

2006 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

“In recent years, smaller parties in the UK (including Scotland) and either the USA or Germany have had very little impact on elections or the political life of their countries.”

Discuss.

(30)

General points to consider:

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and provide a balanced analysis of the question.
- Expect more emphasis on the UK from most candidates. High quality answers will compare across their chosen countries regularly throughout the answer rather than having distinct sections on either the USA or Germany tagged on at the end.
- Most answers will tend to concentrate on the national political scene
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who draw conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should be awarded a maximum of 14 marks.

UK (including Scotland)

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Representation of Liberal Democrats in UK General Elections is increasing. Vote increased from 16.8% (46 seats) in 1997 to 18.3% (52 seats) in 2001.
- Liberal Democrats pursuing policies, which are distinct from Labours' and Conservatives'. Co-operation between Liberal Democrats and Labour has decreased since Charles Kennedy became leader. Liberals critical of war in Iraq and Hutton Inquiry. Ambitions to replace Tories as the main opposition party in the House of Commons.
- In Scotland, both Labour and SNP lost a significant share of the vote in 2003. Major gains made by smaller parties who benefited from the Additional Member System. Emergence of so-called 'six-party politics' at Holyrood.
- Representation of the Liberal Democrats in Scottish Parliament elections has been consistent. They won 17 seats in 1999 and 2003.
- Liberal Democrats claiming to have made a significant contribution to the coalition, eg claiming credit for introduction of free personal care for the elderly, abolition of university tuition fees, nursery places for 3 and 4 year olds, etc.
- SNP lost ground between 1999 and 2003 but remain the second largest party in the Scottish Parliament with 27 seats. SNP campaigning for the introduction of a local income tax, smaller class sizes, stronger fishing industry, etc.
- Scottish Socialist Party (6 seats) and the Green Party (7 seats) performed well in Scottish Parliament elections. Both parties increasing their representation from 1999. SSP opposes war in Iraq and advocates council tax reform. Green Party calls for a fully integrated transport policy and opposition to GM crops.
- Northern Ireland – DUP and Sinn Fein won a record number of seats: UUP (6 seats), DUP (5), Sinn Fein (4), SDLP (3). Loyalists and Republicans failing to reach agreement over power-sharing. Credit exemplification.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

USA

Expect reference to some of the following:

- American politics dominated by Democrats and Republicans. However, numerous minority parties have made a significant contribution to national/state/local politics over the years. Credit exemplification.
- The Green Party in the 1996 and 2000 Presidential Elections endorsed Ralph Nader. In 1996, he won 0.8% of the vote. In 2000, he achieved 2.7% of the vote and is accused, by many Democrats, of costing Al Gore the election.
- In 2004, the Reform Party endorsed Nader. He achieved around 1% of the vote. His performance did not affect the outcome of the election.
- The Libertarian Party claims to be the USA's third largest party. Around 400 Libertarian candidates have been elected to state and local offices throughout the USA. Libertarians adopt a laissez-faire approach to social and economic affairs.
- Ross Perot's (Reform Party) won 19% of the vote in the 1992 Presidential Election. This was the best result got a minority party candidate for 80 years. In 1996, he won 8.5% of the vote. The Reform Party advocates a right-of-centre political philosophy attracting votes mainly from Republican voters. Recently, the Reform Party has moved further to the right.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

Germany

Expect reference to some of the following:

- CSU (sister party of CDU) only competes in Bavaria. CSU can legitimately claim to be Germany's third biggest party gaining 9% of the national vote in 2002. More conservative than CDU, eg takes a harder line on abortion and immigration and opposes further European integration.
- FDP is a classical European Liberal Party – laissez-faire approach to social and economic policy. Enjoyed position of 'kingmaker' in Germany for almost 50 years joining coalitions with CDU/CSU and SPD. An attempt to broaden its appeal and become Germany's third largest party misfired in 2002. FDP gained 7.4% of vote and 47 seats in the Bundestag.
- Greens have been SPD's coalition partner since 1998. Initially concerned with military and environmental matters, eg phasing out nuclear power, but are now following a wider social and economic agenda. Greens performed very well in 2002 (55 seats). They are keeping the SPD in power and have a stronger voice within the coalition.
- PDS is the successor of the East German Socialist Unity Party. They are fairly strong in Eastern Germany (16.9% of vote in 2002) but very weak in Western Germany (1.1% of vote in 2002). Overall, only two seats in the Bundestag. PDS is a junior coalition partner of SPD in two state governments in East Germany.
- Far right parties such as neo-Nazi National Democratic Party (NPD) and Deutsche Volkunion (DVU) are not represented in the Bundestag. However, both gained seats in Saxony and Brandenburg (East Germany) in the 2004 state elections.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

2. Context B: Functions of Elections

To what extent do influences such as personality and political spin affect voting intentions more than other factors such as social class and gender?

Answer in relation to the UK (including Scotland) and either USA or Germany. (30)

General points to consider:

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and provide a balanced analysis of the question.
- Expect more emphasis on the UK from most candidates. High quality answers will compare across their chosen countries regularly throughout the answer rather than having distinct sections on either the USA or Germany tagged on at the end.
- Candidates who link their discussion of the question to a comparison of other long-term and short-term factors on voting behaviour should be credited.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who draw conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should be awarded a maximum of 14 marks.

UK (including Scotland)

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Social class is still an important determinant of voting behaviour, eg 52% of AB voters in 1992, 42% of AB voters in 1997 and 40% of AB voters in 2001 voted Conservative. Also, 50% of DE voters in 1992, 61% of DE voters in 1997 and 50% of DE voters in 2001 voted Labour.
- Social class appears to be less important than in the past, eg 20% of AB voters in 1992, 31% of AB voters in 1997 and 33% of AB voters in 2001 voted Labour.
- Expect some discussion of theories of voting behaviour. Candidates who link theoretical discussion to recent election results should be credited.
- Traditionally, females have been more inclined to vote Tory than Labour. Recently, the gender gap has disappeared. Younger women (18-34 years) are more likely to vote Labour than older women. Credit reference to recent election results.
- The impact of short-term factors such as personality and party image are becoming more important as the importance of ideology declines. Credit candidates who link this with discussion of the 'Third Way' and 'Catch All' politics.
- Since the 1990s, Labour leadership perceived as stronger than the Conservatives by the electorate. Credit discussion which compares Tony Blair, Gordon Brown etc with John Major, William Hague and Iain Duncan Smith.
- Personality politics encouraged by the media. The emphasis on personality, private lives and trivia diverts attention from meaningful political debate.
- General public is tired of 'spin' and disillusioned with politics and politicians. The use of 'spin' in the Labour Party is seen as the equivalent of 'sleaze' in the Conservative Party. Credit exemplification.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

USA

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Traditionally, the importance of social class in American elections has not been as important as in Europe. However, the Republicans tend to be supported by the wealthier sections of American society and the Democrats tend to be supported by blue-collar workers, ethnic/religious minorities and the less well-off.
- In 2004, 55% of voters earning between \$75,000 and \$100,000 supported Bush, 61% of voters earning less than \$15,000 voted for Kerry. Also, 61% of union members voted for Kerry.
- The female vote was split fairly evenly between Bush and Kerry. However, when the ethnic factor is considered, 75% of non-white females voted for Kerry.
- American elections are very much more focused on personalities than ideological differences and policies. The two main parties, particularly the Republicans, spend a vast amount of money on election campaigns. Credit exemplification.
- TV debates, primary elections, lack of party organisation at a grassroots level and increasing importance of Political Action Committees reinforce personality politics.
- Media plays a major role in the outcome of elections by concentrating voter attention on the positive and negative features of individual candidates. Parties engage in 'negative campaigning' and 'smear campaigns'. In 2000, Al Gore was portrayed as smug, patronising and uninspiring. In 2004, the Republicans attacked Kerry on his Vietnam war record. Credit exemplification.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

Germany

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Social class continues to be an important determinant of voting behaviour in German elections. Support for SPD remains fairly strong among the working class. However, they have lost some ground to CDU/CSU in recent elections. CDU have a strong voting base among civil servants and self-employed. Credit exemplification from recent elections.
- Overall, 41% of women voted SPD and 36% of men voted CDU/CSU. SPD/Green coalition received majority support from women, eg 52% of SPD support and 55% of Green support was female. In Eastern Germany, 50% of women voted for SPD. Credit exemplification from recent elections.
- Political debate has traditionally been more important than personality in German elections. Recently, personality and party image are becoming more important. Credit candidates who link this with discussion of 'Third Way' politics.
- Recent elections have focused on personalities and a series of scandals which have rocked German politics, eg former Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, was accused of corruption. Both main parties have been involved in scandals. Credit examples.
- Importance of media and personality politics illustrated by American-style televised debate between Stoiber and Schroder in 2002. Schroder perceived as stronger and more decisive than Stoiber.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

3. Context C: Decision-making in Central Government

“Elected representatives in the UK (including Scotland) have more opportunities to influence decision-making in central government than their counterparts in the USA or Germany.”

How accurate is this view?

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

(30)

General points to consider:

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and provide a balanced analysis of the question.
- Expect more emphasis on the UK from most candidates. High quality answers will compare across their chosen countries regularly throughout the answer rather than having distinct sections on either the USA or Germany tagged on at the end.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who draw conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should be awarded a maximum of 14 marks.

UK (including Scotland)

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Parliamentary government is established on the basis that the executive has a working majority in the legislature. A strong party limits effective opposition and reduces the risk of government defeat. Credit exemplification.
- Elected representatives can join Select Committees. Select Committees have the power to request written submissions from Government Ministers and question witnesses. Select Committees prepare reports on their investigation and make recommendations to Parliament. Credit exemplification.
- Government Ministers cannot be compelled to attend committees unless ordered by the House of Commons. The Government usually has a majority on Select Committees. Committee members are elected by party whips and (governing party members of Select Committees) are usually loyal to the executive. ‘Disloyal’ committee members can be replaced. Credit exemplification.
- Question Time allows elected representatives to question Government Ministers. However, most questions receive a written reply. Presently, Ministers require three weeks notice of questions. Ministers have the support of the civil service.
- Elected representatives can participate in parliamentary debates and vote. However, Government defeats are rare. Parliamentary time is usually controlled by the Government, eg ‘closure’ and ‘guillotine’, etc.
- Adjournment Debates allow elected representatives to raise matters of specific constituency concern or more general concern. However, Adjournment Debates are tagged onto the parliamentary day and last only half an hour.
- Opposition Days allow the Opposition to choose topics for debate. However, there are only 20 Opposition Days in the parliamentary year.
- Credit reference to proposals to modernise House of Commons procedures and improve scrutiny function, eg shorter debates to allow discussion of more topics.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

USA

- Separation of Powers. The Executive and Congress are independent of each other. This can lead to 'gridlock', especially when the governing party does not have majority representation in Congress. Credit exemplification.
- President can veto legislation but Congress can over-ride the veto with a two-thirds majority in the House of Representatives and Senate. Congress must ratify presidential appointments.
- Congressional oversight of the Executive is well-developed. Permanent Standing Committees carry out examination of all legislative and financial proposals.
- A weak party system in the USA means that elected representatives enjoy considerable independence and have direct influence on policy. Congressmen are very keen to join committees to advance their career and benefit their constituents.
- Committees are supported by a huge support staff and are better informed to scrutinise Executive policy.
- Standing Committee hearings are conducted in public. Standing committees question Executive officials, have automatic access to Executive documentation and can recommend impeachment of officials.
- Ad hoc committees can be established for specific investigations.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

Germany

- The Bundestag provides the Executive with a working majority. Strict party discipline limits individual action. A vote of no-confidence in the Chancellor or the Executive is very rare.
- Most legislation is initiated by the Executive and 80% of government bills are approved.
- Bundestag assesses and amends the Government's legislative programme. Most bills must be approved by the Bundestag and Bundesrat (indirectly elected) before becoming law.
- Bundestag has oversight of Executive policy. Deputies may scrutinise by public debate, investigations and direct questioning of Chancellor and cabinet members, eg Question Hour (Fragestunde) used to scrutinise Executive activities.
- Bundestag employs around 20 standing committees to investigate the work of Executive ministries. Committees examine bills and propose amendments. Membership based on party strength in the Bundestag.
- Opposition parties allowed parliamentary time depending on representation in the Bundestag. Opposition parties can request additional time (Aktuelle Stunde) to be set aside for debating current issues and developments.
- Daily agenda of Bundestag determined by the Council of Elders, which is independent of the Executive.
- Parliamentary Investigative Committee can demand the appearance of any Executive or state official to answer questions if 25% of deputies request it.
- Credit reference to any other relevant points.

4. Context D: Central and Devolved/State Government

“Neither devolution nor federalism have delivered significant benefits to the people.”

How far is this an accurate assessment?

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

(30)

General points to consider:

- Quality answers will have a coherent structure and provide a balanced analysis of the question.
- High quality answers will compare across their chosen countries regularly throughout the answer rather than having distinct sections on either the USA or Germany tagged on at the end.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit candidates who draw conclusions throughout the essay.
- One-sided responses should be awarded a maximum of 14 marks.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Decentralisation of power enables greater responsiveness to needs. According to supporters, the Labour and Liberal Democratic coalition in Scotland has provided many benefits to the people. Credit exemplification in chosen countries.
- Opinion poll data indicates widespread unhappiness over several aspects of devolution, eg the spiralling cost of the Scottish Parliament, the standard of debate at Holyrood, etc.
- Devolution versus independence.
- Devolution and federalism improve the representation of the people. Credit exemplification.
- Devolution and federalism act as a check on centralised power. Credit exemplification.
- According to some critics, devolution threatens the break-up of the UK. In connection with federalism, some candidates may refer to the so-called ‘Dis-united States of America’ and/or conflict between federal and state governments in Germany. Many observers point to increasing inequalities between states and citizens. Credit exemplification throughout.
- Federalism has yet to deliver substantial benefits to many parts of Eastern Germany. Credit exemplification.
- Scotland and German states have their own representation in Brussels.
- Unitary states can exert greater control and impose policies throughout the country. Credit candidates who provide discussion of the advantages of a unitary state in comparison with devolution and federalism.

5. *“To assess the public’s views on the performance and leadership of a local constituency party, a researcher conducted one hundred telephone interviews with a random sample of local residents selected from the telephone directory.”*

(a) **What are the advantages of using a random sample in a piece of research such as this?**

(5)

Award up to 3 marks for a well-developed point

- Allows research to be carried out quickly
- More reliable conclusions can be drawn about the whole population
- Results from small group of people can be used to predict results for a larger group
- Any other relevant points.

(b) **To what extent is telephone interviewing effective as a research method?** (10)

Award up to 3 marks for a well-developed point.

Award a maximum of 4 marks for responses which do not cover arguments for and against.

- Massive contact potential
 - Unaffected by weather etc.
 - Cheap
 - Can be carefully structured
- but: –
- Not all have phones
 - Researcher cannot be sure of identity of respondent
 - Can cause offence – ‘cold call fatigue’
 - Lack of personal contact – respondents may lie
 - Any other relevant points.

6. (a) **To what extent can valid and reliable conclusions be drawn from the above information regarding voting intentions in August/September 2004?** (10)

Award up to 3 marks for any developed point.

For full marks, answers must include arguments for, arguments against, arguments about the ability to replicate the results and arguments about the validity of any conclusions reached.

Expect reference to the following:

- Combination of polls used
- Variety of methods used (interviews, Internet and telephone)
- Same methods can be used in the future
- Any other relevant factors

- Polls may include some bias (newspapers?)
- Results cannot be replicated for that period of time. Pollsters cannot return to the past. Present views may have changed.
- Reliability: tension between what they measure and what they claim to measure
- Any other relevant factors.

- (b) **Suggest one alternative source of data which could be used to support or contradict the results given in the pie charts. Give reasons to support your choice.** (5)

Award up to 3 marks for any well-developed point. Expect some development and explanation or examples in a well-developed point.

For full marks, more than one reason is required to justify an alternative source.

Reference should only be made to one alternative source.

Sources of data might include:

- Focus groups
- Poll not linked to newspaper
- Home office statistics

STUDY THEME 2: LAW AND ORDER AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

1. Context A: Theories of Law and Order

“Individual rights are increasingly being restricted in the interests of collective security and national prosperity.”

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 which merits an ‘A’ will exhibit a depth of **both** knowledge and analysis. Beware of candidates who present a solely historically-based response.

Since this is a discussion question, candidates should refer to both sides of the argument. A response which only examines one side of the argument merits a maximum of 14 marks.

Candidates are likely to concentrate on the security aspect, so credit highly those who attempt to respond to the economic prosperity aspect of the question. The top candidates will examine the link between the two aspects of the question.

Expect reference to the following:

For

- Anti-terrorist legislation.
- Right to a trial by jury restricted in certain cases in England and Wales.
- Detention without trial under anti-terrorist legislation and its recent extension to 28 days.
- Increasing use of phone tapping and electronic listening.
- Surveillance cameras cover nearly all areas of life from work, leisure and travel.
- Proposed introduction of national ID cards with biometric data which it is proposed must be shown on demand: these will also act as entitlement cards for benefits, medical treatment, etc.
- Monitoring of electronic mail, log-on times etc by employers.
- Use of speed cameras (single event or average speed)
- Recording of DNA data from suspects.
- Monitoring of paedophiles after release (this can be used for both sides of the argument, as an infringement of the liberty of the offender who has served their time, or as protection for individuals in society from potential harm).
- Any other relevant points.

Against

- Adoption of Human Rights Act – ultimate authority rests with European courts.
- Safeguards built in to anti-terrorist legislation eg detention without trial must be granted by a judge.
- Argument that proposed new ID card is to protect individual liberty and prevent identity fraud.
- ID cards are commonplace in most Western democracies.
- Anti-terrorist legislation designed to protect individuals' liberty.
- All citizens have the right to access information held on them by government agencies etc through the Data Protection Act.
- Greater monitoring of workers and work practices ensures greater profitability and thus greater prosperity.
- Traffic management cameras mean better traffic flows resulting in increased efficiency.
- Freedom of Information Act has resulted in uncovering government misdemeanours and malpractice against individuals.
- Any other relevant points.

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

To what extent is there a relationship between gender and crime?

(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 which merits an 'A' will exhibit a depth of **both** knowledge and analysis. Beware candidates who present a solely historical-based response.

Since this is an 'extent' question, candidates should refer to both sides of the argument. A response which only examines one side of the argument merits a maximum of 14 marks.

Expect reference to the following:

For

- Official crime statistics which show different types of offending.
- Crime surveys which tend to support official statistics in terms of different levels and types of offences committed.
- Biological theories – males more aggressive, therefore more likely to be involved in violent crime.
- Prison statistics mirroring official crime statistics.
- Wide range of sociological theories which contrast both access to crime, women's role in society and the socialisation process to explain differing crime levels.
- Any other relevant points.

Against

- Other aspects at work, eg social class. Working class women more likely to be involved in criminal behaviour than middle classes.
- Feminist theories that women are criminalised through male-dominated laws (can be used on both sides of the debate).
- The gap in offending rates are narrowing and women are increasingly being involved in stereotypically male crimes, eg crimes of violence, alcohol and drug related crime.
- Criminal statistics mask the 'chivalry factor' and the gap is not as large as the figures would seem.
- Theory that women are more adept at hiding criminal behaviour.
- Location theories show that rural/urban/suburban considerations play a part.
- Theory that women have less opportunity to commit crimes therefore difference is down to lack of opportunity rather than gender.
- Any other relevant points.

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

“The Government’s policy of tackling the underlying causes of crime, rather than any developments in policing, is more important in reducing crime.”

How accurate is the view expressed in this statement? (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 which merits an ‘A’ will exhibit a depth of **both** knowledge and analysis. Beware candidates who present a solely historical-based response.

Since this is an ‘extent-type’ question, candidates should refer to both sides of the argument. A candidate who only examines one side of the argument should not be given more than 14 marks.

It is difficult to anticipate the manner in which candidates may approach this question. They may respond theoretically, practically or use a combination. Therefore, the list below is not exhaustive.

Reference may be made to the following:

For

- Attempts to reduce poverty through measures such as minimum wage and tax credits should reduce need for criminal behaviour.
- Reducing unemployment should also reduce poverty, boredom and status frustration which can lead to crime.
- Improving housing stock and the environment in poor inner city areas should impact on crimes such as vandalism and engender a greater sense of community, binding communities together and thus creating greater social cohesion and control.
- Reclassification of drugs has reduced criminal labelling of ‘soft’ drug users.
- Overall crime figures across the UK show an overall decrease in crime. Crimes against property such as burglary have reduced significantly.
- Tackling anti-social behaviour through community involvement and ASBOs.
- Spending greater amounts of money on education to give the poorest a chance to move out of poverty. In the course of this, with greater access to higher education, class barriers are broken down and greater social mobility occurs.
- Increasing facilities for leisure for the young/disaffected.
- Government’s policies of social inclusion attempting to re-engineer social cohesion and reduce disaffection.
- Any other relevant points.

Against

- Despite measures such as the minimum wage etc, the wealth gap continues to grow. Thus, relative poverty continues to grow resulting in more crime.
- Consistent calls for greater police manpower show that the public believe the solution is through policing rather than the underlying causes of crime.
- Official figures show that although overall crime figures are falling, figures for serious crimes such as crimes of violence are on the increase.
- Six out of eight Scottish police forces failed to meet crime targets (can be used by both sides).
- Success of CCTV cameras, speed cameras etc in freeing up manpower, deterring criminals and improving conviction rates.
- Greater use of community wardens to free police manpower and deal with low-level crime.
- “Poverty may be a reason for crime, not an excuse for crime” Jack McConnell – Scottish Parliament 9/12/04.
- Use of DNA in solving serious crimes (including crimes reopened from the past).
- Government unwilling or unable to tackle what Marxists and Feminists perceive as the causes of crime.
- Further development of Community Policing through Problem Oriented Policing model, introduced in many areas with a great deal of success.
- Any other relevant point.

4. Context D: The Penal System

Evaluate attempts to reduce the levels of overcrowding in prisons over the last decade.

(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 which merits an 'A' will exhibit a depth of **both** knowledge and analysis. Beware of candidates who present a solely historically-based response.

Expect reference to the following:

- Prison levels and numbers
- Electronic tagging
- Changes in sentencing policy, eg for non-violent crimes
- Initiatives such as 'Airborne' and successors
- Community sentences
- ASBOs
- Private prisons
- Rehabilitation schemes and the issues surrounding them, eg funding, success
- Fast tracking for persistent criminals
- Greater use of day release and weekend prisons
- Proposal to make prisoners serve full sentences
- Any other relevant points.

5. *“To assess the public’s views on the performance of the local police force, a researcher conducted one hundred telephone interviews with a random sample of local residents selected from the telephone directory.”*

(a) **What are the advantages of using a random sample in a piece of research such as this?**

(5)

Award up to 3 marks for a well-developed point

- Allows research to be carried out quickly
- More reliable conclusions can be drawn about the whole population
- Results from small group of people can be used to predict results for a larger group
- Any other relevant points.

(b) **To what extent is telephone interviewing effective as a research method?** (10)

Award up to 3 marks for a well-developed point.

Award a maximum of 4 marks for responses, which do not cover arguments for and against.

- Massive contact potential
 - Unaffected by weather etc
 - Cheap
 - Can be carefully constructed
- but:
- Not all have phones
 - Researcher cannot be sure of identity of respondent
 - Can cause offence – ‘cold call fatigue’
 - Lack of personal contact – respondents may lie
 - Any other relevant points.

6. (a) **To what extent can valid and reliable conclusions be drawn regarding crime rates in the two countries over the period 1981-1996?** (10)

Award up to 3 marks for any developed point.

For full marks, answers must include arguments for, arguments against, arguments about the ability to replicate the results and arguments about the validity of any conclusions reached.

Expect reference to the following:

- Combination of methods used – recorded figures and victim surveys.
- Recorded figures can be verified for both countries.
- Source is US Department of Justice, so it is reputable and should be reliable.
- Conclusions drawn after a long period of comparison – fifteen years.
- Range of offences are compared so not just one area looked at.
- Only selected crimes looked at – different ones may provide different conclusions. (There are at least 26 possibilities, only 6 are shown.)
- Not able to compare how data was collated in the two countries. For example, methods by which the victim surveys were carried out. Similarity of the collation methods for recorded crime statistics and victim survey results.
- Possibility of the source being biased to provide political ammunition.
- No consistency used in sources, eg convictions then recorded.
- Given the figure numbers at the bottom, it is obvious that only a selection of graphs were used.
- Need to know if definitions of crimes are the same in both countries to allow proper comparison.
- Any other relevant factors.

- (b) **Suggest one alternative source of data which could be used to support or contradict the results given in the graphs. Give reasons to support your choice.** (5)

Award up to 3 marks for any well-developed point. Expect some development and explanation or examples in a well-developed point.

For full marks, more than one reason is required to justify an alternative source.

Reference should only be made to one alternative source.

Sources of data might include:

- Focus groups
- Poll not linked to newspaper
- Home Office statistics

STUDY THEME 3: THE EUROPEAN UNION AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

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

“In recent years, United Kingdom (UK) governments have had disagreements with the European Union (EU) over a range of issues. The outcomes of these disagreements have never benefited the people of the UK.”

Discuss.

(30)

General Points:

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which are clearly stated and which follow closely from the evidence and arguments which are presented in the body of the candidate's answer.
- In interpreting ‘recent years’, allow back as far as Mrs Thatcher’s budget rebate and John Major’s attitude to the Social Chapter of the Maastricht agreement.

Look for a balanced debate on second part of the question – credit candidates who show awareness of particular issues.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Tony Blair has reserved the UK’s position on the national interest, the Euro and the constitution.
- Credit highly candidates who separate the high profile issues above from the underlying and ongoing disagreements about, for example, the Common Fisheries Policy.
- Arguments with fellow members over, eg refusal to accept UK farm produce (BSE/Foot and Mouth); perceived failure of EU to act decisively.
- On the issue of the Euro there is disagreement as to whether the UK’s attitude to joining has been justified or otherwise.
- Recent disagreements over EU budget – UK concessions or rebate
- Any other relevant points.

2. Context B: Representation in the European Parliament

“The voting system to be used is a crucial factor in persuading people to vote in European Parliamentary elections.”

Discuss with reference to the United Kingdom and other member states. (30)

General Points:

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which are clearly stated and which follow closely from the evidence and arguments which are presented in the body of the candidate’s answer.

Look for an analysis of voting turnouts and electoral systems used – accept reference to the UK and to one other member state as meeting the requirements of the question. Credit candidates who move on to discuss other factors which influence the decision on whether or not to vote.

Credit highly candidates who conclude that the decision on whether or not to vote is likely to be influenced by a range of factors, with the priority given to those factors likely to change from country to country and from election to election. The voting system is unlikely to be ‘crucial’.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Voters seeing EU as (not) relevant to everyday lives.
- Different political structures/traditions throughout EU member states
- ‘Election fatigue’
- Influence of media
- Effect of negative campaigning
- Influence of local politics
- Performance/‘remoteness’ of MEPs
- Allegations of corruption.
- Any other relevant points.

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

Where does the real power lie 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 are clearly stated and which follow closely from the evidence and arguments which are presented in the body of the candidate's answer.

Credit candidates who identify the roles of the various bodies in the EU decision-making process. Look for analysis, with appropriate examples, of Council/Commission/Parliament relationship, especially in term of 'co-decision'. Credit highly, candidates who distinguish different kinds of power and who develop arguments relating to power within as well as among the relevant bodies.

Be flexible on candidate's definitions of 'real power' – look for a well-developed and supported argument, which leads to a conclusion derived from the evidence presented.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Powers of Commission
- Powers of Parliament as only elected body
- Powerful role of Council – influence of national politics
- Parliament does not have a Cabinet or other apparatus of a 'normal' parliament
- 'Horse-trading' among member states
- 'Settling down' among bodies arising from recent expansion – flexing of muscles – rejection of Commissioner
- Voters can send anti-EU MEPs
- Member countries can still reserve position/ignore EU rules
- Referenda about EU Constitution – power to the people
- Recent budget disagreements, provided material is placed in context.
- Some member states use referenda to determine national stance on some EU issues – power to the people
- Any other relevant points.

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

To what extent does expansion of the European Union brings both benefits and costs to existing members and applicant countries?. (30)

General Points:

- Quality answers will have good structure, balanced analysis and coherence.
- Reward up-to-date exemplification.
- Credit highly conclusions which are clearly stated and which follow closely from the evidence and arguments which are presented in the body of the candidate's answer.

Expect heavy reliance on recent expansion, but allow reference to earlier developments, with high credit to candidates who argue that the nature of applicant countries can no longer be predominantly 'Western European', bringing to the fore particular issues which were less relevant in earlier expansions.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- More members means bigger markets
- Bigger pool of labour
- Opportunity to improve standards of living
- Political and military stability
- Spread of democratic traditions
- Strengthening of economic bloc
- Spread of access to Human Rights through membership
- Production moved to lower labour-cost areas – tension
- Movement of labour – tension
- Negative impact on CAP
- Need to modernise industry – new members net budget gainers, but loss of jobs – tension
- Pollution issues – impact on jobs
- Tensions arising from differing social and political cultures – within and among countries
- 'Old' members may resent loss of 'influence' in EU institutions
- May encourage anti-EU opinion
- Will slow down and complicate decision-making.
- Any other relevant points.

Section B

5. *“To assess the public’s views on how far the UK’s membership of the European Union has benefited the local area, a researcher conducted one hundred telephone interviews with a random sample of local residents selected from the telephone directory.”*

(a) **What are the advantages of using a random sample in a piece of research such as this?**

(5)

Award up to 3 marks for a well-developed point

- Allows research to be carried out quickly
- More reliable conclusions can be drawn about the whole population
- Results from small group of people can be used to predict results for a larger group
- Any other relevant points.

(b) **To what extent is telephone interviewing effective as a research method?** **(10)**

Award up to 3 marks for a well-developed point

Award a maximum of 4 marks for responses, which do not cover arguments for and against.

- Massive contact potential
 - Unaffected by weather etc
 - Cheap
 - Can be carefully constructed
- but:
- Not all have phones
 - Researcher cannot be sure of identity of respondent
 - Can cause offence – ‘cold call fatigue’
 - Lack of personal contact – respondents may lie
 - Any other relevant points.

6. (a) **To what extent can valid and reliable conclusions be drawn regarding the attitude of the UK public towards the EU?** (10)

Award up to 3 marks for any developed point.

For full marks, answers must include arguments for, arguments against, arguments about the ability to replicate the results and arguments about the validity of any conclusions reached.

Expect reference to:

- Polling organisations have considerable expertise accumulated over time
- Reasonable sample size
- Age parameters clearly stated – all voters
- Data weighted
- Covers substantial period
- Same month used: same places used
- Years missed out
- Data now quite old: even recent data out-of-date
- Does not cover other events which may have been going on at the same time
- Any other relevant factors.

- (b) **Suggest one alternative source of data which could be used to support or contradict the results given in the table. Give reasons to support your choice.** (5)

Award up to 3 marks for any well-developed point. Expect some development and explanation or examples in a well-developed point.

For full marks, more than one reason is required to justify an alternative source.

Reference should only be made to one alternative source.

Sources of data might include:

- Focus groups
- Poll not linked to newspaper
- Home office statistics

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]