



**2007 Modern Studies**

**Advanced Higher**

**Finalised Marking Instructions**

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2007

The information in this publication may be reproduced to support SQA qualifications only on a non-commercial basis. If it is to be used for any other purposes written permission must be obtained from the Assessment Materials Team, Dalkeith.

Where the publication includes materials from sources other than SQA (secondary copyright), this material should only be reproduced for the purposes of examination or assessment. If it needs to be reproduced for any other purpose it is the centre's responsibility to obtain the necessary copyright clearance. SQA's Assessment Materials Team at Dalkeith may be able to direct you to the secondary sources.

These Marking Instructions have been prepared by Examination Teams for use by SQA Appointed Markers when marking External Course Assessments. This publication must not be reproduced for commercial or trade purposes.

## **Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
Study Theme 1: Comparative Politics and Research Methods	3
Study Theme 2: Law and Order and Research Methods	13
Study Theme 3: The European Union and Research Methods	21

## STUDY THEME 1: COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND RESEARCH METHODS

### SECTION A

Marks

#### 1. Context A: Functions of Political Parties

**To what extent have parties changed in order to compete for the centre ground in politics?**

**Answer 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
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit highly candidates who make reference to and comment on secondary analysis eg politics review, newspaper articles and documentaries
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks
- look for development including up-to-date examples.

#### **UK (including Scotland)**

Expect reference to some of the following:

- New Labour's change of policy and direction since 1994
- however, there is dissent within Labour; some are keen to see a shift back to the left
- growth (to a small extent) of ideologically based parties such as UKIP or the BNP, which may be significant on a sub-regional scale
- Labour's continuation of Conservative economic policies eg PPPs, PPIs, tough on crime, not raising income tax. Willing to accept policies from left, right and centre
- recent election results – Labour attracting more middle class voters
- Scottish dimension eg growth of Scottish Socialist Party and diversity of new small parties suggest ideology is still important to people. Independents (eg Margo MacDonald) also made their mark. SNP are clearly ideologically based. Implications of 2007 Scottish Parliament election.

## **USA**

Expect reference to some of the following:

- traditionally a lack of ideological stance in the USA by the Democrats and Republicans
- however, they became far more polarised in 2004 election over issues such as Iraq, abortion and stem cell research
- the overall system of checks and balance acts to draw parties to the centre and therefore the third way
- Republican move to the right with George W Bush. For example, the 'gay vote' was sacrificed to ensure the religious vote. No longer project themselves as 'compassionate conservatives'.

## **Germany**

Expect some reference to the following:

- coalition administrations may naturally reduce the width of the political spectrum
- ideological differences between SPD and CDU
- Schroeder and SPD followed New Labour and Blair
- expect reference to the 'right wing' CDU and leader/Chancellor Angela Merkel. The CDU's platform is to increase the pace and scope of economic deregulation in Germany and to pursue cuts in income tax and public spending. Merkel has been compared to Margaret Thatcher by many commentators. Comments on current coalition would be expected
- also, reference to the far right is likely.

## 2. Context B: Functions of Elections

***“Proportional Representation is a misguided attempt to be democratic and inclusive. First Past the Post remains a more effective and decisive electoral system.”***

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

**(30)**

General points:

- there are many ways to tackle this question and candidates should have a good grasp of the content. Do not over-credit ‘Higher’ knowledge and understanding
- 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
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks
- expect most candidates to make comparisons between Holyrood and Westminster. Do not pass answers that do not cover Germany or the USA. Do not over-credit tokenistic responses to Germany or the USA.

Expect reference to some of the following:

### *Arguments against PR*

Scotland – controversy regarding list MSPs and their worth. Debate over coalition issue and its resulting compromises. Minority parties such as the Scottish Socialists were perhaps over-influential and receive disproportionate media attention.

Germany – coalitions are the norm and voters do not vote for these. Expect reference to the 2005 election, which resulted in neither of the leaders (Merkel or Schroeder) having a clear mandate to govern. There is also the danger of parties from the far right getting representation if they break the 5% threshold. In 2005 the far right attempted (but failed) to amalgamate to achieve representation.

### *Arguments for PR*

Scotland – created a diverse parliament with a growing number of smaller parties gaining representation, for example the Scottish Socialists, ‘Pensioners’ party and numerous independent MSPs. Far fewer votes are wasted and the system seems to be more responsive to the will of the electorate. Has encouraged more sophisticated voting via the 2<sup>nd</sup> vote.

Germany – certainly creates diversity and has given meaningful power via coalitions to parties such as the Greens. This has been the system which has seen the German economy achieve great success (till recently). Socially, Germany is ahead of the pack eg in recycling – possibly due to the Greens’ influence.

### *Arguments for FPTP*

UK – has given a reliable and decisive political system for hundred of years and there is some validity to the maxim ‘if it ain’t broke don’t fix it’. Governments are able to carry out their manifestos due to the strength of the whip system and the inevitable majority.

USA – similar to the UK; however mention may be made of the President who generally has a mandate from the people though expect reference to the Bush/Gore election in which Gore won the popular vote but lost the presidency. Better candidates will explain how the electoral college systems distort the FPTP principle. Popular with American people as it produces clear winners. Americans’ reluctance to alter their political system in any way. Fear of radical political groups which FPTP effectively excludes.

### *Arguments against FPTP*

UK – dubious mandate to govern given that the winners rarely achieve much more than 40% of the vote, millions of votes are wasted and some argue that parliament is dull as it is dominated by the big two. Possibly leads to apathy.

USA – similar to the UK; politics dominated by two major parties with third parties being crushed, for example Nader’s Greens.

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

*“The Prime Minister of the UK has powers that are the envy of other world leaders.”*

**How valid is this claim when comparing the UK Prime Minister with either the American President or German Chancellor?**

**(30)**

General points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- high quality answers will compare regularly throughout the answer rather than having a large section on the PM and a smaller section on the President/Chancellor
- credit highly answers that use ‘informed opinion’ eg quotes in proper perspective
- reward up-to-date exemplification eg backbench revolts
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

Credit reference to:

**PM:**

Role of whips and party discipline, loss of the whip, concept of *primus inter pares*, leadership challenges and the centrality of the government majority to the concept of power. Use of the Royal Prerogative Powers eg declaring war. Instant access to the media; however, often intense media criticism.

**President:**

The power of ‘figurehead’; unique loyalty across political divides, concept of ‘negotiator in chief’, no political threats while in office eg cabinet rivals. Concept of ‘Commander in Chief’. May have to contend with either Senate or House with opposition majority (perhaps both). But the system of checks and balances gives him the ability to do this.

**Chancellor:**

Will inevitably have to function as part of a coalition, but this is the norm and perhaps should not be judged as a major weakness. With the exception of Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor has usually also been chairman of his own party. This was the case with Gerard Schroeder and Angela Merkel, his successor. Therefore similar status to the UK PM.

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

*“The days of the unitary state are numbered.”*

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

**(30)**

General points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis. Better candidates will recognise that the success of devolved areas has not been unqualified
- 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
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

Expect reference to some of the following:

##### **USA Federal System:**

*Strengths* – Permits regional diversity within national unity. Allows regional identity to be expressed eg in fields of crime, punishment, local taxation and education. Federalism is an integral part of the United States, embodied in the Constitution; therefore it is widely successful and popular. Fits well with American philosophy that all politics is local. Places restrictions on unpopular ‘big government’.

*Weaknesses* – Failure to deal with New Orleans disaster, ambiguous areas of responsibility. Inconsistencies between states eg on the death penalty. Some smaller states are less convinced of the federal system eg there is a strong separatist movement in Alaska. Issues over distribution of the federal budget.

##### **German ‘Lander’ System:**

*Strengths* – Use of AMS system leads to coalitions, allows diversity eg Green Party success, need for compromise, though it could also be argued as a weakness. Can have a real influence on federal affairs (see below).

*Weaknesses* – Politics at the state level often carry implications for federal politics. Opposition victories in *Landtag* elections, which take place throughout the federal government’s four-year term, can weaken the coalition forming the federal government.

The powers of the state governments and legislatures in their own territories have been much diminished in recent decades, with an ever-increasing amount of federal legislation. A commission has been formed to examine the possibility of instituting a clearer separation of federal and state powers to address this issue.

### **Devolved UK:**

*Strengths* – According to polls most do not want to get rid of Parliament/Assembly. Some notable successes eg the free health care for the elderly bill, student tuition fees and abolition of warrant sales. The anti-smoking bill in Scotland is a result of a public petition, suggesting people can become involved in the democratic process.

*Weaknesses* – An ‘add on’ to the existing system and will take generations to ‘bed in’. Opinion poll evidence suggests that many people in Scotland and Wales are unhappy with the performance of the Parliament/Assembly as they are not responsive to local/regional needs. Allegations of amateurism and wastage, particularly the Holyrood construction scandal. Doubt over the validity of list MSPs and some notable banana skins. The Welsh Assembly was even more marginally created and perhaps lacks meaningful power.

### **Unitary UK:**

*Strengths* – Results of referenda suggest that nationalism is on the decline and that people are satisfied with devolution, preferring to keep the unitary state intact. 300 years of tradition give the unitary system considerable weight. Allows for coherent policies on, for example, defence, taxation and benefits. Wariness over Europe has perhaps strengthened the feelings of unity within the United Kingdom, while there is also some anxiety over the immigration and asylum seeking issues. Fear of terrorism is perhaps another factor working in favour of the unitary state.

*Weaknesses* – There has been a growth of regionalism in, for example, Scotland, Wales and even Yorkshire and Cornwall. There remains a perception of ‘haves and have-nots’ in society based on location ie the north-south divide. Some would argue that politics lacks a meaningful local basis. Perhaps apathy in recent years is a reflection of distrust and disillusionment with the unitary system.

## Section B

5. (a) **What are the advantages of postal surveys compared to telephone surveys?**

**You should refer to specific research examples in your answers.**

**(9)**

Answer must state advantages of postal surveys compared to telephone surveys. It is not a question about each method independently.

Award up to 3 marks for a point that is detailed, in depth, valid and has good exemplification.

If no example, maximum 8 marks should be awarded.

3 advantages needed for full marks.

For example:

Postal survey is:

- slightly less skewed sample than telephone surveys – post out to sample and then they return or not. Telephone sample: some people may not have phones; many people are not in when researcher phones; many people are on the telephone preference list
- cheaper than telephone surveys: easy to send out and have low running costs: large numbers can be sent out
- where each respondent is asked exactly the same questions in exactly the same way. Not subject to interviewer bias as in the case of telephone surveys
- do not require the immediate availability of the respondents
- respondents tend to feel less pressured than when they are telephoned. Tend to be more open about personal information
- able to include visual prompts, or products for trial.

- (b) **What factors need to be taken into account when choosing a sample for a survey?**

**You should refer to specific research examples in your answers.**

**(6)**

Award up to 3 marks for a point that is detailed, in depth, valid and has good exemplification.

If no example, maximum 5 marks should be awarded.

Surveys measure characteristics of the respondents. Generalisations can then take place from the sample of people interviewed to the population as a whole. “A good sample is a miniature version of the population – just like it, only smaller.” Fink 1995.

It is therefore important that sample characteristics will be the same as those of the population. Population can be anything from the population of a town to a doctor’s list of patients. If a sample does not accurately represent the whole population of interest, the estimate will be biased. Market research uses quota sampling. Depending on who is carrying out the survey the sample may ‘fit the purpose’ eg radio stations may ask people to phone in. Pressure groups may leave questionnaires in strategic places.

Look at general characteristics of population (from census) and reflect these in survey sample.

Consideration of:

- size of sample compared with 'population'
- age group
- gender
- type of housing
- occupation
- social class
- household income
- highest educational qualification obtained
- time and place that survey is carried out.

Consideration also of random sampling methods, eg computer generated.

Random sampling technique ensures that bias is not introduced regarding who is included in the survey.

Five common random sampling techniques are:

- simple random sampling (with simple random sampling, each item in a population has an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. For example, each name in a telephone book could be numbered sequentially. If the sample size were to include 2,000 people, then 2,000 numbers could be randomly generated by computer or numbers could be picked out of a hat. These numbers could then be matched to names in the telephone book, thereby providing a list of 2,000 people.)
- systematic sampling
- stratified sampling
- cluster sampling
- multi-stage sampling.

6. (a) **To what extent can valid and reliable conclusions be made from this information?** (10)

Up to 3 marks for a developed point.

Evidence that suggests that the information **does** allow us to make valid and reliable conclusions could include the following:

- the survey has been carried out by an independent academic body (ScotCen)
- at least one of the authors has an impressive track record in the field, some candidates may even know him from their electoral behaviour studies
- the survey was conducted relatively recently
- the sample size was fairly large
- the fact that it was commissioned by a body which is highly scrutinised suggests that they would have chosen a trustworthy independent research body.

Evidence which might make us question the information's validity and reliability might include the following:

- the quite significant gender difference in the sample
- some odd percentages adding up to over 100, some to less, with no explanation offered to explain these anomalies
- the absence of other age ranges – only the young and old are analysed in detail
- the omission of other parties such as the Scottish Socialists or Greens
- no information on the details of the survey eg location, social background of the respondents.

Chosen points should be developed and their selection justified.

(b) **Suggest one alternative form of presentation of the data which would make it easier for a researcher to analyse. Give reasons to support your choice.** (5)

Marks given for reasons and not for alternative form of presentation. Go to 3 marks for 1 reason in detail.

A variety of possibilities. Perhaps the most likely would be the use of a series of pie-charts for each sub-heading; this would allow a more visual comparison to be made as the raw stats are fairly intense. Another possibility would be multiple bar graphs or compound bar graphs for similar reasons to the above.

Reference might be made to a highly graphical style that might be employed by, for example, the tabloids, who may use some forms of pictographs for added impact, focusing on key areas and leaving out others. The data could also be presented in written form as a summary passage.

Need to justify why the alternative format would be useful to a researcher.

## STUDY THEME 2: LAW AND ORDER AND RESEARCH METHODS

### SECTION A

Marks

#### 1. Context A: Theories of Law and Order

**To what extent are human rights under threat in the United Kingdom?**

**(30)**

General Points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

Expect candidates to have a balance of theory backed up by exemplification. This is a question which lends itself to analysis and responses should be easy to differentiate on this basis. Credit exemplification and reference other relevant examples. Credit valid reference/comparisons with other countries.

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

#### **Human Rights under threat due to:**

- lack of written UK Constitution/Bill of Rights
- recent anti-terrorist legislation (other relevant legislation)
- terrorist activities threat to human rights
- increasing powers of police – case of Jean Charles de Menezes
- proposed introduction of ID cards as threat to human rights
- CCTV “Big Brother” surveillance arguments.

#### **Human Rights not under threat due to:**

- rule of law
- democratic process/accountability of Government
- increasing powers of police to protect rights
- channels for redress of grievances within UK – Court of Appeal
- legislation and channels outwith UK – ECHR & European Court of Human Rights
- CCTV as method of protection of human rights
- ID to protect human rights
- free press
- free speech.

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

***“Crime in the UK has the greatest impact on disadvantaged groups such as the poor and the elderly.”***

**Discuss.**

**(30)**

General Points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

Expect candidates to have a balance of theory backed up by exemplification. Candidates may refer to theories of victimology and Marxist theory. Answers should be balanced due to the wording of the question – nature of “impact” might be different on different parts of society but all parts are affected.

There are 2 sides to this answer:

**Crime *does* have the greatest impact on poor and elderly (analysis and evidence should suggest that crime impacts more on these two groups):**

- ‘poor’ more likely to be perpetrators and victims of crime
- ‘poor’ are more likely to suffer serious economic impact from crime such as burglary because they are less likely to be insured
- criminal compensation is based on potential income – ‘poor’ will get less
- greatest fear of crime amongst elderly – argument that this is a real experience.

**Crime *does not* have the greatest impact on poor and elderly (analysis and evidence should suggest that crime has an impact on all sections of society):**

- 16-24 year olds most at risk of being victims of crime
- impact on middle class taxpayers
- impact of higher insurance premiums affects everyone
- crime statistics unreliable. There is a higher police presence in poorer areas, therefore figures are inaccurate
- white collar crime has more impact on middle classes.

**Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.**

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

*“The Government is trying to fight 21<sup>st</sup> century crime with traditional methods.”*

**How valid is this view?**

**(30)**

General Points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

This question allows candidates to refer to a broad range of government strategies and should not solely be based on policing. Answers should assess both parts of the question, traditional methods and 21<sup>st</sup> century response. Credit highly responses which address a variety of crime fighting strategies and their effectiveness (“trying”).

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

**Government’s response *is* outdated and traditional methods are failing:**

- response of recent governments arguably still traditional and ineffective
- policing still traditional in many ways – Bobbies on the beat
- response of government and police still reactive, not proactive
- methods have not adapted to 21<sup>st</sup> century crime – organised crime, property crime increasing.

**Government’s response *is not* outdated and is tackling 21<sup>st</sup> century crime:**

- response has adapted to 21<sup>st</sup> century crime and is successful
- establishment of SOCA – Serious Organised Crime Agency (April 2006)
- use of technology – national database, palmtop computers for police on beat, CCTV, DNA/forensic methods
- genetic profiling
- electronic tagging of offenders
- international and European co-operation
- introduction of ID cards (21<sup>st</sup> century).

#### 4. Context D: The Penal System

**Critically examine the belief that prison is a “costly waste of time”.**

**(30)**

**(In your answer you may refer to examples from outside the UK)**

General Points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks.

This question allows candidates to bring in a wide range of knowledge from both the UK and abroad. Answers can be based on the UK only.

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

Expect reference to some of the following:

**For:**

- prison is costly
  - expensive way of making bad people worse
  - prison population highest ever. Now highest in Europe
  - financial impact – £37,000 per prisoner per year; implications for taxpayer
  - population at all-time high – almost capacity of 80,000. Becoming more costly
  - cost of recidivism – can make some offenders worse
  - cost to society – families of offenders suffer – create more offenders?
  - cost to offenders – one-third lose home, two-thirds lose job, two-fifths lose family
  - alternatives are cheaper – prison is costly option. Tagging.
- prison is a waste of time
  - prisons do not meet aims – therefore waste of time
  - if sentences are inappropriate, it is a waste of time
  - if prison overcrowded and cannot meet its aims, it is a waste of time
  - recidivist rates too high – prison does not work
  - effectiveness of rehabilitation – ‘doing time’ doesn’t work
  - alternatives exist which are more effective than prison.

**Against:**

- prison is not costly
  - public support for the penal system – public seems prepared to pay
  - worth the costs to society – arguably quite small price to pay for benefits
  - alternatives can be expensive and are not tried and tested – cost of risk
  - private prisons – arguably more cost effective
- prison is not a waste of time
  - acts as a punishment – other punishments seen to be soft option. Not a waste of time
  - deterrent – prison works to deter majority and keeps crime rates low
  - protects public – only way to remove offenders from society and reassure public
  - National Reducing Offending Action Plan – other agencies involved; can work
  - works for some – some offenders are rehabilitated and contribute to society
  - no viable alternative that is as effective and less expensive.

## Section B

5. (a) **What are the advantages of postal surveys compared to telephone surveys?**

**You should refer to specific research examples in your answers. (9)**

Answer must state advantages of postal surveys compared to telephone surveys. It is not a question about each method independently.

Award up to 3 marks for a point that is detailed, in depth, valid and has good exemplification.

If no example, maximum 8 marks should be awarded.

3 advantages needed for full marks.

For example:

Postal survey is:

- slightly less skewed sample than telephone surveys – post out to sample and then they return or not. Telephone sample: some people may not have phones; many people are not in when researcher phones; many people are on the telephone preference list
- cheaper than telephone surveys: easy to send out and have low running costs: large numbers can be sent out
- where each respondent is asked exactly the same questions in exactly the same way. Not subject to interviewer bias as in the case of telephone surveys
- do not require the immediate availability of the respondents
- respondents tend to feel less pressured than when they are telephoned. Tend to be more open about personal information
- able to include visual prompts, products for trial.

- (b) **What factors need to be taken into account when choosing a sample for a survey?**

**You should refer to specific research examples in your answers. (6)**

Award up to 3 marks for a point that is detailed, in depth, valid and has good exemplification.

If no example, maximum 5 marks should be awarded.

Surveys measure characteristics of the respondents. Generalisations can then take place from the sample of people interviewed to the population as a whole. “A good sample is a miniature version of the population – just like it, only smaller.” Fink 1995.

It is therefore important that sample characteristics will be the same as those of the population. Population can be anything from the population of a town to the doctor’s list of patients. If a sample does not accurately represent the whole population of interest, the estimate will be biased. Market research uses quota sampling. Depending on who is carrying out the survey the sample may ‘fit the purpose’ eg radio stations may ask people to phone in. Pressure groups may leave questionnaires in strategic places.

Look at general characteristics of population (from census) and reflect these in survey sample.

Consideration of:

- size of sample compared with 'population'
- age group
- gender
- type of housing
- occupation
- social class
- household income
- highest educational qualification obtained
- time and place that survey is carried out.

Consideration also of random sampling methods eg computer generated.

Random sampling technique ensures that bias is not introduced regarding who is included in the survey.

Five common random sampling techniques are:

- simple random sampling (with simple random sampling, each item in a population has an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. For example, each name in a telephone book could be numbered sequentially. If the sample size were to include 2,000 people, then 2,000 numbers could be randomly generated by computer or numbers could be picked out of a hat. These numbers could then be matched to names in the telephone book, thereby providing a list of 2,000 people.)
- systematic sampling
- stratified sampling
- cluster sampling
- multi-stage sampling.

6. (a) **To what extent can valid and reliable conclusions be made from the information in the opinion poll?** (10)

Up to 3 marks for a developed point.

Some understanding of the differences between validity and reliability should be apparent in the answer.

Evidence that suggests that the information does allow us to make valid and reliable conclusions could include the following:

- the survey has been carried out by an independent body (MORI)
- carried out on behalf of a reputable foundation
- the sample size was fairly large (c 2000)
- asks a wide range of perception questions that gauge public opinion well
- the survey was carried out over 3 years, so trends can be identified
- fairly recent research.

Evidence which might question the information's validity and reliability might include:

- "representative sample of British residents" – no information about sample other than that
- percentages – some add up to over 100, some to less, with no explanation offered to explain these anomalies
- no information on the details of the survey eg location, social background of the respondents, etc
- the unclear instruction about how many to choose from.

Chosen points should be developed and their selection justified.

- (b) **Suggest one alternative form of presentation of the data which would make it easier for a researcher to analyse. Give reasons to support your choice.** (5)

Marks given for reasons and not for alternative form of presentation. Go to 3 marks for 1 reason in detail.

A variety of possibilities. Perhaps the most likely would be the use of a series of pie-charts for each sub-heading; this would allow a more visual comparison to be made as the raw stats are fairly intense.

Reference might be made to a highly graphical style that might be employed by, for example, the tabloids, who may use some forms of pictographs for added impact, focusing on key areas and leaving out others. The data could also be presented in written form as a summary passage.

Need to justify why the alternative format would be useful to a researcher.

## STUDY THEME 3: THE EUROPEAN UNION AND RESEARCH METHODS

### SECTION A

Marks

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

*“UK voters are dissatisfied with the policies of the major political parties towards the European Union.”*

**Discuss.**

**(30)**

General points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- 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 exemplification and reference to other relevant examples.

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- turn-out
- success or otherwise of major parties in the 2004 election
- outline of current party positions on EU
- divisions within the major parties
- issues/policies: Euro; EU constitution; enlargement; UK rebates; CAP policy; fisheries; immigration; asylum
- Scottish position
- success of UKIP in 2004 election
- apathy of voters
- lacklustre campaigns
- influence of media.

## 2. Context B: Representation in the European Parliament

*“As the European Union has developed, the European Parliament has increased its role in decision-making.”*

**Discuss.**

**(30)**

General Points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- 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 exemplification and reference to other relevant examples

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- traditionally viewed as a talking shop
- numbers of MEPs – effects of Enlargement
- representation from member states
- party groupings within the Parliament
- democratically elected body
- sets budget, passes laws for the EU
- oversees Commission, can remove Commissioners – March 1999 resignations
- cooperation procedure (from Single European Act)
- co-decision procedure (from Maastricht Treaty)
- extension of co-decision (from Amsterdam Treaty)
- emergence of the Committee of the Regions and the Economic and Social Committee as consultative bodies
- position of Council of Ministers
- position of Commission.

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

*“Inter-Governmental Conferences and Summit meetings control the direction that the European Union is taking.”*

**How far is this claim justified?**

**(30)**

General Points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- 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 exemplification and reference to other relevant examples

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- Maastricht Treaty
- Amsterdam Treaty
- Nice Treaty
- disagreements over budget at June 2005 summit in Brussels
- referenda over Euro and Constitution
- role of Commission
- role of European Council
- purpose of Summit meetings
- rubber stamping of agreements made by officials
- disagreements as to the future direction of the EU
- federalism, subsidiarity
- Franco-German axis
- UK stance.

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

**Critically examine the view that measures taken by the European Union have failed to deal effectively with the problems of the economically developing world.**

**(30)**

General points:

- quality answers will have a coherent structure and balanced analysis
- 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 exemplification and reference to other relevant examples.

Balanced implicit or explicit conclusion.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- legacy of Lome
- limited access to EU markets
- preferential access to some countries
- duties on some manufactured goods entering EU
- Economic Partnership Agreements
- dumping of cheap EU agricultural surpluses
- decline in revenue in economically developing countries from taxes
- European influence in local economies
- WTO shambles at Seattle
- conditions imposed on economically developing nations
- Cotonou negotiations; 'equal partnership'
- NGO perspective
- EU countries within UN.

## Section B

5. (a) **What are the advantages of postal surveys compared to telephone surveys?**

**You should refer to specific research examples in your answers. (9)**

Answer must state advantages of postal surveys compared to telephone surveys. It is not a question about each method independently.

Award up to 3 marks for a point that is detailed, in depth, valid and has good exemplification.

If no example, maximum 8 marks should be awarded.

3 advantages needed for full marks.

For example:

Postal survey is:

- slightly less skewed sample than telephone surveys – post out to sample and then they return or not. Telephone sample: some people may not have phones; many people are not in when researcher phones; many people are on the telephone preference list
- cheaper than telephone surveys: easy to send out and have low running costs: large numbers can be sent out
- where each respondent is asked exactly the same questions in exactly the same way. Not subject to interviewer bias as in the case of telephone surveys
- do not require the immediate availability of the respondents
- respondents tend to feel less pressured than when they are telephoned. Tend to be more open about personal information
- able to include visual prompts, products for trial.

- (b) ***What considerations need to be taken into account when choosing a sample for a survey?***

***You should refer to specific research examples in your answers. (6)***

Award up to 3 marks for a point that is detailed, in depth, valid and has good exemplification.

If no example, maximum 5 marks should be awarded.

Surveys measure characteristics of the respondents. Generalisations can then take place from the sample of people interviewed to the population as a whole. “A good sample is a miniature version of the population – just like it, only smaller.” Fink 1995.

It is therefore important that sample characteristics will be the same as those of the population. Population can be anything from the population of a town to the doctor’s list of patients. If a sample does not accurately represent the whole population of interest, the estimate will be biased. Market research uses quota sampling. Depending on who is carrying out the survey the sample may ‘fit the purpose’ eg radio stations may ask people to phone in. Pressure groups may leave questionnaires in strategic places.

Look at general characteristics of population (from census) and reflect these in survey sample.

Consideration of:

- size of sample compared with 'population'
- age group
- gender
- type of housing
- occupation
- social class
- household income
- highest educational qualification obtained
- time and place that survey is carried out.

Consideration also of random sampling methods eg computer generated.

Random sampling technique ensures that bias is not introduced regarding who is included in the survey.

Five common random sampling techniques are:

- simple random sampling (with simple random sampling, each item in a population has an equal chance of inclusion in the sample. For example, each name in a telephone book could be numbered sequentially. If the sample size were to include 2,000 people, then 2,000 numbers could be randomly generated by computer or numbers could be picked out of a hat. These numbers could then be matched to names in the telephone book, thereby providing a list of 2,000 people.)
- systematic sampling
- stratified sampling
- cluster sampling
- multi-stage sampling.

6. (a) **To what extent can valid and reliable conclusions be made from this information?** (10)

Up to 3 marks for a developed point.

Some understanding of the differences between validity and reliability should be apparent in the answer.

Evidence that suggests that the information *does* allow us to make valid and reliable conclusions could include the following:

- the survey has been carried out on behalf of the European Commission – reputable organisation
- the sample size was fairly large (1,347)
- sample gathered over a two month period in 2005
- sample was random
- Eurobarometer is a valid publication
- clear question asked
- some discussion about the information in the source.

Evidence which might question the information's validity and reliability might include:

- possibly biased research on European Union
- percentages – some adding up to over 100, some to less, with no explanation offered to explain these anomalies
- no information on the details of the survey eg location, social background of respondents, etc
- no information about how the respondents ranked their choices
- some discussion about the information in the source.

Chosen points should be developed and their selection justified.

- (b) **Suggest one alternative form of presentation of the data which would make it easier for a researcher to analyse. Give reasons to support your choice.** (5)

Marks given for reasons and not for alternative form of presentation. Go to 3 marks for 1 reason in detail.

A variety of possibilities. Bar graphs would allow a more visual comparison to be made as the raw stats are fairly intense. Reference might be made to a highly graphical style that might be employed by, for example, the tabloids that may use some forms of pictographs for added impact, focusing on key areas and leaving out others. The data could also be presented in written form as a summary passage.

Need to justify why the alternative format would be useful to a researcher.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]