



**SQ31/N5/01**

**Modern Studies**

Date — Not applicable

Duration — 1 hour and 30 minutes

**Total marks — 60**

**SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM — 20 marks**

Attempt ONE part, EITHER

Part A Democracy in Scotland Pages 2–4

OR

Part B Democracy in the United Kingdom Pages 5–7

**SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 20 marks**

Attempt ONE part, EITHER

Part C Social Inequality Pages 8–10

OR

Part D Crime and the Law Pages 11–13

**SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 20 marks**

Attempt ONE part, EITHER

Part E World Powers Pages 14–16

OR

Part F World Issues Pages 17–19

**Before attempting the questions you must check that your answer booklet is for the same subject and level as this question paper.**

Read the questions carefully.

On the answer booklet, you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator. If you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



Attempt **ONE** part, either

Part A — Democracy in Scotland on pages 2–4

OR

Part B — Democracy in the United Kingdom on pages 5–7

**PART A — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND**

*In your answers to Questions 1 and 2 you should give recent examples from Scotland.*

**Question 1**

Groups which try to influence the Scottish Government		
Pressure Groups	Trades Unions	The Media

Choose **one** of the groups above.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** ways in which the group you have chosen tries to influence the Scottish Government.

**4**

**Question 2**

The Additional Member System (AMS), used to elect the Scottish Parliament, has both advantages and disadvantages.

Explain, **in detail**, the advantages **and** disadvantages of the Additional Member System (AMS) which is used to elect the Scottish Parliament.

**8**

Part A (continued)

Question 3

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 below, then attempt the question which follows.

SOURCE 1

**Committees in the Scottish Parliament**

Much of the important work of the Scottish Parliament goes on in the many committees set up by the Parliament. In session 2008–09 the committees completed inquiries into a range of subjects, including tourism, child poverty, fuel poverty, and flooding and flood management in Scotland. In addition, the committees’ job is to closely check the work of the Scottish Government and any of its proposed laws. Committee meetings have taken place in venues around Scotland, including Fraserburgh, Ayr and Aberdeen.

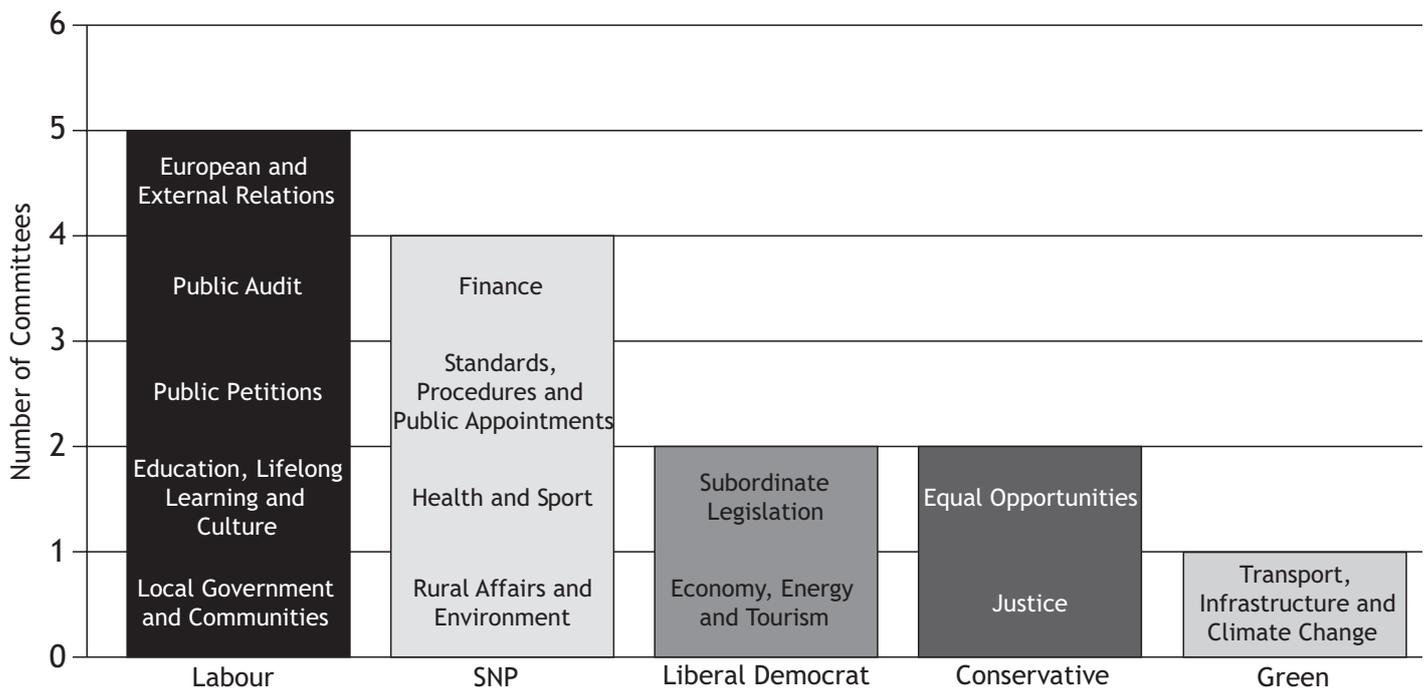
Committees can request debating time in the Scottish Parliament to bring issues raised in reports they have published to the attention of a wider audience. The Public Petitions Committee, for example, debated its report on the availability, on the National Health Service (NHS), of cancer treatment drugs. Committees also have the right to put forward Bills, hoping they will become law. One Bill out of the 17 introduced in 2008–09 —on a pension scheme for MSPs—was a Committee Bill.

The membership of the committees is made up of MSPs from every party, with Committee Conveners, who chair meetings, being drawn from different parties. Most committees meet weekly or fortnightly, usually on Tuesdays or on Wednesday mornings, in one of the Scottish Parliament’s committee rooms—or in locations around Scotland. Most meetings are open to the public.

Committees play a central part in the work of the Parliament—taking evidence from witnesses, examining proposed new laws and conducting inquiries. The work of the committees has contributed to the positive view most Scots have of their Parliament, with 70% saying devolution had been good for Scotland after 10 years.

SOURCE 2

Scottish Parliament Committees by Convener’s Party 2008–09



## Part A Question 3 (continued)

## SOURCE 3

**Case Study: Public Petitions Committee**

- The public petitions system gives members of the public direct access to policy development and the chance to examine new laws.
- The Public Petitions Committee has nine members: three Labour, three SNP, and one each from the Conservatives, Liberal Democrats and the Green Party.
- The existence of the Public Petitions Committee means the public can raise issues of concern directly with their Parliament.
- During 2008–09, 112 new petitions were lodged; the committee heard oral evidence on 35 new petitions and considered over 200 current petitions.
- The committee launched a year-long inquiry investigating ways to increase public awareness of, and participation in, the petitions process.
- It took forward an inquiry into the availability of cancer treatment drugs on the NHS.
- It hosted a debate in the chamber of the Parliament where community groups, victims, police, medical staff and many others met to discuss knife crime.
- The Public Petitions Committee played an important part in the successful law banning smoking in public places.
- The e-petitions system, which allows petitions to be raised online, continued to be influential, with around two-thirds of petitions being lodged in this way.
- Members of the public have lodged over 1,244 petitions in the past ten years.

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 above, what **conclusions** can be drawn about committees in the Scottish Parliament?

You should reach a conclusion about each of the following:

- the work done by committees
- the membership of committees
- public involvement in committees.

Your conclusions must be supported by evidence from the sources. You should link information within and between sources in support of your conclusions.

Your answer must be based on all three sources.

8

**NOW GO TO SECTION 2 ON PAGE EIGHT**

PART B — DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

MARKS

*In your answers to Questions 1 and 2 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.*

Question 1

Groups which try to influence the United Kingdom Government		
Pressure Groups	Trades Unions	The Media

Choose **one** of the groups above.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** ways in which the group you have chosen tries to influence the UK Government.

4

Question 2

The First Past the Post system (FPTP), used to elect the United Kingdom Parliament, has both advantages and disadvantages.

Explain, **in detail**, the advantages **and** disadvantages of the First Past the Post system (FPTP) which is used to elect the United Kingdom Parliament.

8

Part B (continued)

Question 3

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 below, then attempt the question which follows.

SOURCE 1

**Committees in the UK Parliament**

Some of the most important work of the House of Commons goes on in the many Select Committees. Select Committees examine the work of Government. They keep a close eye on the expenditure, administration and policy of every Government department. Over the years, this checking role of the Select Committees has become well-established and well-publicised.

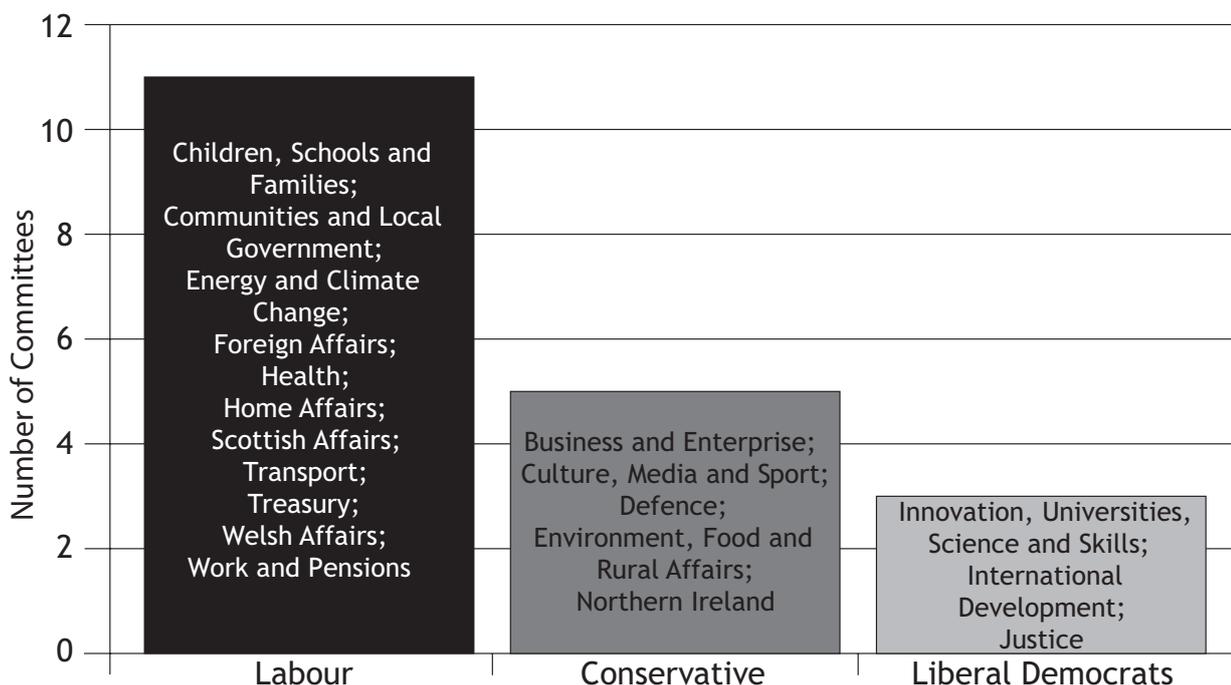
Committees are normally made up of backbench MPs. Their membership reflects the strength of each party in the House of Commons. This means the governing party always has a majority. Select Committees can hold meetings in different parts of the country, members of the public can attend, each has its own website and committee meetings are broadcast on television and the Internet.

Committees play a central part in the work of Parliament—taking evidence from witnesses including senior Government members, examining proposed new laws and conducting inquiries. MPs from every party take part in the work of the committees with Committee Chairpersons being drawn from different parties. In 2010, for the first time, Committee Chairs were elected by their fellow MPs.

Most committee reports are unanimous (ie publicly supported by all committee members), reflecting a more non-party way of working. Different parties often work together and try to reach agreement in the committees. While the reputation of Parliament as a whole has suffered in recent years, the work of the Select Committees is seen as a real check on the power of Government.

SOURCE 2

**UK Parliament Select Committees by Chairperson’s party 2008–09**



## Part B Question 3 (continued)

## SOURCE 3

**Case Study: Treasury Select Committee**

- The Treasury Select Committee took a leading role in investigating the financial and banking crisis of 2008–09.
- In 2009, the Treasury Select Committee had 14 members: eight Labour, four Conservatives and two Liberal Democrats.
- The Committee chooses its own subjects of inquiry. An inquiry may last for several months and result in a report to the House of Commons; or consist of a single day's evidence which may be published without a report.
- When the Committee has chosen an inquiry it normally contacts the media outlining the main themes of inquiry and inviting interested individuals, groups and organisations to submit written evidence.
- Parliament has given the Committee the power to send for “persons, papers and records”. It therefore has powers to insist upon the attendance of witnesses, such as Ministers and civil servants, and the production of papers and other material.
- Members of the public are welcome to attend hearings of the Committee.
- July 2009, the Treasury Select Committee announced a new inquiry: “Women in the City” and called for evidence.
- At a televised hearing of the Treasury Select Committee, former Royal Bank of Scotland chief executive, Sir Fred Goodwin, told MPs he “could not be more sorry” for what had happened during the banking crisis.
- The Treasury Select Committee was successful in putting pressure, along with others, on the Government to help those affected by the ending of the 10p rate of income tax.

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 above, what **conclusions** can be drawn about committees in the UK Parliament?

You should reach a conclusion about each of the following:

- the work done by committees
- the membership of committees
- public involvement in committees.

Your conclusions must be supported by evidence from the sources. You should link information within and between sources in support of your conclusions.

8

**NOW GO TO SECTION 2 ON PAGE EIGHT**

Attempt **ONE** part, either

Part C — Social Inequality on pages 8–10

OR

Part D — Crime and the Law on pages 11–13

**PART C — SOCIAL INEQUALITY**

*In your answers to Questions 1 and 2 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.*

**Question 1**

Examples of some groups that face inequality		
Ethnic minority groups	Elderly people	Unemployed people
Lone parent families	Disabled groups	Women

Choose **one** group from above or another group you have studied.

Describe, **in detail**, at least two ways in which the Government provides help for the group you have chosen.

**6**

**Question 2**

Many people in the UK have good health while others do not.

Explain, **in detail**, why many people in the UK have good health while others do not.

**6**

Part C (continued)

Question 3

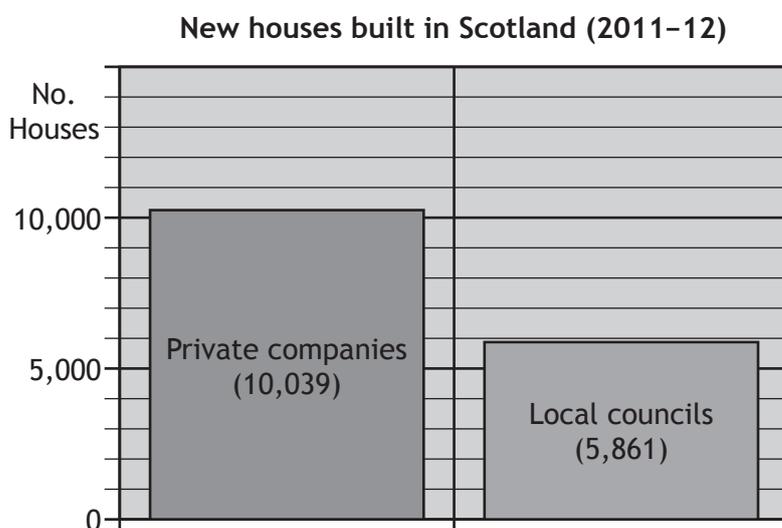
Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 below, then attempt the question which follows.

SOURCE 1

**Homelessness in Scotland**

- In Scotland, it is the responsibility of local councils to help homeless people.
- In 2011–12, 45,322 households made homeless applications to their local council in Scotland. In 2010–11 the figure was 56,350.
- In 2011–12, local councils accepted 35,515 of these applications. In 2010–11 the figure was 38,100.
- Police report that the number of people forced onto homeless waiting lists because of their anti-social neighbours has doubled since 2001.
- At present there are 87,000 empty homes of all types across Scotland and 29,300 second and holiday homes which lie empty for much of the year.
- Many believe that the homelessness problem worsened due to the introduction of the “Right to Buy” policy. This allowed council tenants to buy their homes, leaving few decent houses for rental.
- Housing charity Shelter has recently criticised the Scottish Government for cutting the housing budget by 45%. Shelter claims that the most needy and vulnerable groups are suffering.
- In 2012, council waiting lists had almost 188,000 households on them. At the same time there were 7,847 empty council houses.
- In 2011–12, 15,900 new houses were completed in Scotland. This represents a reduction of 38% over the last four years.
- Charities like APEX and SACRO try to help ex-prisoners who find themselves homeless. Both organisations have limited funding.

SOURCE 2



Local council homes sold through “Right to Buy” since 2001	
City	Houses sold through “Right to Buy”
Aberdeen	4,345
Dundee	2,017
Edinburgh	3,914
Glasgow	8,566
Rest of Scotland	61,569
Scottish Total	80,411

## Part C Question 3 (continued)

## SOURCE 3

**Article by Daisy Kingscourt, homeless campaigner**

Although homelessness is falling in Scotland, it is still a worrying problem. Being without a permanent home causes stress and illness among people. It affects the large number of children involved, damaging their education and their health.

Over one quarter of all the households who apply for homeless status do so as a result of a family dispute. The fact that 5% of homeless people have left prison or some kind of hospital only to find themselves on the streets is a scandal. Homeless Scots do not often match the common view of the homeless, ie a person who has been evicted for not paying their rent or mortgage. In fact, less than 5% of the Scottish homeless are without a home for this reason. Worryingly, 5% of homeless people leave their homes as a result of violence or harassment from their neighbours. Working together, the Government, police and local councils must solve these problems. An easy first step would be to reverse recent Scottish Government spending cuts which are clearly affecting these vulnerable groups.

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 above explain why the view of Danny Wilson is **selective in the use of facts**.

**“The homeless problem in Scotland is caused by a lack of available houses.”**

**View of Danny Wilson.**

- You should give information that Danny Wilson has selected as it supports his view.
- You should give information that Danny Wilson has not selected as it does not support his view.

Your answer must be based on all three sources.

8

**NOW GO TO SECTION 3 ON PAGE FOURTEEN**

PART D — CRIME AND THE LAW

MARKS

*In your answers to Questions 1 and 2 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.*

**Question 1**

The police in the UK try to reduce crime levels.

Describe, in **detail**, at least two ways in which the police try to reduce crime levels.

**6**

**Question 2**

There are many reasons why people commit crime.

Explain, in **detail**, why some people commit crime.

**6**

Part D (continued)

Question 3

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 below, then attempt the question which follows.

SOURCE 1

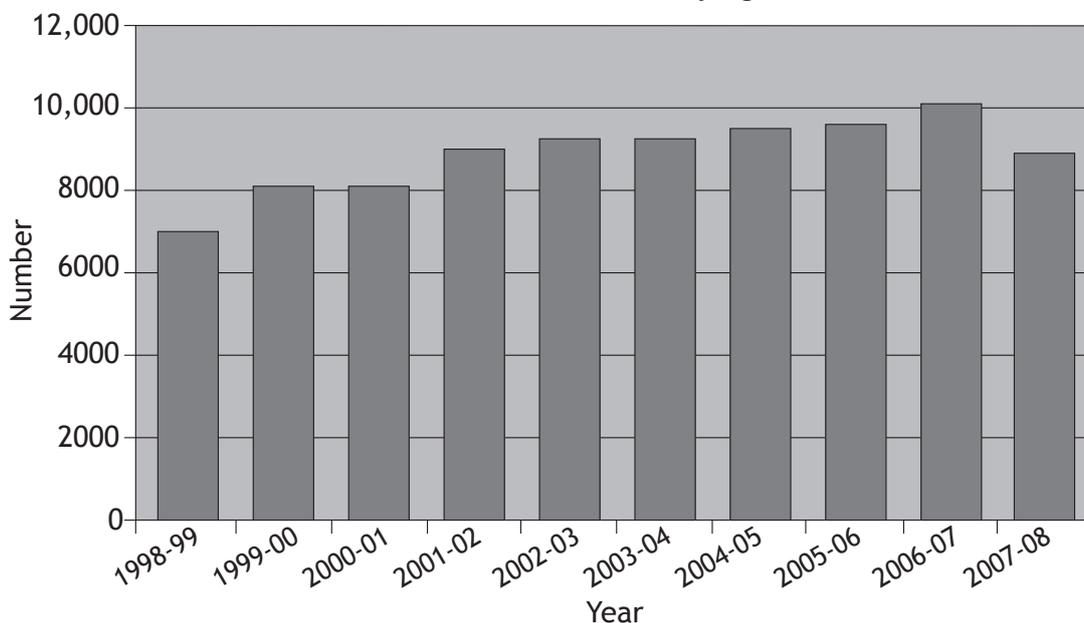
Facts and Viewpoints

The Scottish Government is considering a petition which would mean that any person carrying a knife would be given a mandatory custodial sentence. This would mean that possession of such a weapon would automatically result in the offender being sent to prison or detention centre.

- Community groups have called on the Government to take action to deter young people from carrying knives.
- 1,200 offenders were sentenced for possession of a knife between 2004 and 2009, but only 314 were given custodial sentences.
- Scottish Prisons reported that as a result of overcrowding, offenders were not serving their full sentence and were being released early. Automatic sentences may make this problem worse.
- In 2009, one in five people convicted of carrying a knife in Edinburgh had previously been charged for a similar offence.
- Thirty per cent of young people thought that introducing tougher sentences would reduce knife crime; 53% thought that community sentences were an appropriate punishment for young people found carrying a knife.
- Judges in Scotland think that they should be able to consider the personal circumstances of each case before sentencing.
- A custodial sentence can have a huge impact on the future of young people convicted.
- The number of people sent to prison for carrying a knife fell to a five-year low in 2008 because only one in three offenders were jailed.
- In 2009, 78% of youths questioned in Glasgow said that a prison sentence would make them never carry a knife again.

SOURCE 2

Number of recorded crimes of carrying a knife in Scotland



## Part D Question 3 (continued)

## SOURCE 3

**Evidence of Louise McKay to Scottish Parliament Committee**

Locking up people who carry knives is not the answer to tackling this problem. Many of the young people who carry knives are not criminals. Sending these youngsters to prison would simply punish them for the rest of their lives for being young and foolish. Keeping a prisoner locked up costs around £30,000 per year. Even half of this money spent on community projects would help young people realise how much damage they can do themselves and others by carrying a knife. The numbers caught carrying knives in Scotland is falling. Clearly, this Government's proposal for an automatic prison sentence is not necessary and would be a waste of taxpayers' money.

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 above explain why the view of Billy Mackenzie is **selective in the use of facts**.

**Giving anyone caught carrying a knife a prison sentence is a good way to reduce knife crime.**

**View of Billy Mackenzie.**

- You should give information that Billy Mackenzie has selected as it supports his view.
- You should give information that Billy Mackenzie has not selected as it does not support his view.

Your answer must be based on all three sources.

8

**NOW GO TO SECTION 3 ON PAGE FOURTEEN**

Attempt ONE part, either

Part E—World Powers                      on pages 14–16

OR

Part F—World Issues                      on pages 17–19

### PART E — WORLD POWERS

*In your answers to Questions 1 and 2 you should give recent examples from a world power you have studied.*

#### Question 1

Citizens can participate in politics in many ways.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** ways in which citizens from a world power you have studied can participate in politics.

4

#### Question 2

Social and economic inequalities exist in all world powers.

Explain, **in detail**, why social and economic inequalities exist in a world power you have studied.

6

**Part E (continued)**

**Question 3**

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 below, then attempt the question which follows.

You are a government adviser. You have been asked to recommend whether the Government should build the Melo Bonte Dam.

**Option 1**

Build the Melo Bonte Dam

**Option 2**

Do not build the Melo Bonte Dam

**SOURCE 1**

**Government Signs Contracts for Controversial Rainforest Dam**

In July 2010, a South American Government signed contracts for the construction of a massive new hydroelectric dam in their rainforest. Once complete, Melo Bonte will be the world's third-largest hydroelectric dam. The Minister of Mines and Energy said the Melo Bonte complex, to be built near the mouth of the Celdy River in the northern rainforest, will "play an important role in the development of the area and people displaced by the dam will be compensated".

The project has raised a storm of protest, with many judges, Hollywood celebrities, environmental pressure groups and organisations representing rainforest residents, opposing it. In April 2010, *Avatar* director James Cameron and two members of the film's cast took part in protests about the dam. Protesters say the proposed dam would cause "serious damage" to the rainforest ecosystem and the lives of up to 50,000 rainforest residents could be affected as 500 square kilometres could be flooded.

The Government says the dam is vital for the continued expansion of the economy, as the growing population needs more electricity. The Melo Bonte Dam is expected to provide electricity for 23 million homes. The companies awarded contracts to build the dam will have to pay large amounts to protect the environment. The Government said that most people support the decision to build the dam.

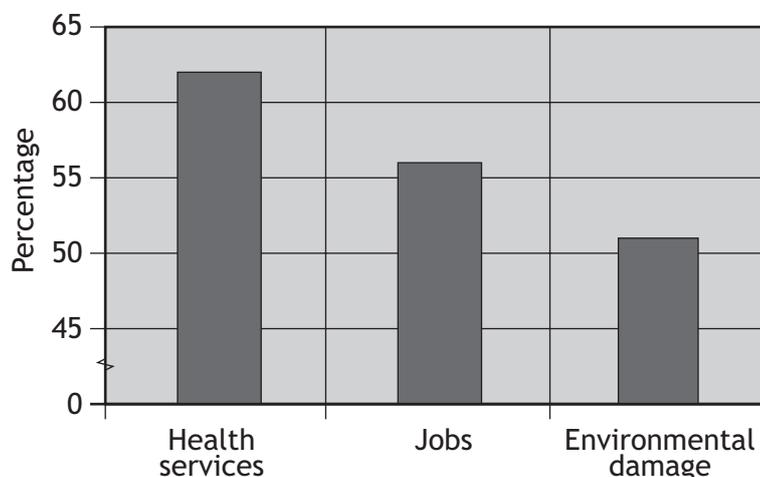
The dam has been defended by some of the rainforest's residents who hope to benefit from the estimated 18,000 direct jobs and 80,000 indirect jobs the project will create. However, some experts and business representatives in the energy industry also oppose the dam. They say the actual cost will be 60% higher than its US\$10.8 billion budget and will only operate at 40% of its capacity due to the drop in water in the Celdy River during the dry season.

## SOURCE 2

## Results of Opinion Polls

Do you agree or disagree with the Government's decision to build the Melo Bonte Dam?		
	All people	Rainforest residents
Agree	65%	12%
Disagree	30%	85%
Don't know	5%	3%

## What is the main priority facing the country?



## SOURCE 3

## Melo Bonte Dam Protests: April–July

April 12	International celebrities attend protests along with over 500 protesters to demand the cancellation of the project to build the Melo Bonte dam.
April 15	Under pressure from local people and campaigners, local politicians in the area obtain a court injunction to ban companies from bidding to build the dam.
April 17	The Government wins an appeal to overturn the ban in a higher court.
April 18	500 Greenpeace protesters dump three tons of manure in front of the National Electric Energy Agency in the capital city.
May 19	The Government finally wins the court case and awards the US\$10 billion contract to a group of nine companies who hope to be transmitting power.
June 17	Kayapo Indians, who live in the rainforest, blockade a major highway disrupting commercial goods traffic.
June 20	Many people who live in the rainforest back the dam because it will generate employment to replace the jobs lost since a clampdown on illegal logging.
July 2	Campaigners say they will continue protesting despite the contract being awarded.
July 15	The companies building the dam agree to pay US\$803 million to create parks and help monitor forests and to pay compensation to people affected by the dam.

You must decide which option to recommend, either build the Melo Bonte Dam (**Option 1**) or do not build the Melo Bonte Dam (**Option 2**).

- (i) Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 above and opposite, which option would you choose?
- (ii) Give reasons to support your choice.
- (iii) Explain why you did not choose the other option.

Your answer must be based on all three sources.

*In your answers to Questions 1 and 2 you should give recent examples from a world issue you have studied.*

### Question 1

International organisations which try to resolve international issues and problems		
United Nations Organisation	NATO	World Bank
European Union	African Union	Charities and other NGOs

Describe, **in detail**, **two** ways in which international organisations try to resolve an international issue or problem you have studied.

4

### Question 2

International issues and problems have many causes.
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Explain, **in detail**, the causes of an international issue or problem you have studied.

6

Part F (continued)

Question 3

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 below, then attempt the question which follows.

You are an adviser to the European Union (EU). You have been asked to recommend whether Country A or Country B should be allowed to join the EU.

Option 1

Allow Country “A” to join the EU

Option 2

Allow Country “B” to join the EU

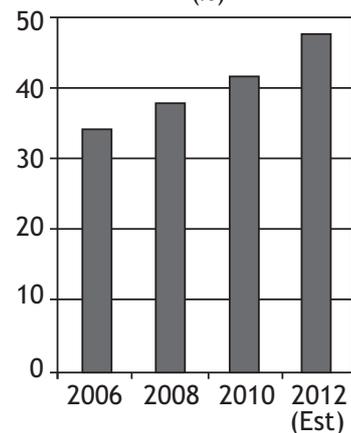
Country A and Country B are **Candidate Countries** hoping to be allowed to join the European Union. Source 1 and 2 contain information about both countries taken from their applications.

SOURCE 1

CANDIDATE COUNTRY “A”

- This country has a small population of 4.5 million people and an average income of only €11,200.
- The police have worked hard to catch drug traffickers. Many have been given long jail sentences.
- Country A allows its citizens many rights and freedoms. It would meet the criteria of the European Convention on Human Rights.
- UNICEF and several large childrens’ charities have criticised Country A for its social care system. Investigations have shown that many elderly people and children are cared for in terrible conditions.

University Graduates (%)

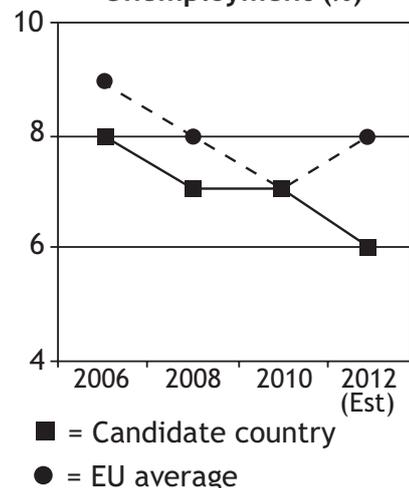


SOURCE 2

CANDIDATE COUNTRY “B”

- Country B produces 32 million barrels of oil per day and only uses 13 million barrels. It wants to export more.
- Healthcare is poor in Country B. Life expectancy is low at 58 and child mortality is high at 11 per 1,000 live births.
- In Country B, 36% of the population still work on farms. The EU would be asked to spend money to improve agriculture.
- UNESCO has praised the primary education system in Country B as levels of illiteracy have fallen to below 10%.

Unemployment (%)



## Part F Question 3 (continued)

## SOURCE 3

## EUROPEAN UNION (EU) FACTFILE

- The EU has grown over the years. In 2009, it had 27 member states and a population close to 500 million. Average life expectancy in the EU is 78 years and child mortality is 5 per 1,000 live births. More countries still wish to join.
- 48% of the EU's budget is spent supporting agriculture and fishing although these industries employ only 4% of the workforce. This support is planned to fall over the next few years and many member governments see this as a necessity.
- The EU's growing economy needs more university graduates. EU countries are among the most technologically advanced in the world. At the moment, 51% of school leavers go to university.
- Across all member states, schools in the EU have achieved a 96% literacy level. Any country wishing to join must be able to come close to this figure.
- Trade between EU member states contributes to the high standard of living within the EU. On average, a worker in the EU earns €23,100. Several member states are concerned about the number of poor countries applying to join.
- The EU has to import 11 million barrels of oil every day from countries like Russia. Many people in the EU worry that it is too dependent on Russia for oil and would like to admit new members with large oil reserves.
- EU health and welfare systems are among the best in the world. Groups such as the elderly and children are well looked after. Any new members must try to match these standards.

## Survey of EU Public Opinion

Question: How important is it that new EU members have:

	Unimportant	Not very important	Fairly important	Very important
Strict policies on crime?	4%	8%	38%	50%
Low unemployment?	0%	0%	48%	52%
A good record on human rights?	2%	10%	53%	35%

You must decide which option to recommend, **either** allow Country A to join the EU (**Option 1**) or allow Country B to join the EU (**Option 2**).

- Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 above, **which option would you choose?**
- Give reasons to **support** your choice.
- Explain** why you did not choose the other option.

Your answer must be based on all three sources.

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[END OF SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER]