what “other crimes” are.
- The figures are only for those sentenced. This does not necessarily provide an accurate picture of levels of crimes as large numbers of these might never reach court in the first place.
- There is some evidence that the police can be more lenient in their treatment of females committing certain crimes.
- Credit any other relevant points.

Award up to three marks for each fully developed point.

To award the candidate with the maximum number of marks available for this question a balanced conclusion should be drawn at the end of the response. A maximum of eight marks should be awarded if no overall conclusion is drawn. A maximum of six marks should be awarded if the candidate only covers one side of the argument.

- (b) Civil servants may use these figures to determine the future prison place requirements for young offenders. What additional information might they require in order to make this prediction more accurate? (5)**

Credit reference to:

- Data only gives an average daily figure; prison place requirements would need information of peaks of prison population, seasonal trends etc.
- An idea of future sentencing policy would be necessary so that this can be taken into account.
- Future population projections coupled with crime figures per 1000 young persons.
- Opposition policies on crime and punishment in case they are elected in future.
- Any other relevant information.

Award up to three marks for each fully developed point.

STUDY THEME 3: THE EUROPEAN UNION AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

1. Context A: The United Kingdom and the European Decision-making Process

"Representatives from the UK have never been successful at using the European Union decision-making process to our advantage. The total defeat over fishing quotas in 2002 was merely one example of their lack of success."

Is this a fair assessment of the performance of UK representatives in European Union decision-making?

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which derive clearly from the evidence presented.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.
- Expect candidates to allude to the formal channels through which the UK government can influence decision-making – eg Council/European Parliament. Credit candidates who refer to informal channels of influence.
- Candidates may then assess the performance of UK representatives. Candidates will probably rely on a general approach to 'representatives'.
- The word 'never' gives an opportunity to refer back to previous governments. Expect coverage of successes as well as failures – candidates may explore the definitions of such items. Good candidates may query the justification for approaching membership of the EU in this way. Candidates may point out the ongoing advantages/disadvantages of EU membership as well as referring to high-profile disputes between the EU and the UK.
- Given the reference in the question, candidates may focus on fishing – reward balanced assessments which deal with the whole issue. Look for a challenge to the word 'total'.

Credit reference to:

- The 'representatives from the UK' can cover not only MEPs but MSPs, MPs and ministers involved in EU negotiation.
- Using the decision-making process 'to our advantage' is not always, given the nature of the EU, going to be possible.
- 'Total defeat' and 'merely one example' may be queried.
- Mrs Thatcher's budget refunds – Mr Blair's subsequent support.
- The amount of regional assistance/social fund assistance directed towards the UK.
- The refusal of John Major and Tony Blair to accept certain treaty provisions.
- The 'fishing quota' defeat was not as bad as it might have been. Credit background knowledge of previous 'fishing' decisions, the concerns surrounding fish stocks, and an understanding of the politics of the decision.
- The 'horse-trading' involved in EU decision-making – 'you win some, you lose some'.
- The UK stayed out of the Euro – exercised sovereignty.

- Other EU members' perceived abuses – especially CAP, BSE and foot and mouth exploited to the disadvantage of UK farming. Subsidies to UK farmers lower than those to other countries. UK wants reform of CAP – not successful yet, nor likely to be.
- Candidates may examine the argument that other EU members simply flout EU rules when it suits – evidence needed!
- Johannesburg environment conference – EU targets not adopted.
- The Human Rights Charter.
- Allegations of EU corruption and inefficiency.
- Germany retains same number of seats in 'new' Parliament; UK number decreases.
- Asylum seekers.
- Clashes between UK and EU law.
- EU health and safety provisions.

Credit any other relevant points. The above list is neither exhaustive nor prioritised.

2. Context B: Representation in the European Parliament

"Each member state of the EU should be free to choose the most appropriate electoral system to elect its MEPs."

Is this a valid assertion?

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which derive clearly from the material presented.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.
- Candidates will probably 'follow the question' and deal with the areas as listed.

Credit reference to:

- Sound knowledge and understanding of the systems of election to, and the political balance of, the current European Parliament.
- An awareness of the changes to the numbers in the 'new' parliament – discussion of effect on influence of current members.
- Importing of political cultures/democratic traditions of new members. Look for comparisons/contrasts with current members.
- Potential impact on political groupings within European Parliament.
- Impact on operation of servicing new members – language problems, time element – effect on decision-making procedures.
- Discussion of raising/lowering of Parliament's status – can be argued either way. Good candidates may point out that new members will have representation in all areas of EU decision-making – parliament should not be seen in isolation. Credit coherence and logic of argument, not point of view.
- Give credit for recognition of 'baggage' which new members may bring – Cyprus/Greece/disappointed Turkey.

Credit any other relevant points. The above list is neither exhaustive nor prioritised.

3. Context C: Decision-making in the European Union

"The European Commission wields more power than the European Parliament when it comes to decision-making."

Discuss.

(30)

General Points

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up to date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which derive clearly from the material presented.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.
- Expect analysis of the powers of MEPs and Commissioners. Some may assess 'power' in terms of democratic legitimacy. Good candidates will analyse the relationship among the powers exercised by each body in the context of the 'co-decision' procedure.
- Expect reference to the other bodies involved in decision-making, and reference to the complementary, as well as competitive, nature of the process. Good candidates may argue that there are different types of power, and may suggest a difference between 'power' and 'responsibilities'.
- As this is a 'discuss' question, candidates should refer to both sides of the argument. A candidate who only examines one side of the argument should not be given a mark higher than 14.

Candidates reference to:

- Parliament as a democratically elected chamber – by expansion means reduction in numbers for current members – issues of 'democratic deficit'.
- Parliament sets the budget and passes laws for the EU.
- Parliament oversees the Commission and can remove Commissioners from office – March 1999 resignations
- 'Co-Decision' procedure with council – greater influence for Parliament.
- Commission can initiate policy.
- Commission ensures that EU treaties are applied.
- Commission negotiates trade and co-operation agreements.
- Day-to-day contact with all other bodies gives Commission a degree of power based on familiarity with 'the system'.
- Maastricht and Amsterdam terms arguably gave the Commission greater democratic legitimacy.
- Final legislative decisions taken by European Parliament and Council.
- Council is supreme. But power increasingly exercised with Parliament.

Credit any other relevant points. The above list is neither exhaustive nor prioritised.

4. Context D: The European Union and the Wider World

Examine the arguments for and against the expansion of the European Union. (30)

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which derive clearly from the evidence presented.
- Credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.
- Although expansion is a 'big' issue for the EU, some of the arguments on both sides rely on assertion of faith rather than on the balance of evidence. Better candidates may point this out as they are presenting their arguments. Is it reasonable to expect that candidates should make particular reference to the 2004 expansion.
- The question does not specifically require a conclusion on the merits of expansion, but good candidates will offer a comment based in their assessment of the material they have put forward.

Candidates reference to:

For:-

- Expansion is an aim of the EU.
- Previous expansions have been effected successfully.
- It will offer wider market access and employment opportunities
- It will raise the standard of living if millions of people.
- It will provide a forum for the resolution of disputes.
- It will further stabilise European security.
- It will strengthen fledging democracies and underwrite human rights.
- It will strengthen the EU as a world economic player.

Against:-

- The EU has had increasing problems in reaching decisions with only 15 members – getting agreement on the budget, the constitution, the common defence policy and the Euro will be a massive challenge.
- Most new members will be poorer than existing members – some 'old' members will may be unwilling to contribute year after year.
- Long-standing powerful members may lose political influence as balance of influence alters – potential for discord.
- A bigger EU is a potentially costly administrative nightmare.
- An expanded EU consists of such a diversity of social, cultural and political traditions that bringing them together may 'break' the EU – how well will the European Parliament adapt.
- More members means more opportunities for opponents of the EU.
- Some new members may bring historical baggage which may destabilise the EU.
- New members offering cheap sources of labour may create economic difficulties for older members.
- View that the EU is a decent size; just leave it.

Credit other relevant points.

5. **"Researchers often test public opinion through the use of postal questionnaires followed up by individual interviews, either face to face or over the telephone."**
- (a) **Describe the advantages and disadvantages of using postal questionnaires for research purposes.** (10)
- Award up to 6 marks for either advantages or disadvantages.
 - One point well explained could merit 3 marks.
 - Do not double credit.
 - Points to look for include – speed of response, response rate, lack of personnel to explain/elaborate, cost, time to think things through without pressure, qualitative responses can be given.
- (b) **What are the limitations of face to face interviews as a follow-up to postal questionnaires?** (5)
- Award up to 3 marks for a point that is well developed.
 - Points to look for include – size and representative nature of sample, time lapses, interview bias.
6. (a) **What strengths could the source have for someone who was researching recent developments in the European Union?** (4)
- Source content is contemporary with the decision to expand.
 - Covers a range of opinion from media based in different countries.
 - Cartoon is Swiss – not member – gives view of interested onlooker – hints at undercurrent of anti-Turkey attitude not likely to be expressed by EU members.
 - Alerts researcher to different perspectives on expansion.
- (b) **Why would a researcher have to be careful before accepting the source as useful material relating to:**
- (i) **Opinion across the EU as a whole** (5)
- Minimal proportion of fifteen members covered.
 - 'Snapshot' opinion only
 - Published in UK newspaper – may have been selective.
 - No sign of rigorous research.
- (ii) **Opinion within the countries covered by the article** (6)
- Evidence is comment/hope/assertion from narrow base.
 - Politics/EU stance of newspapers carrying stories.
 - Translations accurate?
 - Turkey has an axe to grind.

NB Exercise professional discretion if candidates attempt to use what is basically the same answer in both questions. Give credit once only.

Credit any other relevant points.

National Qualifications 2004

Advanced Higher

Modern Studies – Supplement (Question Paper)

Marker's No _____

Centre Name _____

Centre No _____

Name of Candidate _____

Candidate No _____

**Total
Mark**

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Theme _____

Paper: Section A

	Comments	Mark			
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(Maximum: 60)

Paper: Section B

	Comments	Mark			
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(Maximum: 30)

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]