

Exemplar Question Paper for Higher Politics

The Exemplar Question Paper and Marking Instructions have been developed to be used by centres and candidates to prepare for question papers (exams) as part of Higher Course assessment. They show how questions from past papers can be used or amended to support learners in their exam preparation.

The structure of the Exemplar Question Paper is aligned with the guidance in the Course Assessment Specification, which is available on the [subject page](#).

The questions in the Exemplar Question Paper follow the style and structure of similar questions in the [Specimen Question Paper](#) (also available on the subject page). The paper overall is designed to provide the same level of demand as the Specimen Question Paper; and the Detailed Marking Instructions reflect the approach of those in the Specimen Question Paper.

The questions included in the Higher Exemplar Question Paper were, as far as possible, selected or amended from those used in past papers, in accordance with the [Guidance on the use of past paper questions](#) document. Care has been taken to align the information in the table below with the questions identified in the guidance document and used in the Exemplar Question Paper. Any misalignment in this information will be updated as part of our regular revisions in 2015.

If no suitable questions were available in recent past papers for reasons of sampling or because there is now new content, new questions were developed or appropriate questions were selected/adapted from other years. Details of how questions have been amended for this Exemplar Question Paper are given in the table below.

When using any past paper questions, it is important to remember that centres and learners must take into account the generic guidance on selection and/or amendments to questions below.

- ◆ You must select questions that provide candidates with the same level of challenge as those in the Higher Specimen Question Paper.
- ◆ You may be able to use questions as published or with amendments as suggested in the columns below.
- ◆ You must use questions that adhere to the Higher General Marking Principles and reflect the form of Detailed Marking Instructions as published in the Higher Specimen Question Paper.

If any change to a question/items is necessary, you must ensure that:

- ◆ The style and structure matches the Specimen Question Paper for Higher.
- ◆ Marking of the candidate's response to the question adheres to the General Marking Principles in the Higher Specimen Question Paper.
- ◆ Marking Instructions are amended to reflect the style of the Higher Detailed Marking Instructions.

Additional Subject Specific Information for Higher Politics

The table below shows which questions in the Exemplar Question Paper were selected/amended from past papers (and in what way they were amended) in accordance with the **Guidance on the use of past paper questions for Higher** document and also lists any new questions.

The Exemplar Question Paper for Higher can be found on the [subject page](#).

Question papers in Higher Politics will have the following structure:

Sections 1 and 2 will have either of the following patterns of questions:

- ◆ One 20-mark question, from a choice of two
or
- ◆ One 12-mark question from a choice of two, a single 8-mark question based on two or three sources of information

Both these pattern of questions will be used in every paper, in either Section 1 or 2.

The same pattern may appear in the same Section in two or more subsequent papers. This will not be predictable in advance.

Section 3 will always include the following questions:

- ◆ One 12-mark question from a choice of two, a single 8-mark question based on two or three sources of information

This Exemplar Paper shows an example of a paper where the 8-mark and 12-mark questions appear in section one (Political Theory) and the 20-mark questions appear in section two (Political Systems).

Glossary of terms

Term	Explanatory comment
Question used as published in past paper	Past paper question has been used as previously published.
Past paper question with context amended	Past paper question has been used, but the basis of the information has altered, eg in Geography, this may mean a change in context from glaciation to coasts.
Past paper question with source amended	Past paper question has been used, but the source of information is different, eg in English this may mean a different text has been used.
Past paper question with style amended	Past paper question has been used, but the style of questioning has changed, eg in Mathematics, multiple-choice questions may have been changed to a short-response question.
Past paper question with structure amended	Past paper question has been used, but the structure of the question has changed, eg in Physics it may mean only part of a question was used with amendments to Marking Instructions to take account of no half marks.
New question written	This is a new area of Course content.

Exemplar Question Paper question number	Question used as published in past paper, with/without amendment to Marking Instructions	Past paper question with context amended	Past paper question with source amended	Past paper question with style amended	Past paper question with structure amended	New question written
Q1 2012 Paper 1 used as the basis for this question	Marking Instructions re-written accordingly			Style amended to use clearer command word: 'Compare' replaces 'What are'.		
Q2 2012 Paper 1 used as the basis for this question	Marking Instructions re-written accordingly			Style amended to use clearer command word: 'Analyse' replaces 'To what extent'.		
Q3 2012 Paper 2 used as the basis for this question	Marking Instructions re-written accordingly	New context: Democracy		Style amended to use clearer command word: 'Analyse' replaces 'Examine'. Minor re-wording of question.		
Q4						No suitable past paper question
Q5						No suitable past paper question

Q6 2013 Paper 2 QC7 used as the basis for this question	Marking Instructions re-written accordingly	Sociological model replaces Rational Choice model		Style amended to use clearer command word: 'evaluate' replaces 'discuss'. Minor re- wording of question		
Q7						No suitable past paper question
Q8 2012 Paper 1 Q2 used as the basis for this question		'Opinion polls conducted in the last few days before the 2010 General Election' replaces 'election night 2011'		Style amended to use clearer command word. 'Evidence' replaces 'information'. Minor re-wording of question		