

X235/12/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2014

THURSDAY, 5 JUNE
1.00 PM – 2.00 PM

POLITICS
HIGHER
Paper 1

Answer **both** questions.



Study the Sources below and answer the questions which follow.

Source A: National Assembly for Wales seats by Party (1999–2011)

Party	1999	2003	2007	2011
Conservative	9	11	12	14
Labour	28	30	26	30
Lib Dem	6	6	6	5
Plaid Cymru	17	12	15	11
Others	0	1	1	0

Source B: Election Results, National Assembly for Wales (2007 and 2011)

	Votes	% Total Votes	Seats
3 May 2007			
Conservative	427,884	21.9%	12
Labour	603,880	30.9%	26
Lib Dem	258,910	13.3%	6
Plaid Cymru	423,878	21.7%	15
Others	238,326	12.2%	1
Total	1,952,878	100.0%	60
5 May 2011			
Conservative	451,162	23.8%	14
Labour	751,612	39.6%	30
Lib Dem	176,608	9.3%	5
Plaid Cymru	352,706	18.6%	11
Others	166,053	8.7%	0
Total	1,898,141	100.0%	60

Question 1

Use only the information in Sources A and B.

“The results of the 2011 Welsh Assembly elections were clearly the best ever for both Labour and the Conservatives. However, between 2007 and 2011 the Conservatives made the biggest gains.”

To what extent does the evidence in **Sources A** and **B** support this viewpoint?

(6)

Source C: 1980–2008 US Presidential Elections – National Voter Turnout

Year	Voter Turnout	Voter Turnout (%)
1980	86,515,221	52.6%
1984	92,652,680	53.1%
1988	91,594,693	50.1%
1992	104,405,155	55.1%
1996	96,456,345	49.1%
2000	105,586,274	51.3%
2004	122,294,978	55.3%
2008	132,618,580	56.8%

Source D: 1980–2008 US Presidential Elections – National Voter Turnout by Age

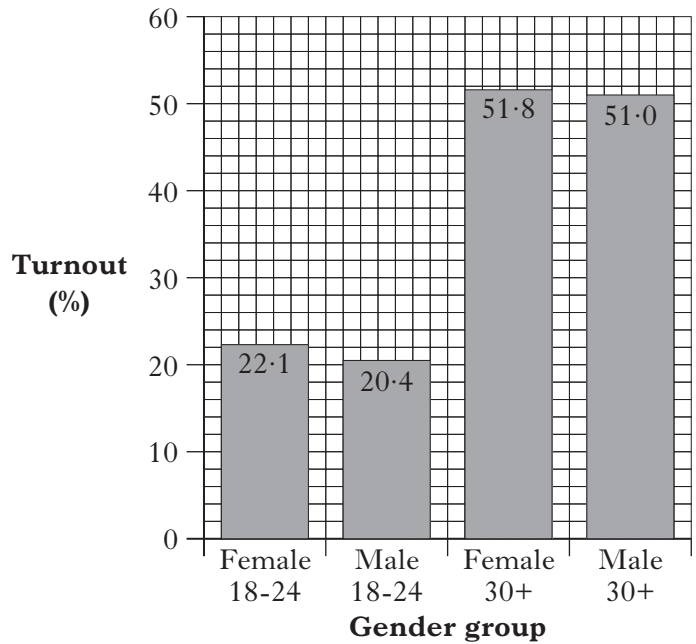
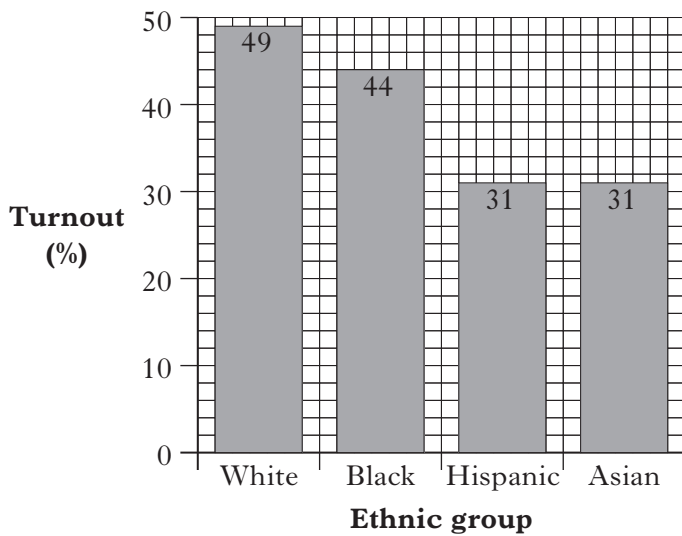
Presidential Election Year	Turnout Age 18–24	Turnout age 30+
1980	43.4%	70.6%
1984	44.3%	71.2%
1988	39.9%	68.5%
1992	48.6%	72.4%
1996	35.6%	63.6%
2000	36.1%	64.6%
2004	46.7%	67.7%
2008	48.5%	67.0%

Source E: 2010 US Midterm Congressional Elections – Voter Turnout by Selected States

State	Turnout (% of voting age population)
Arkansas	35.2%
California	35.9%
Florida	36.3%
Georgia	35.5%
Indiana	35.6%
Louisiana	36.8%
Maine	54.4%
Nebraska	35.5%
North Carolina	36.4%
Virginia	35.3%

Source F: 2010 US Midterm Congressional Elections – Voter Turnout by Ethnicity and Gender

Marks



Source G: Voter Turnout by Selected Groups in Recent Midterm Congressional Elections (1998–2010)

	1998	2002	2006	2010
Turnout by income				
Above \$75,000	56%	59%	61%	60%
Below \$50,000	42%	41%	43%	40%
Turnout by education				
College or more	61%	63%	64%	61%
High school or less	36%	36%	40%	35%
Turnout by age				
Age 30+	51.6%	52.4%	53.7%	51.4%
Age 18–24	18.5%	19.4%	22.1%	21.3%

Question 2

Use only the information in Sources C, D, E, F and G.

Between 1980 and 2008 there was a steady and very significant improvement in Presidential national voter turnout, though youth turnout usually lagged slightly behind that of older voters. In the 2010 Midterm Congressional Elections, turnout was very similar across all States and all sections of the electorate. In fact, among selected voter groups, turnout in 2010 was much greater than in all other recent mid-term Congressional Elections.

To what extent does the information in **Sources C, D, E, F and G** support this viewpoint? (14)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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THURSDAY, 5 JUNE
2.20 PM – 4.00 PM

POLITICS
HIGHER
Paper 2

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

ONE from Section A—Political Theory

ONE from Section B—Political Structures

ONE from Section C—Political Representation

Each question carries 20 marks.



Section A—Political Theory

Marks

Answer ONE question from this section.

- A1.** Compare and contrast the key elements of Conservatism and Liberalism using the works of Burke and Locke to illustrate your answer. **(20)**
- A2.** Explain the key features of direct and representative democracy, using the works of appropriate theorists to illustrate your answer. **(20)**
- A3.** “Legitimacy is crucial to the distinction between Power and Authority.” Discuss, using the works of Lukes and Weber to illustrate your answer. **(20)**

Section B—Political Structures

Marks

Answer ONE question from this section.

- B4.** Compare and contrast the links between elected representatives and their constituents in the UK Parliament with those in **either** the US Congress **or** the Scottish Parliament. (20)
- B5.** “The roles and powers of committees in the UK Parliament compare unfavourably with committees in **either** the Scottish Parliament **or** the US Congress.”
Discuss. (20)
- B6.** Compare and contrast the checks and balances that exist to control the powers of the UK Prime Minister with those of **either** Scotland’s First Minister **or** the President of the USA. (20)

[Turn over for Section C on *Page four*

Section C—Political Representation

Marks

Answer ONE question from this section.

- C7.** Explain and illustrate the key **advantages** and **disadvantages** of using the Additional Member System in Scottish Parliamentary elections. **(20)**
- C8.** Explain and illustrate the main purposes of elections in the UK. **(20)**
- C9.** Examine the main theories of voting behaviour, illustrating your answer with examples from the UK. **(20)**

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]