

2005 Modern Studies

Higher Paper 1

Finalised Marking Instructions

These Marking Instructions have been prepared by Examination Teams for use by SQA Appointed Markers when marking External Course Assessments.

General Instruction

It is extremely important to view the marking instructions as a guide – especially for markers who are non-specialists in a particular Study Theme or Issue Area. They must not be used as check-lists.

Candidates may score high or full marks even if all the points in the marking instructions have not been covered.

Section A

Study Theme 1

Decision making in Central Government

Question A1

(a) *Describe the part played by pressure groups in the UK decision making process.*

Do not over-credit answers that merely describe the methods used by pressure groups. A maximum of six marks if answer covers methods only.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Permit dialogue between governed and the government.
- Provide government with information and expertise.
- Articulate and defend minority interests.
- Check the possible abuse of power.
- Compete for policy adoption/change.
- Provide the expertise, knowledge and funding to get information from government.
- Promotion/cause and section/interest groups.
- Insider and outsider groups.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *Discuss the role of the Cabinet in the UK political system.*

Expect answers to go beyond a description of the composition, functions and procedures of the Cabinet and discuss.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- In theory the major policy-making body.
- Collective and ministerial responsibility: both confirmed (through resignations) and unconfirmed through denial/spin of Cabinet splits.
- Emergence of inner cabinet.
- PM's Office and Cabinet Office.
- Special advisors to the Prime Minister.
- View that Mr Blair has scrapped Cabinet Government and replaced it with an increasingly personal, presidential system.
- Weekly Cabinet meeting now often brief – an occasion where political colleagues meet together for team-building and a weekly exchange of views.
- Butler Report reference to Blair's "informal" style of decision making led to him promising to curb his "government by sofa".
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 2

The Government of Scotland

Question A2

- (a) *What evidence has there been of disagreement between the Scottish Executive and local authorities?*

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Disagreement over funding and council tax levels.
- Scottish Executive's policies of best value and greater use of the private sector.
- Removal of local authority responsibility for what were traditionally public services.
- Response of Scottish Executive to allegations of local authority malpractice.
- Local authority reaction to the McIntosh and Kerley Commissions.
- Proposals to introduce PR.
- Executive proposals to increase intervention in education, the criminal justice system and transport.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

- (b) *Discuss the role of the First Minister for Scotland.*

Answers, which should go beyond a description of the part played by the First Minister in devolved decision making to include *discussion*, may feature:

- Responsibility for direction and implementation of devolved powers policy.
- Accountability to the Scottish Parliament.
- Powers of appointment.
- Role as a member of the Scottish Executive.
- Comparisons with 'old style' Secretary of State for Scotland.
- Dialogue with Westminster.
- Speculation as to effect of different party executives in Westminster and Holyrood.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 3

Political Parties and their Policies

Question A3

- (a) *Describe the ways in which the Conservative Party **and** the Labour Party choose their leaders.*

Award a maximum of six marks if reference is made to only one party.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

UK Conservative Party Leader

- Requirements to trigger election process.
- System established by William Hague.
- Nominations passed to Chairman of 1922 Committee.
- Stage 1 involves only Conservatives voting in secret ballot until two candidates left.
- Stage 2 involves party members in a postal vote.

UK Labour Party Leader

- Requirements to trigger the election process.
- Electoral College comprises three equal sections – Labour MPs and members of the European Parliament, constituency party members and affiliated trade unions.
- Election based on the principle of One Member One Vote.
- Constituency party and trade union procedures.

Credit reference to Scottish Labour and Scottish Conservative Party leadership contests.

10 marks

- (b) *There are few differences between Labour and Conservative Party policies. Discuss with reference to at least **two** policies.*

Award a maximum of six marks if only one policy covered.

Expect discussion of issues in developed and exemplified answers that may feature:

Education

- Both advocate increased expenditure, giving greater freedom to schools and increased choice as a means to improving education.
- Labour involved in the creation of state-funded independent city academies; Conservatives favour state funding for independent schools.
- In Scotland, Labour wishes schools to remain under local authority control but with more spending devolved to head teachers; plans for school of ambition. Conservatives would empower head teachers to exclude violent or disruptive pupils and encourage a greater choice of specialist schools.

Health

- Both committed to increased spending, more patient choice and involvement of the private sector.
- Both embrace foundation hospitals (but not Labour in Scotland) but Conservatives would impose no borrowing limit. Centrally set targets to continue under Labour, end under the Conservatives.

Law and Order

- Both advocate being tough on crime and its causes. Labour lean more the 'community' approach, Conservatives to zero tolerance.

Taxation

- Labour puts emphasis on efficiency saving to fund increased public expenditure whereas Conservatives have an overall commitment to reducing the tax burden.

Europe

- Both support need for reform of the Common Agricultural and Fisheries Policies. Conservative Party against the EU constitution whereas Labour is conditionally more pro both it and the Euro.

10 marks

Study Theme 4

The Electoral System, Voting and Political Attitudes

Question A4

- (a) *What are the **advantages** and **disadvantages** of the First Past the Post electoral system?*

Award a maximum of six marks if either of only advantages or disadvantages addressed.

Balanced, developed and exemplified (national and/or local) answers may feature:

Advantages

- Usually produces a strong government drawn from one party enjoying a majority in the House of Commons.
- Single party government allows the winning party to push ahead with manifesto pledges without coalition compromises.
- Unlikely to allow smaller parties to hold the balance of power and become 'kingmakers'.
- Strong link between elected representatives and local constituency area. Many MPs returned on a personal vote.
- Extreme parties unlikely to gain representation as they fail to appeal to a sufficiently wide range of opinion.

Disadvantages

- Can result in huge majorities on less than half the popular vote – an elected dictatorship.
- The party with the most seats in the House of Commons may not even have the most votes nationwide.
- At constituency level, winning candidate is often elected with less than 50% of the vote in four way marginals.
- Lack of proportionality between votes and seats; issue of 'wasted' and 'unequal' votes.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *To what extent do the media influence voting behaviour?*

Balanced, developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- For many, the only source of political information.
- Sources of public opinion poll data and campaign issues.
- Broadcasting media must be neutral but not so the press.
- Importance attached to the media by politicians through use of spin doctors, sound bites, PPBs, and careful grooming to get the best image.
- Party concerns over exposure (or lack of it) and bias.
- Labour strategy to keep on side with and cultivate press backing and links to 1997 & 2001 electoral success.
- Party utilisation of the Internet.
- Some believe that the influence of the media is exaggerated; people buy the newspaper that suits their politics, not the other way round.
- Consideration of factors other than the media.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Section B

(Note that in Section B all questions are descriptive – candidates do not have to analyse and reach conclusions).

Study Theme 5

Income and Wealth in the United Kingdom

Question B5

(a) *What are the arguments **for** and **against** the view that the UK has become a more equal society?*

Both for and against to be addressed for full marks.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

For

- The UK is not equal but there is more equality and opportunity.
- Increasing numbers going into higher education.
- More property owners, sharing in the house price boom.
- Evidence of “new” and growing middle class “we are all middle class now”.
- Increase in share ownership and take up of private health insurance.
- Increased social mobility.
- Other relevant points.

Against

- Continued class differences in quality of life indicators such as housing, crime and health.
- Evidence of racial discrimination and institutional racism in some cases.
- Gender inequality in employment.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *Describe government policies to move people from welfare to work.*

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- A variety of New Deals across the range of potential welfare claimants.
- Recently increased National Minimum Wage.
- Working Families Tax Credit.
- Job Seekers Allowance. Financial support for those out of work, but pressure put on claimants to get a job.
- Restrictions on Sickness Benefit eligibility.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(c) *What are the social and economic causes of unemployment in the UK?*

Both “social” and “economic” causes to be addressed for top marks.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Poor performance at work/poor attendance/inability to adapt to expectations of management.
- Technical unemployment – skills made redundant.
- Impact of social trends on demand.
- Real wage unemployment – impact of Minimum Wage.
- Structural – decline in demand.
- Cyclical – “boom” and “recession”.
- Frictional – people moving between jobs.
- Impact of globalisation.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 6

Health Care in the United Kingdom

Question B6

(a) *What are the arguments **for** and **against** the view that the NHS is under-funded?*

Both for and against to be addressed for top marks.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

For

- Waiting lists and other measures of NHS workload.
- Media reports of patients receiving inadequate or late treatment.
- Staff shortages.
- Post code prescribing & evidence of rationing.
- Conflicts over spending priorities.
- Age & condition of many NHS buildings and facilities.
- Existence of charges for aspects of primary care.
- Difficulties in securing NHS dental treatment.
- Comparisons with other countries.
- Use of PFI.
- Other relevant points.

Against

- Recent increases in spending allocations.
- UK catching up with and due to overtake EU average spending per head.
- Scotland already in line with EU health spending average.
- NHS continues to introduce new treatments – currently treating more patients than ever.
- UK mortality and other statistics are broadly similar to other developed countries.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *In what ways does wealth influence health?*

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Better off can afford better diets, leisure activities that promote good health, better housing and safer environments.
- Low income linked to unhealthy life styles and high stress levels.
- Children in better off households more likely to have healthy eating habits, participate in exercise etc.
- Middle & professional classes more likely to consult health professionals and follow positive health promotion advice.
- Better off can afford option of private care.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(c) *Why is there concern over the provision of care for the elderly?*

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Debate over community care and concerns over cost of free personal care in Scotland.
- Personal care still means tested in England.
- Consequences of feared “demographic time bomb”.
- Problem of bed blocking – linked to lack of appropriate care places.
- Concerns over standards of some care being provided.
- Closures of care homes – linked to claims of insufficient public funding.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Section C

Study Theme 7

A Society in Change – South Africa

Question C7

(a) *What evidence is there of social and economic inequality in South Africa?*

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- The main indicators of ‘inequality’ as evidenced through employment, income differentials, poverty, land ownership, education, housing and health etc.

Credit highly answers that go beyond a black/white dimension to encompass Asians and Coloureds, point up urban/rural differences and show awareness of an emerging Black middle class.

For top marks both “social” and “economic” must be addressed.

10 marks

(b) *To what extent is South Africa a multi-party democracy?*

Developed, exemplified and balanced answers may feature:

- Third all inclusive election held in April 2004 with 77% voter turnout, in which one national parliament and nine provincial governments elected.
- Party List is the preferred electoral system, resulting in an overwhelming victory for the ANC at both national and provincial level.
- Power sharing in the Western Cape.
- Thirteen parties represented in the National Assembly.
- Cornerstones of democracy; written constitution, bill of rights, rule of law, freedom of the press, association etc.
- IFP concerns over composition of Independent Electoral Commission.
- Fears for the future.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 8

A Society in Change – China

Question C8

(a) *What evidence is there of increasing social and economic freedom in China?*

For top marks both “social” and “economic” must be addressed

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Relaxation of Hukou with view to abolition in 2006.
- Relaxation in features of the Danwei.
- Various relaxations to the one child policy.
- Permission no longer required to get married/divorced.
- Changes in attitude to “luxury” has led to unprecedented economic freedom: now an honour to be on “the rich list”.
- Relaxation of state control of the economy.
- Responsibility system, Specialised households and Township Enterprises.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *To what extent are there demands for political reform in China?*

Developed, exemplified and balanced answers may feature:

- No mass movement for political reform in China: public discussion of 1989 seen by most Chinese as an issue of little relevance.
- Any popular demand for reform discouraged by high profile crackdowns on individual dissidents and close monitoring of the Chinese Democracy Movement.
- Demands for universal suffrage in Hong Kong.
- Desire of the business community for more political freedom.
- Requests for change from within the Party itself are more for fine tuning than radical change.
- Unrest in Xinjiang and Tibet.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 9

Ethnic Minorities in the USA

Question C9

- (a) *Describe the factors that influence the distribution pattern of ethnic minorities in the USA.*

Maximum of six marks if coverage limited to only one minority group.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

Blacks

- Originally sold as slaves in the Old South, many remained there and as a result of this and reverse migration from the once economically and socially attractive north, the majority (55.3%) remain in the southern states.
- In metropolitan areas the majority (52%) occupy central city areas.
- Move to more affluent areas by black middle class limited by unofficial control mechanisms.
- Creation of gilded ghettos.
- Escape from ghetto life hindered by a variety of social and economic factors.
- Other relevant points.

Hispanic

- By far the majority (over 75%) live in the South and West.
- Mexicans and Central/South Americans are concentrated in four states – California, New Mexico, Arizona and Texas.
- Puerto Ricans are most likely to live in central city areas in metropolitan areas.
- Cubans are most likely to be in metropolitan areas but outside the central city.
- Many have moved to improve standard of living, gain political freedom etc.
- Influence of other factors – family proximity, religion and education.
- Other relevant points.

Credit reference to Asian Pacific Islanders and Native Americans.

10 marks

- (b) *Ethnic minorities are under-represented in the US political system.*
Discuss.

Developed, exemplified answers that go beyond description to discuss may feature:

- Extent of elected and appointed representation at local, state and federal level.
- Degree of involvement that contributes to this representation as expressed through voter registration, voting behaviour and party support.
- Comparison of levels of representation between different minority groups.
- Factors that influence participation: Motor Voter Laws, Redistricting, Candidature, Voter Registration Campaigns, Issues, Apathy.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 10

The European Union

Question C10

(a) *Describe recent proposals for a European Union Constitution.*

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Single document saying what the EU can and cannot do.
- New Charter of Fundamental Rights.
- Increase in the Parliament's power.
- Permanent President.
- New voting arrangements in the Council of Ministers; UK to give up veto on more than 20 policy areas.
- Limits on the size of the Commission.
- EU foreign minister with a diplomatic service and embassies around the world.
- A common policy on asylum and immigration; creation of Border Management Agency.
- A mechanism by which a member can leave the EU.
- Requires ratification by peoples or parliaments of all 25 member states by May 2006.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *Examine the debate within the European Union over*

*either the Common Agricultural and Fisheries Policies
or the Single Currency.*

Developed, exemplified and balanced answers may (together with other relevant points) feature:

Either

Common Agricultural Policy

- Despite achievements as well as recent reduction in spending, it still consumes almost half of the EU budget.
- Stirs up strong passions amongst farmers, making every change and re-negotiation of policy a difficult and emotive issue.
- Luxembourg deal on 2003 reforms – began in 2005 and may be phased in until 2007.
- Rebate, subsidy and structural fund issues.
- Effects of enlargement.

Common Fisheries Policy

- Implementation of measures to combat overfishing and threat to stocks and marine ecosystems (TAC's; technical rules; proposals to close certain areas to fishing; moves to make more selective fishing techniques compulsory).
- Impact of structural policy and decommissioning.
- Effects on Scottish fishing industry.

Overall members are in agreement with the underlying principles of both policies but frequently disagree over the means of their delivery.

For top marks there must be reference to each of the CAP and CFP.

Or

The Single Currency

- Strengthens Europe politically by enhancing unity.
- Helps promote stability, peace and prosperity.
- Boost given to business.
- Stimulates trade and investment ...on the other hand...
- Voters don't have power to hold those making key decisions to account.
- Criticisms of Central Bank policies.
- A step towards closer political union that will eventually erode national sovereignty.
- UK Government's position.
- Selective enforcement of "stability and growth" requirements.

10 marks

Study Theme 11

Global Security

Question C11

(a) *In what ways has NATO's membership **and** role changed in recent years?*

Both membership and role to be addressed for top marks.
Expect evidence of "change".

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

Membership

- Poland, Hungary and Czech Republic joined in 1999.
- Admitted seven more members in 2004, including three former Soviet republics.
- Applicant countries include Albania, Croatia, Macedonia and Ukraine.

Role

- Partnership for Peace.
- NATO Russia Council.
- Implications of involvement in Bosnia, Kosovo and Macedonia.
- Rapid Reaction Force designed to go anywhere.
- Move to "out of theatre" deployment confirmed in Afghanistan operation.
- NATO now training Iraqi forces.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

- (b) *Examine the role of the United Nations' Secretary General **and** Security Council in maintaining global security.*

Maximum of six marks if only one of either Secretary General or Security Council covered.

Developed and exemplified answers that should feature examination may refer to:

Secretary General

- Chosen by the General Assembly on recommendation of the Security Council.
- Part diplomat, part advocate, part civil servant and CEO.
- Empowered to bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in his opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security.
- Evaluation of recent mediation, preventative diplomacy and suggestions for reform of the UN.
- Caught in the “crossfire” between the USA and the UN.
- Recent calls for Kofi Annan’s resignation.
- Other relevant points.

Security Council

- Empowered by the Charter to send fact finding missions, military observers, order cease fires and to invoke suspension of membership, an arms embargo, economic sanctions and military action; has had success.
- Implications of the veto, divisions within the Security Council, consequences of refusal to give a mandate for military action in Iraq and Baden summit (July 2004) proposals.
- Attitude of the USA towards UN.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

Study Theme 12

The Politics of Food

Question C12

With reference to specific countries in Africa (excluding the Republic of South Africa) answer the questions below.

(a) *In what ways does armed conflict affect **both** the production **and** distribution of food?*

Maximum of six marks if no specific country exemplification.

Developed and exemplified answers may feature:

- Siege warfare and starvation tactics.
- Diversion of food relief to the military.
- Long term consequences of land-mining and well poisoning.
- Reduction in farming population.
- Reluctance of those who may survive to return to the land.
- Disruption of markets and livelihoods.
- Short and long term damage to infrastructure.
- Persistence of poverty-related hunger in the aftermath of conflict.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

(b) *To what extent does food aid contribute to food security?*

Developed, exemplified and balanced answers may feature:

- Most food aid (85%) thought to go where food needs are greatest.
- UN World Food Programme is the world's largest organiser and distributor of food aid; praised for its rapid response, its effectiveness in working with local people and its role in helping countries to prevent or recover from emergencies.
- Helps close the gap between food needs and food availability, at least in the short term.
- Work of Food-for-Life augmented by that of Food-for-Growth and Food-for-Work.
- View that food aid destroys local markets.
- Not always targeted at those countries or people most in need.
- May encourage dependency.
- May even arrive too late, may not reach those for whom it is intended, may be inappropriate, may even be refused.
- Controversy over GM food aid.
- Other relevant points.

10 marks

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]