

General Certificate of Education
January 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
Unit 2 Parties and Pressure Groups

GOV2

Tuesday 11 January 2005 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen. Pencil should only be used for drawing.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GOV2.
- Answer **one** question from Section A **and one** question from Section B.
In Section A answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.
In Section B answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

Advice

- You are advised to read through the examination paper before you attempt the questions.
- You are advised to spend the same amount of time on each question.

Answer **one** question from Section A **and one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

- 1** Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Text adapted from B. COXALL, L. ROBINS AND R. LEACH, *Contemporary British Politics* (Palgrave Macmillan) 2003. Not reproduced here due to copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain what is meant by the term *factions* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) To what extent is a united party also likely to be a successful party? (22 marks)

OR

- 2 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Problems of Party Finance

As the membership of major political parties declines, so too does the total amount of subscriptions paid in by members. However, the day-to-day costs of running a major party are high, as are the costs of funding election campaigns. Parties are forced to find alternative sources of finance, such as rich individuals, private businesses or trade unions. However, once a party accepts finance from outside sources, it is open to allegations that donors are ‘buying’ influence on party policy. Anxieties resulting from a series of funding-related scandals has led to interest in greater *state funding of political parties*.

- (a) Explain what is meant by *state funding of political parties* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) “A modern political party does not need a large number of members.”
Discuss. (22 marks)

TURN OVER FOR THE NEXT SECTION

Turn over ►

SECTION B

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

- 3 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Access Points for Pressure Groups

The growing integration of Britain into the European Union has brought a considerable increase in *lobbying at the European level* by British pressure groups. Where Westminster and Whitehall were once the sole target of pressure group lobbying, Brussels has become more important for some pressure groups. Although the European Parliament is far less significant than the Commission as a focus of lobbying activity, its increased powers mean that it too attracts greater attention from pressure groups, especially those representing consumer, environmental and animal welfare interests.

- (a) Explain what is meant by *lobbying at the European level* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) Consider the most influential access points within the political system for pressure groups. (22 marks)

OR

- 4** Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Text adapted from P. COCKER & A. JONES, *Contemporary British Politics and Government* (Liverpool Academic Press) 2002. Not reproduced here due to copyright constraints.

- (a) Explain what is meant by the term *cause groups* used in the extract. (8 marks)
- (b) Discuss how useful the 'insider/outsider' distinction is in understanding pressure group politics. (22 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS