

N5

National Qualifications

2023

Modern Studies

Thursday, 18 May

Instructions to Candidates

Candidates should enter their surname, forename(s), date of birth, Scottish candidate number and the name and level of the subject at the top of their first answer sheet.

Total marks — 80

SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM — 28 marks

Attempt Part B AND Question 7, only Part B is provided in this paper.

SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 26 marks

Attempt Part D AND Question 14, only Part D is provided in this paper.

SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 26 marks

Attempt Part F AND Question 21, only Part F is provided in this paper.

An owl in the margin indicates a new question.

Sources marked with an asterisk differ in some respects from those in the printed paper.

[Braille page 2] You must clearly identify the question number you are attempting on your answer sheet.

Marks are shown in square brackets at the end of each question or part question.

Tactile diagrams are produced in a separately bound booklet.

[Braille page 3] SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM — 28 marks

Attempt Part B AND Question 7

PART B — DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

In your answers to Questions 4, 5 and 6 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.

ow 4. First Past the Post (FPTP) has many features. Describe, in detail, two features of First Past the Post. [4 marks]

ow 5. Individuals can participate in election campaigns in many ways. Describe, in detail, two ways in which individuals can participate in election campaigns. [6 marks]

Attempt EITHER Question 6(a) OR 6(b)

ow 6. (a) The media is very influential within a democracy. Explain, in detail, why the media is very influential within a democracy. You should **[Braille page 4]** give a maximum of three explanations in your answer. [8 marks]

OR

ow 6. (b) The Prime Minister is very powerful. Explain, in detail, why the Prime Minister is very powerful. You should give a maximum of three explanations in your answer. [8 marks]

[Now go to Question 7]

[Braille page 5] ow * 7. Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 and then answer the question which follows.

You are a young voter living in the Scottish constituency of Southside Central. An election is taking place to elect a new member of the Scottish Youth Parliament. There are two candidates, Gillian Garfield (option 1) and Jake Holland (option 2).

Option 1 - Vote for Gillian Garfield

Option 2 - Vote for Jake Holland

SOURCE 1 Candidate profiles are below outlining their main policy objective and other priorities.

Gillian Garfield

Main policy objective

Campaign for improved mental health services for young people.

Other priorities

"I will look to improve access to free leisure activities such as gym memberships as this is clearly something young people want. I will also attempt to tackle the problem of cyber bullying by improving education and support available. While it has improved in recent years, I want to increase youth awareness of politics. One way I will do this is by **[Braille page 6]** encouraging the Scottish Government to make political literacy a mandatory part of the school curriculum like PE. I will work to ensure that there is a greater police presence in the local area so that everyone feels safe and secure."

Jake Holland

Main policy objective

Campaign for improved LGBTQ rights for young people.

Other priorities

"At present I believe decision-makers ignore the voices of young people. I will be their voice. Currently, there are too few employment opportunities for school leavers. One way I will address this is by encouraging the Scottish Government to create more jobs for young people. Poverty is a key priority for me as it is very important in the minds of young people. The cost of food, gas and electricity has risen significantly with people choosing between `heating and eating`. I will lobby the Scottish Government to build more affordable housing for young people who find it difficult to buy their first home."

[Braille page 7] SOURCE 2 Opinion poll of young people in Southside Central

[In the table below Opinion is followed by: Strongly agree (%); Agree (%); Disagree (%); Strongly disagree (%).]

Political literacy should be a core subject in school: 32; 34; 21; 14.

Young people are ignored by decision-makers: 15; 10; 43; 32.

There should be harsher punishments for littering: 52; 9; 29; 10.

There needs to be improved mental health services for young people: 50; 25; 15; 10.

Leisure activities should be made more affordable: 40; 19; 30; 11.

The issue of cyber bullying needs to be addressed: 10; 25; 43; 22.

There needs to be improved LGBTQ rights for young people: 42; 20; 18; 20.

There needs to be more affordable housing for young people: 42; 28; 15; 15.

SOURCE 3 Southside Central constituency

Southside Central is a diverse constituency. However, in the past there has **[Braille page 8]** been evidence of hate crimes against young minority groups which have caused tensions and often conflict amongst constituents. As a result, there has been a higher police presence in the area which has been welcomed by the local community. This has reduced the number of hate crimes. Whilst people now report that they feel safer, LGBTQ youth groups continue to fight for improved rights.

A real concern in the constituency is the waiting list for affordable housing. Young people in the area recently submitted a petition highlighting the need for more affordable housing for the 16 to 24 year-old age group.

There is also a concern in relation to the cost of living. One local charity has indicated that some young people are worried about paying their household bills.

Health professionals working within Southside Central have raised concerns about the increase in mental health referrals amongst young people since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a lack of resources to meet this need with lengthy waiting times for young people to access support services.

There is a wide variety of leisure activities available in the Southside Central constituency. However, most of the facilities, such as gyms, are privately owned and are too expensive for **[Braille page 9]** young people to become members. There are only two local authority sports centres in the area and even these are still expensive.

Young people in the local area have a wide range of opportunities when they leave school with a number going to further education, gaining employment or securing apprenticeships. Southside Central has one of the lowest youth unemployment rates in the country.

You must decide which option to recommend, either vote for Gillian Garfield (Option 1) or vote for Jake Holland (Option 2).

(i) Using Sources 1, 2 and 3, 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. [10 marks]

[Now go to SECTION 2]

[Braille page 10] SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 26 marks

Attempt Part D AND Question 14

PART D — CRIME AND THE LAW

In your answers to Questions 11, 12 and 13 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.

Q 11. There are many consequences of crime on victims. Describe, in detail, two consequences of crime on victims. [4 marks]

Q 12. Some people commit crime as a result of social causes. Explain, in detail, two reasons why some people commit crime as a result of social causes. [6 marks]

Q 13. The police are not effective in tackling crime. Explain, in detail, two reasons why the police are not effective in tackling crime. [6 marks]

[Now go to Question 14]

[Braille page 11] ow * 14. Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 and then answer the question which follows.

SOURCE 1 Prisons and COVID-19

Conditions in UK prisons, such as overcrowding and limited opportunities for social distancing, are ideal for the spread of the COVID-19 virus. In June 2020, prisons in England and Wales reported 500 confirmed cases of COVID-19. The UK government was keen to avoid any prison disruptions as had been reported in Italy in early March 2020. The early release of low-risk prisoners was one of the first steps taken to reduce the impact of the virus on the prison community. Initially, under this scheme, 4,000 prisoners were set to be released in England and Wales.

Further action was taken to limit infections amongst the thousands who were living and working in prisons. This included restricting movements between jails to avoid prisoners and staff becoming infected with the virus, an increase in staff testing and a widescale ban on visitors to prisons. Before COVID-19 there were over 80,000 prisoners in the UK resulting in many **[Braille page 12]** thousands of prison visits each week.

During the COVID-19 lockdown prisoners relied on telephone communication. As a result, in prison cells in England and Wales the number of in-cell telephones rose to around 70%. A high number of mobile phones were also issued. These handsets enabled prisoners to make contact with their family during lockdown. However, this was seen as a controversial move amongst the public.

In order to prevent further spread of the virus, the UK government recommended that measures to quarantine new and at-risk inmates would be needed for at least a year. The quarantine measures appeared to have made an impact on the spread of the virus. By December 2021, 177 prisoners in England and Wales had died as a result of COVID-19.

SOURCE 2 Refer to both diagrams for Question 14

SOURCE 3 Newspaper Quotes (i) to (iv) below show the newspaper name followed by the quote.

(i) DAILY PLANET

COVID-19 CASES IN PRISON: **[Braille page 13]** The number of prisoners believed to have been infected with COVID-19 may be much higher than the published figure. Public Health research in September 2020 has found 1,783 "likely" cases across jails in England and Wales.

(ii) DAILY BLOG

EARLY RELEASE SCHEME: By the end of August 2020, only 275 prisoners had been released from prison early in England and Wales, including a number of pregnant prisoners and mothers with babies. The government originally said a higher number of offenders would be released, to create space in jails to help social distancing during the COVID-19 outbreak.

(iii) GLOBAL NEWS

In countries around the world, many prisoners were released early from their sentences in an attempt to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Some instances of this up to August 2020 include:

Iran.....85,000

Turkey.....45,000

Brazil.....30,000

Indonesia..30,000

Ethiopia.....4,000

[Braille page 14] (iv) BUGLE!

Prison Officers – Isolation: Figures from the Ministry of Justice reveal 542 members of staff have tested positive for COVID-19 across 72 English and Welsh prisons with 23 Prisoner Escort and Custody Services staff confirmed as having the virus (May 2020).

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3, what conclusions can be drawn about the impact of COVID-19 on prisons? You should reach a conclusion about each of the following

- the number of COVID-19 cases amongst prisoners in England and Wales between June and September 2020
- the ability of families to communicate with prisoners during the COVID-19 lockdown
- public opinion on the issuing of mobile phones in prison during the COVID-19 lockdown
- early release from prison in England and Wales due to COVID-19 compared to other countries.

Your conclusions must be supported by evidence from the sources. You should link information within and between the sources in support of your conclusions. Your answer must be based on all three sources. [10 marks]

[Braille page 15] [Now go to SECTION 3]

[Braille page 16] SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 26 MARKS

Attempt Part F AND Question 21

PART F — WORLD ISSUES

In your answers to Questions 18, 19 and 20 you should give recent examples from a world issue you have studied.

ow 18. Military attempts are often taken to resolve international conflicts and issues. Describe, in detail, two military attempts to resolve the conflict or issue you have studied. In your answer you must state the world conflict or issue you have studied. [4 marks]

ow 19. There are many social causes of international conflicts and issues. Describe, in detail, two social causes of the international conflict or issue you have studied. In your answer you must state the world conflict or issue you have studied. [6 marks]

ow 20. International conflicts and issues can have an impact on those directly affected. Explain, in detail, two reasons why the conflict or issue you have studied has an impact on those directly affected. In your answer you must state the world conflict or issue you have studied. [6 marks]

[Now go to Question 21]

[Braille page 17] ow * 21. Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 and then answer the question which follows.

SOURCE 1 Andacia environmental report

Andacia is a large country with many natural resources. In the past it has relied on primary industries, such as mining, which are now seen as bad for the environment. However, around 60% of the world's mining companies are still based there.

Pollution is harmful for the environment and the Andacian Government has passed several laws to try and reduce pollution levels. In 2019 it passed the Andacia Environmental Protection Act which created much stricter rules around what waste could be legally dumped. It also passed the Alternative Energies Act in 2010 to move away from traditional fuels such as coal and set a target to have 4,000 wind turbines by 2022.

Mining companies in Andacia have been working to improve water quality in local rivers by removing chemicals from waste products. Universities have worked with industry to develop improved techniques. Despite this, there have still been problems with chemicals leaking into rivers. A number of companies have been **[Braille page 18]** issued with significant fines due to their careless approach to waste disposal.

Whilst Andacia has improved its air pollution levels, it still contributes to over 15,000 people dying each year in its cities compared to around 1,500 in road accidents. This has caused outrage amongst environmental pressure groups in Andacia who have called for immediate action.

Developing industry without causing negative environmental impacts is proving to be a challenge. For instance, factories are adding greenhouse gases through their energy use and their refusal to install solar panels due to the financial burden that this would bring.

SOURCE 2 Refer to both diagrams for Question 21

SOURCE 3 "Have your say", comments below are from the six members of the public in Andacia;

(i) Nikki: "There has been a big increase in the fish and wildlife in my local river in recent years as there are less chemicals being added."

(ii) Zac: "Andacia has met its targets for wind turbines which is great for the **[Braille page 19]** environment."

(iii) Zaina: "It is great to see investment in education such as the new school in Watton."

(iv) Aiden: "Environmental change is too slow. As a country we still rely on traditional energy sources which are causing an increase in greenhouse gas emissions."

(v) Mustafa: "Andacians are dying due to the air pollution in our cities. More must be done."

(vi) Laura: "It is great to see that the government has listened to environmental protests and introduced new laws to protect Andacia – this has led to over a 30% drop in air pollution levels since 2010."

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 give reasons to support and oppose the view of Sheila Connor.

"Andacia has made environmental improvements in recent years." View of Sheila Connor, Governor.

In your answer you must

- give evidence from the sources that supports Sheila Connor's view

AND

- give evidence from the sources that opposes Sheila Connor's view.

[Braille page 20] Your answer must be based on all three sources. [10 marks]

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]