

X236/12/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS 2012

FRIDAY, 11 MAY
9.00 AM – 10.30 AM

MODERN STUDIES
HIGHER
Paper 1

Candidates should answer **FOUR** questions:

- **ONE** from Section A

and

- **ONE** from Section B

and

- **ONE** from Section C

and

ONE OTHER from **EITHER** Section A **OR** Section C

Section A: Political Issues in the United Kingdom

Section B: Social Issues in the United Kingdom

Section C: International Issues.

Each question is worth 15 marks.



SECTION A—Political Issues in the United Kingdom

Each question is worth 15 marks

STUDY THEME 1A: DEVOLVED DECISION MAKING IN SCOTLAND

Question A1

In carrying out its functions, local government in Scotland has come into conflict with the Scottish Government.

Discuss.

STUDY THEME 1B: DECISION MAKING IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Question A2

To what extent is the UK Parliament effective in controlling the powers of the Prime Minister?

*STUDY THEME 1C: POLITICAL PARTIES AND THEIR POLICIES
(INCLUDING THE SCOTTISH DIMENSION)*

Question A3

Critically examine the view that there are few policy differences between the main political parties.

*STUDY THEME 1D: ELECTORAL SYSTEMS, VOTING AND POLITICAL
ATTITUDES*

Question A4

To what extent is the media the most important factor affecting voter behaviour?

SECTION B—Social Issues in the United Kingdom

Each question is worth 15 marks

*STUDY THEME 2: WEALTH AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN
THE UNITED KINGDOM*

EITHER

Question B5

The UK's Welfare State continues to meet its aims.

Discuss.

OR

Question B6

Critically examine the view that Government has failed to reduce gender **or** race inequalities in the UK.

[Turn over for Section C on *Page four*

SECTION C—International Issues

Each question is worth 15 marks

STUDY THEME 3A: THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Question C7

The political strength of the African National Congress does not threaten democracy in South Africa.

Discuss.

STUDY THEME 3B: THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Question C8

In China, democracy has been extended and human rights improved.

Discuss.

STUDY THEME 3C: THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Question C9

To what extent does Congress act as an effective check on the powers of the President?

STUDY THEME 3D: THE EUROPEAN UNION

Question C10

Assess the importance of the European Parliament in decision making within the European Union (EU).

STUDY THEME 3E: THE POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

Question C11

With reference to specific African countries (excluding the Republic of South Africa):

Assess the effectiveness of foreign aid in promoting development.

STUDY THEME 3F: GLOBAL SECURITY

Question C12

International terrorism is seen by NATO as the main threat to global peace and security.

Discuss.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]