



2008 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

To what extent is the era of two-party domination in politics over?

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. Bear in mind that candidates are attempting to construct a three part comparative essay under examination conditions
- 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:

Evidence that two-party domination **remains significant**

- The continuation of the Labour/Tory domination at Westminster. eg Lib Dems struggle to get more than 20% of the vote.
- Exemplification of this domination eg reference to Thatcher and Blair's 3 term strangleholds.
- Opinion polls suggest little will change in the future.
- Discussion of the role of FPTP in maintaining the status quo.
- Scottish politics dominated by Labour and SNP.

Evidence that two-party domination is **declining**

- Lib Dems have improved their showing in Westminster.
- Scottish Parliament far more interesting with coalitions seemingly the norm (until 2007) and three parties gaining significant numbers of seats. Also the diversity of 'new' small parties and independents taking advantage of the AMS system to potentially act as power brokers.
- Relative absence of the Conservatives on the regional scale suggesting their domination has become focussed to the South of the UK.
- Growth (to a small extent) of parties such as UKIP or the BNP which may be eroding the power of the 'big 2' on a sub-regional scale.

USA

Expect reference to some of the following:

Evidence that two-party domination **remains significant**

- ***Bulk of evidence*** will point to the continued domination of Republican and Democrat Parties eg allegiance of all Presidents, Senators and Congressmen.
- Awareness of the more consensual approach of American parties fewer ideological divisions.
- Coverage of Primary campaign almost exclusively focused on big 2.

Evidence that two-party domination is **rapidly disappearing**

- Although evidence of third party success can be quoted it ***should not be overestimated.***
- eg Nader's Green bid only ever got 2.7% of the vote in 2001.
- Best result was Ross Perot's 19% of the Presidential vote in 1992 (Reform Party).

Germany

Expect some reference to the following:

Evidence that two-party domination **remains significant**

- SPD and CDU remain dominant and form the senior partner in coalitions.
- Comparison with Scottish situation would be interesting.

Evidence that two-party domination is **rapidly disappearing**

- Discussion will centre on the coalition that exists in Germany and the role played by, notably, the Greens who have gained a significantly stronger voice in coalitions over time.

2. Context B: Functions of Elections

“The strength and legitimacy of a government are strongly influenced by the system used to elect it.”

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. Bear in mind that candidates are attempting to construct a three part comparative essay under examination conditions
- 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
- 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:

Westminster

- FPTP has given us a reliable and decisive political system which has historical legitimacy. Governments are able to carry out their manifestos due to the strength of the whip system and the likely majority. Therefore they are inevitably strong.
- However there is a 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.
- Consider also the legitimacy of the national government if on a regional scale it is not supported eg the lack of Conservative support in Scotland/Wales in the 1980’s.

Scotland

- In some respects is more legitimate as AMS produces fairer, more proportional results and a more diverse Parliament.
- Far fewer votes are wasted and the system seems to be more responsive to the will of the electorate. However coalitions (until 2007) were the results.
- Candidates can argue either in favour or against the principle of coalition and may indeed do both! eg coalitions create compromise and erode power of a dominant party however voters do not vote for coalitions and they create policies which may please no-one.
- Thus far government in Scotland has not been so strong due to AMS. Currently minority government.
- Controversy regarding list MSPs and their worth.
- Minority parties and independents are perhaps over influential and receive disproportionate media attention.

USA

- Similar to the UK/Westminster as FPTP produces similar arguments of decisive results along with a democratic deficit.
- However contrasting mention may be made of the President who generally has a direct mandate from the people unlike the UK PM or Scottish First Minister.
- Though expect reference to the 2000 Bush/Gore election in which Gore won the popular vote but lost the presidency.
- Better candidates will explain how the Electoral College system distorts the FPTP principle.

Germany

- Coalitions are the norm and as per Scotland voters do not vote specifically 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 minority parties eg from the far right getting power via coalitions.

3. Context C: Decision-making in Central Government

To what extent are interest/pressure groups the main influence on decision-making in central government?

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 countries regularly throughout the answer
- credit highly answers that use ‘informed opinion’ eg quotes in proper perspective
- reward up-to-date exemplification
- credit candidates who make implicit conclusions throughout the essay
- one-sided responses should merit a maximum of 14 marks. Balance is essential.

Credit reference to:

UK/Scotland – Areas where government *has been* influenced by interest/pressure groups and the media.

- Fuel tax issue
- Various resignations following media criticism eg Peter Mandelson.
- Anti blood sports campaigners North and South of the border have with varying success changed hunting legislation, though notably in England and Wales the opposing camps have had their successes too in muddying the legislative waters.
- Abolition of certain bridge tolls.
- Delay to Aberdeen bypass direct result of influential pressure group activity.
- Any other relevant examples.

UK/Scotland – Areas where government *has not been* influenced by interest/pressure groups and the media.

- Lack of success of anti-nuclear lobby.
- Government has chosen to ignore anti war campaigners (Iraq/Afghanistan).
- Government has paid little heed to human rights activists in pushing through controversial anti terrorism legislation.
- Pro smoking groups largely ignored by Scottish parliament.
- Closure of rural hospitals despite vociferous local campaigns.
- Any other relevant examples.

USA – Areas where government *has been* influenced by interest/pressure groups and the media.

- Increasing evidence that anti-war and human rights groups are moderating government policy eg the Supreme Court is openly critical of Bush's current policies.
- Bush regime beginning to acknowledge the global environmental crisis faced with constant criticism from the environmental lobby.
- Any other relevant examples.

USA – Areas where government *has not been* influenced by interest/pressure groups and the media.

- Foreign policy remains very much a Bush/Rice vision despite criticism from eg Colin Powell.
- Hard line approach to Liberalism eg gay rights, despite intensive pro liberal lobby.
- 'Hawk' like approach to foreign policy remains despite warnings from the media over the dangers of adopting aggressive stances to eg Iran and North Korea.
- Any other relevant examples.

Germany – Areas where government *has been* influenced by interest/pressure groups and the media.

- Moderating influence of 'Greens' on coalition.
- Public and media pressure has distanced Germany from allying too closely with the USA in the 'war against terror'.

Germany – Areas where government *has not been* influenced by interest/pressure groups and the media.

- The more right wing Angela Merkel may be less open to influence if the comparisons with Mrs Thatcher are borne out.
- Any other relevant examples.

4. Context D: Central and Devolved/State Government

To what extent has devolution in the UK created a political system which is now very similar to that found in either the USA or Germany?

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. Better candidates will recognise that the phrase ‘very similar’ is not without qualification
- bear in mind that candidates are attempting to construct a three part comparative essay under examination conditions
- 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:

Comparison of UK devolved system and the USA Federal system

- Similarities in that the devolution process bears resemblance to Federalism eg reserved powers are comparable with Federal power such as defence, taxation and foreign policy.
- Similar overarching aim of maintaining regional identity within national unity.
- Expect comparative references to legal, educational and tax varying powers.
- Reference to public antipathy towards ‘Big Government’.

However it is too simplistic to maintain we are now identical to the USA as,

- USA states have constitutional rights which are historical such as a right of cessation which we do not have in our devolved bodies.
- American states have more significant powers eg use of the death penalty.
- American states maintain military power via the state National Guards.
- State Governors especially of large states have greater power and influence than eg the First Minister.

Comparison of UK devolved system and the German Federal system

More difficult to make comparisons as Germany has a more long standing devolved system. Expect references to some of the following:

- 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. This would not be so significant in the UK
- 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. The reverse is true in the UK. However regionalism is comparable with parts of the UK
- ‘North South divide’ tensions which exist in the UK can also be found in Germany eg Saxony and Bavaria. This creates pressure for more devolution of power to the Lander
- tensions over issues such as education which is a Lander responsibility are paralleled to some extent by the reserved/devolved situation in the UK.

Section B

5. *You have been asked to use official statistics to report on voter turnout in the UK.*

- (a) *What are the limitations of using official statistics for collecting the information you need?* (8)

For full marks:

3 points in detail

List type answers should get no more than 3 marks.

Limitations of official statistics, such as:

- credit candidates who refer to specific official statistics such as Office for National Statistics
- political agenda – used by government
- method of collection eg record only those individuals who are processed by the agencies that have responsibility for compiling the statistics
- does not accurately reflect trends but often political trends and initiatives
- statistics can be massaged
- not reliable since figures not compared over time
- incomplete data
- any other relevant points.

- (b) *In view of these limitations, you decide to interview a leading political analyst.*

In what ways might this method enhance your findings? (7)

For full marks:

3 points in detail.

List type answers should get no more than 3 marks.

- Advantages of interviewing a highly relevant person
- Credit candidates who specifically refer to the person mentioned in the question eg leading psephologist

Credit the following:

Structured interview:

- specific goals and details for the interview are detailed before it commences. This provides structure
- answers should give detailed information on the issue.

Unstructured interview:

- good in the initial stages of research since they provide a general understanding of the problem
- less pressure on the interviewee as s/he can be spontaneous with the answers
- any other relevant points.

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

Credit candidates who clearly define **valid** and **reliable**.

Valid: true knowledge. Accurately measuring the concept.

Reliable: concerned with the question of whether the results of the study are repeatable and consistent.

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

- press release from the Conservative Party
- quotes from Shadow immigration minister – reliable source.
- relevant statistics.

Evidence that suggests that the information does not allow us to make valid and reliable conclusions:

- but very biased source
- selective use of facts
- using figures to make biased points
- by 2008 will be dated
- no context/comparative figures.

Chosen points should be developed and their selection justified.

Depth required for full marks.

4 points x 3 marks

- (b) *Suggest, with reasons, one alternative way in which this information could be presented in order to make it easier for a researcher to use.* (5)

2 reasons required for the 5 marks but go to 3 marks for 1 reason in detail.

STUDY THEME 2: LAW AND ORDER AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

1. Context A: Theories of Law and Order

To what extent has the principle of “equality before the law” been undermined in the UK?

(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 to this basis.

- Principle should ensure equal protection of the laws in the UK.
- Principle also includes that everyone is answerable to same laws.
- Principle includes principle that law is the same for everyone and applied in the same way within the legal system.
- Has the principle been recently undermined?

Arguments for

- Wealthy benefit within the legal system.
- Reduction in legal aid discriminates against poorer.
- Number of wrongful convictions increasing – 5000 per year.
- Women treated “differently” within legal system.
- Racial/religious treatment recently altered – security of a person guaranteed by application and enforcement of law – Jean Charles de Menezes?
- Some viewed to be above the law – politicians? Celebrities? Senior police officers – Stephen Lawrence case? Ian Blair
- Shirley Mckie – accusations of cover up undermining “equality” principle.

Arguments against

- British judicial process.
- Democratic process ensures principle of equality.
- Everyone has access to judicial process, trial by equality jury etc.
- Free press/media more scrutiny than ever before.
- Recent examples include cabinet ministers and PM “helping with enquiries”.
- Legislation and developments to protect human rights recently extended.
- Availability of channels to redress grievances.

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

“Society prepares the crime, the criminal commits it.”

(30)

How valid is this view in relation to the causes of crime?

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 to this basis.

Society prepares the crime, the criminal commits it....

General points – examination of both parts of the statement.

Arguments for

- Causes of crime – influence of societal factors.
- Theories – labeling, Strain theory etc.
- Poverty creates and prepares crime.
- Family breakdown “prepares criminal”.
- Influence of peer pressure – creates crime.
- Sociological theories which suggest society not individuals cause criminal behaviour all valid.

Arguments against

- Some would argue society does not prepare crime – nature/genes do.
- Individuals prepare crimes not society – make choice to commit crime.
- Only 15% of population commit crime – society doesn’t prepare it.
- Biological theories – genetics theory. “Nature” arguments.
- Crime caused by alcohol, drugs, criminal behaviour – individual not society.

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

Critically assess the view that recent government policy has led to “more laws, less order.”

(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 to this basis.

General Points

- Details and evaluation of government policy and criticisms of it.
- Reliability of crime data can also be brought in with reference to there being “less order”.

Arguments for

- Government has introduced record numbers of new laws to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Crime rates have arguably not improved (less order).
- Prison numbers are at record high (less order).
- Fear of crime is rising. Disparity between perceptions of crime and reality.
- Apparent increases in anti-social behaviour.
- New types/examples of disorder – terrorism, security threats?
- Average prisoner has committed 140 crimes before incarceration.

Arguments against

- Government claims many types of crime falling and BCS backs this to an extent.
- Government would argue that more laws have led to more order in the UK.
- More order – prisons filling up due to effective responses to crime rates.
- More laws has led to more order.
- More protection of rights has led to greater order.
- Society safer as a result of legislation – types of crime falling.

4. Context D: The Penal System

“The revolving door of re-offending is a result of the failing prison system.” (30)

To what extent is this view justified?

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 to this basis.

Arguments for

- Strong evidence that prison is responsible for re-offending and failing...two thirds of prison population re-convicted within two years.
- Prison system is failing to rehabilitate due to overcrowding.
- Prison makes some people worse – “universities of crime”.
- Prisons do not deter two thirds of prisoners from going back inside.
- Prisons are failing to meet aims – 75% test positive for drugs in prison.
- Arguments that re-offending is due to individual behaviour and choice not failing prisons.

Arguments against

- Re-offending not due to failing prisons – evidence of other attempts failing – Offending behaviour programmes Intensive Surveillance and Supervision Programmes – 91% reconvicted within 2 years.
- Many people in prison suffer mental illness which need treatment not prison.
- Many people in prison already have damaged lives before prison to which they return – therefore reoffend due to social factors.
- Prison alone cannot prevent reoffending – many other things also important – poverty, homelessness etc.
- Society causes revolving door not prison system – support on release.
- Arguments that re-offending is due to individual behaviour and choice not failing prisons.

Section B

5. *You have been asked to use official statistics to report on levels of recorded crime in the UK.*

(a) *What are the limitations of using official statistics for collecting the information you need?*

(8)

For full marks:

3 points in detail.

List type answers should get no more than 3 marks.

Limitations of official statistics such as:

- credit candidates who refer to specific official statistics such as British Crime Survey
- political agenda – used by government
- method of collection eg record only those individuals who are processed by the agencies that have responsibility for compiling the statistics
- include “new” crimes – unreliable data – recent increases in racially motivated crime
- does not accurately reflect crime trends but often political trends and initiatives
- statistics can be massaged
- not reliable since figures not compared over time
- incomplete data
- any other relevant points.

(b) *In view of these limitations, you decide to interview the Chief Constable of the local police force.*

In what ways might this method enhance your findings?

(7)

For full marks:

3 points in detail.

List type answers should get no more than 3 marks.

Advantages of interviewing a highly relevant person

Credit candidates who specifically refer to the person mentioned in the question eg Chief Constable

Credit the following:

Structured interview:

- specific goals and details for the interview are detailed before it commences. This provides structure
- answers should give detailed information on the issue.

Unstructured interview:

- good in the initial stages of research since they provide a general understanding of the problem
- less pressure on the interviewee as s/he can be spontaneous with the answers
- any other relevant points.

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

Credit candidates who clearly define **valid** and **reliable**.

Valid: true knowledge. Accurately measuring the concept.

Reliable: concerned with the question of whether the results of the study are repeatable and consistent.

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

- recent – January 2007. Evidence of deaths 5th + 15th January
- non-governmental organisation – independent of government so less bias
- INQUEST conducts research, policy – reliable source and reputable
- statistics over 5 year period so valid.

Evidence that suggests that the information does not allow us to make valid and reliable conclusions:

- NGO – so potentially biased
- statistics – unclear what some of the categories mean eg “other non-natural causes”
- biased statements throughout eg “prisons as dumping grounds”
- figures for 2007? only 17th January - already 2 deaths
- cannot compare with previous years.

Chosen points should be developed and their selection justified.

Depth required for full marks.

4 points x 3 marks

- (b) *Suggest, with reasons, one alternative way in which this information could be presented in order to make it easier for a researcher to use.* (5)

2 reasons required for the 5 marks but go to 3 marks for 1 reason in detail.

STUDY THEME 3: THE EUROPEAN UNION AND RESEARCH METHODS

SECTION A

Marks

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

“Conflict between the United Kingdom and other EU members has hindered the development of the European Union.”

To what extent is this an accurate 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.

Expect reference to some of the following

- Charles de Gaulle, Mrs. Thatcher (background)
- Common Agricultural Policy
- Common Fisheries Policy
- UK budget contribution/rebate
- Social Chapter
- EU Constitution
- Enlargement
- The Euro
- Federalism
- Treaties
- Immigration
- Asylum
- Other relevant points

2. Context B: Representation in the European Parliament

Critically assess the view that the European parliamentary elections have failed to engage the European electorate.

(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 reference to the following

Voting systems used:

Turnout – relationship with voting systems

Comparisons over time

Comparisons of different areas of EU

Specific reference to the UK

Comparison between old/new members

Position of the media/interest generated

Perceived ineffectiveness of European parliament

Effect of enlargement

Policies of the main political parties

Emergence of UKIP

Apathy, large constituencies

European Parliament gravy train

Ineffectiveness of MEPs

Other relevant points

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

“The European Parliament has become a more influential body within the European Union.”

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.

Expect reference to some of the following:

- position of Council of Ministers
- position of Commission
- emergence of Committee of the Regions
- emergence of the Economic and Social Committee
- co-operation procedure
- co-decision procedure
- numbers of MEP's
- representation from member states
- party groupings within the European Parliament
- democratically elected body
- sets budget, passes laws for the EU
- oversees the Commission
- traditionally viewed as a talking shop
- criticisms, corruption, calls for one parliament meeting place Brussels.

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

Analyse the view that the enlargement of the European Union has caused more problems than it has solved.

(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 reference to some of the following:

- changing balance of power within the EU
- economic and social problems associated with the 'Eastern Bloc'
- feared loss of influence by the 'Old Guard'
- budget issues – new members net gainers
- problems with CAP
- problems associated with modernisation of industry
- problems created with loss of jobs, movement of production, labour movement
- impact of new social and political cultures
- over complicated decision making process
- Anti European opinion developing?

BUT

- greater access to markets
- bigger labour pool
- opportunity to invest, improve living standards
- increased political and military stability
- spread of democracy
- stronger Economic Bloc.

Section B

5. *You have been asked to use official statistics to report on the European Union Fisheries policy.*

- (a) *What are the limitations of using official statistics for collecting the information you need?* (8)

For full marks:

3 points in detail.

List type answers should get no more than 3 marks.

Limitations of official statistics, such as:

- credit candidates who refer to specific official statistics such as EUROSTAT
- political agenda – used by EU
- method of collection eg record only those individuals who are processed by the agencies that have responsibility for compiling the statistics
- does not accurately reflect trends but often political trends and initiatives
- statistics can be massaged
- not reliable since figures not compared over time
- incomplete data
- any other relevant points.

- (b) *In view of these limitations, you decide to interview the European Union Fisheries Commissioner.*

In what ways might this method enhance your findings? (7)

For full marks:

3 points in detail.

List type answers should get no more than 3 marks.

Advantages of interviewing a highly relevant person

Credit candidates who specifically refer to the person mentioned in the question eg EU Fisheries Commissioner

Credit the following:

Structured interview:

- specific goals and details for the interview are detailed before it commences. This provides structure
- answers should give detailed information on the issue.

Unstructured interview:

- good in the initial stages of research since they provide a general understanding of the problem
- less pressure on the interviewee as s/he can be spontaneous with the answers
- any other relevant points.

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

Credit candidates who clearly define **valid** and **reliable**.

Valid: true knowledge. Accurately measuring the concept.

Reliable: concerned with the question of whether the results of the study are repeatable and consistent.

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

- press release from the Bruges Group
- quotes from director of Bruges Group – reliable source and based on research
- relevant statistics.

Evidence that suggests that the information does not allow us to make valid and reliable conclusions:

- very biased source
- selective use of facts
- using figures to make biased points
- by 2008 will be dated
- no context/comparative figures.

Chosen points should be developed and their selection justified.

Depth required for full marks.

4 points x 3 marks

- (b) *Suggest, with reasons, one alternative way in which this information could be presented in order to make it easier for a researcher to use.* (5)

2 reasons required for the 5 marks but go to 3 marks for 1 reason in detail.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]