

# AS HISTORY

## Wars and Welfare: Britain in Transition, 1906–1929

Paper 2M

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Specimen 2014

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is **2M**.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

### Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
    - 50 minutes on Section A
    - 40 minutes on Section B.
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**Section A**Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

Adapted from the 'British Gazette', 6 May, 1926. This newspaper was set up by the government in order to control the reporting of the General Strike.

The General Strike is in operation, expressing in no uncertain terms a direct challenge to ordered government. It would be futile to attempt to minimise the seriousness of such a challenge, constituting as it does an effort to force upon some 42 million British citizens the will of less than 4 million others engaged in vital services of the country. The strike is intended as a direct hold up of the nation to ransom. The Prime Minister pointed out, "I do not think all the leaders who assented to order a general strike fully realised they were threatening the basis of ordered government and coming nearer to proclaiming civil war than we have for centuries past".

**Source B**

Adapted from the 'British Worker', 7 May 1926. This newspaper was set up by the General Council of the TUC.

The General Council does not challenge the Constitution. It is not seeking to substitute unconstitutional government. The sole aim of the Council is to secure for the miners a decent standard of life. The Council is engaged in an Industrial Dispute. There is no Constitutional Crisis. Every instruction issued by the General Council is evidence of their determination to maintain the struggle strictly on the basis of an industrial dispute. They have ordered every member taking part to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give cause for police interference. The General Council are anxious that an honourable peace shall be secured as soon as possible. They are defending the mine owners against the mine workers.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining why the General Strike of 1926 failed?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**EITHER**

**0 2**

‘Liberal welfare reforms in the years 1908 to 1914 significantly reduced the problems of poverty.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**OR**

**0 3**

‘Lloyd George’s coalition government failed to overcome the domestic problems it faced in the years 1918 to 1922.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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