

General Certificate of Education
June 2003
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



SOCIAL SCIENCE: CITIZENSHIP
Unit 2 The Citizen and the Political Process

SSC2

Tuesday 3 June 2003 Morning 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 SSC2.
- Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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

- Where appropriate you should use local and/or national and/or international examples and/or case studies.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 or Question 3.

Each question carries 30 marks.

1 Read **Source A**, and answer parts (a) to (c) which follow.

Source A

Over recent years, there seems to have been an increase in ‘direct action’ campaigning, both in terms of the number of campaigns and in the number of people involved. Examples in Britain include the campaign to save fox-hunting and the ‘country way of life’, and the so-called ‘fuel protests’. On a wider scale, in Europe and North America, there have been the May Day ‘anti-capitalism’ demonstrations.

Some direct action campaigning has resulted in violence, with people on both sides being injured as well as property being damaged. It is, however, sometimes difficult to judge the impact of such campaigns. While the May Day ‘anti-capitalism’ demonstrations now receive a lot of publicity, and the scenes of protest are shown world-wide on television, some argue that other forms of protest can be more effective. For example, consumer boycotts, such as large numbers of consumers refusing to buy genetically-modified foods, strike directly at the profits of the producers and the large supermarkets. It can be claimed that this form of direct action has a far more significant effect on capitalism than mass demonstrations.

Your answers should refer to the source as appropriate but you should also include other relevant information.

- (a) According to **Source A**, what kind of direct action can have a greater impact than mass demonstrations, and why? *(4 marks)*
- (b) Using **Source A** and your own knowledge, discuss the arguments for **and** against the use of mass protests and demonstrations as a form of direct action. *(10 marks)*
- (c) With reference to any campaign known to you, examine the reasons for the apparent increase in direct action campaigning. *(16 marks)*

EITHER

- 2 (a) Briefly examine some of the benefits of local government. *(10 marks)*
- (b) “The media are too powerful in setting the political agenda in the United Kingdom.”
Evaluate this claim using examples. *(20 marks)*

OR

- 3 (a) Briefly examine the case in favour of changing the ‘first past the post’ system for electing Members of Parliament to a system based on proportional representation. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Examine and assess some of the reasons for the decline in voter turnout in recent elections. *(20 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS