

Write your name here	
Surname	Other names
Centre Number	Candidate Number
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Edexcel GCE	
General Studies	
Advanced Subsidiary	
Unit 1: Challenges for Society	
Monday 11 May 2009 – Afternoon Time: 1 hour 30 minutes	Paper Reference 6GS01/01
You do not need any other materials.	Total Marks
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Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 90.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Quality of written communication will be taken into account in the marking of your answers
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Try to answer every question.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

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Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer ALL questions.
You should aim to spend no more than 20 minutes on this section.

Choose an answer A, B, C or D, and put a cross in the box ☒.
If you change your mind, put a line through the box ~~☒~~
and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

1 The work of scientists can change society because

- A** scientific theories are essential in politics
- B** scientific theories affect the way society understands the world
- C** scientists can solve all human problems
- D** scientists are educated to a high level

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

2 The idea that living organisms exist on planets orbiting other stars in the universe is an example of a scientific

- A** conclusion
- B** fallacy
- C** hypothesis
- D** theory

(Total for Question 2 = 1 mark)

3 Major research into sub-atomic particles is carried out by scientists working in international teams because

- A** all nations want to share the results of the research
- B** there are not enough physicists in any one country
- C** each country is suspicious of research carried out in other countries
- D** the costs can be shared between different countries

(Total for Question 3 = 1 mark)

4 A state where there is a formal separation between religion and state is called

- A** democratic
- B** secular
- C** republican
- D** theocratic

(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)



5 Moral relativism means that our moral values are

- A based on laws of nature
- B determined by religious principles
- C decided by individuals
- D unchangeable

(Total for Question 5 = 1 mark)

6 Which of these is the most effective deterrent to criminal activity?

- A the chance of being caught
- B the speed at which the police respond
- C the seriousness of the crime
- D the size of the proceeds from the crime

(Total for Question 6 = 1 mark)

7 Which of these is **not** a reason for opposing human cloning?

- A a clone will be identical to other clones
- B a clone may be defective in some way
- C cloning is not acceptable to some religious groups
- D cloning may diminish the human gene pool

(Total for Question 7 = 1 mark)

8 Supporters of animal rights will argue that

- A it is right to exhibit animals in zoos
- B pets should have more rights than farm animals
- C all farms should be organic
- D humans should consider the rights of animals

(Total for Question 8 = 1 mark)



9 'For a fixed amount of gas kept at a fixed temperature, the pressure and volume are inversely proportional.' This is an example of a scientific

- A opinion
- B hypothesis
- C law
- D theory

(Total for Question 9 = 1 mark)

10 The British Crime Survey

- A lists all crimes recorded by the police
- B gives the public's view of crime
- C compares civil offences with recorded crime
- D describes future trends in crime

(Total for Question 10 = 1 mark)

11 A convicted criminal may be put on probation. This means that

- A they are given a shorter prison sentence
- B their behaviour in the community will be supervised
- C they are released if they show good behaviour
- D they have to serve their sentence in an open prison

(Total for Question 11 = 1 mark)

12 Which of these is a branch of philosophy?

- A criminology
- B ethics
- C psychedelics
- D psychiatry

(Total for Question 12 = 1 mark)



13 Charities support research into serious illnesses to

- A reduce government spending on health
- B involve more doctors in research
- C make the public more aware of the research
- D find cures more quickly

(Total for Question 13 = 1 mark)

14 It has been suggested that the development of biofuels from plant materials will soon replace fossil fuels such as oil and coal. This is **not** likely because biofuels

- A produce less useful energy than fossil fuels
- B produce more carbon dioxide than fossil fuels
- C cost more to produce
- D would use too much land

(Total for Question 14 = 1 mark)

15 Scientists generally agree that a scientific theory is acceptable if it

- A allows more observations to be made
- B is falsified
- C is proven
- D explains observed phenomena

(Total for Question 15 = 1 mark)

16 It is becoming important in a country such as the UK to dispose of household waste through recycling because

- A the waste is unhygienic
- B recycling is cheap
- C space for landfill sites is limited
- D too much food is wasted

(Total for Question 16 = 1 mark)



Use the information below to answer questions 17 – 20

Barchester crime figures for April 2005 – March 2006 inclusive

Month	Total number of offences (Barchester)	Offences per 1000 population (Barchester)	Offences per 1000 population (England/Wales)
Apr-Jun 2005	1933	17.4	26.4
Jul-Sep 2005	1784	16.1	25.9
Oct-Dec 2005	1772	16.0	25.9
Jan-Mar 2006	1945	17.5	24.9

The population of Barchester is 111,039

17 In Barchester the number of offences per 1000 population for the year April 2005 to March 2006 was

- A 16.8
- B 67.0
- C 1859
- D 7434

(Total for Question 17 = 1 mark)

18 In Barchester the mean number of offences per month during April 2005 to March 2006 was

- A 5.6
- B 16.8
- C 619.5
- D 1858.5

(Total for Question 18 = 1 mark)



19 The population of England and Wales in 2005/6 was about 53,000,000.
The number of offences in England and Wales in Jul–Sep 2005 was

- A 137,270
- B 853,300
- C 1,372,700
- D 1,399,200

(Total for Question 19 = 1 mark)

20 Working out the offences per 1000 makes the data more

- A specific
- B reliable
- C accurate
- D comparable

(Total for Question 20 = 1 mark)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ALL questions.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

Read the passage below and answer questions 21 – 27.

The end of humanity?

Our civilisation is now so complex that some historians believe that a pandemic of a serious disease with a high mortality would trigger a complete collapse of human society. Our technology and use of resources are so extensive that we tend to think that we can control our own destiny – but this may be a dangerous illusion.

5 There are some historical precedents that may make us change our minds.

In AD 170, the Roman Empire was dominant in Europe and seemed to be indestructible. However, it is said that a plague with a 30% death rate struck and after that the Empire appeared to go into a steep decline.

10 In the 14th century a plague (the Black Death) killed one third of the population of Europe. However, Europe continued to develop both economically and socially. Medical knowledge was very limited, and the transmission of diseases was poorly understood. Today, plagues are rare and can be easily controlled. Most of the serious diseases of the past are now controlled through inoculation and by the use of antibiotics and antiseptic procedures. We now also have a vast pharmaceutical
15 industry devoted to developing new drugs.

The reason for the difference in the outcome of the two catastrophes is thought to lie in the nature of the civilisations. The Roman Empire had become highly centralised and bureaucratic. Much of the population had moved into cities, and these urban dwellers were dependent on the rural peasants for food production.

20 Removing a large proportion of the peasantry through disease had a devastating effect. By contrast, society in the 14th century was feudal and highly decentralised. 80% of the population consisted of peasant farmers, and the urban population was relatively small.

The situation today in developed countries is more like that in the Roman Empire.

25 If a major epidemic strikes, the outlook for us is bleak.



21 What type of argument is used to reach the conclusion that 'the outlook for us is bleak' (line 25)?

(Total for Question 21 = 1 mark)

22 From paragraph 4 write out

(a) two phrases that contain only fact

(2)

1

2

(b) one phrase that contains only opinion.

(1)

(Total for Question 22 = 3 marks)

23 List three ways in which modern developed countries are like the Roman Empire.

1

2

3

(Total for Question 23 = 3 marks)



24 Give **three** pieces of evidence from the passage that support the view
'Our technology and use of resources are so extensive that we tend to think that we
can control our own destiny' (**lines 3–4**).

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2

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3

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(Total for Question 24 = 3 marks)

25 Show how the explanation of the downfall of the Roman Empire is weak.

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(Total for Question 25 = 4 marks)



27 Use the information in the passage to argue that in fact the outlook is **not** bleak for humanity.

Lined writing area for the answer.



(Quality of Written Communication = 3 marks)
(Total for Question 27 = 8 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 30 MARKS





SECTION C

Answer ALL questions.

You should aim to spend no more than 40 minutes on this section.

28 'There is more immoral behaviour in modern society because fewer people are religious.'

Critically examine this assertion.

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Handwriting practice area with 20 horizontal dotted lines.

(Quality of Written Communication = 4 marks)

(Total for Question 28 = 20 marks)



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