



## **Pearson Edexcel AS and A level Politics Assessment guidance**

The information below explains the precise assessment requirements for each question in all the AS and A level exam papers.

Note – this is an updated version, published in March 2018. The changes affect Paper 9PL01 questions 3(a) and 3(b), and Paper 9PL02 questions 3(a) through to 7(b). The sections 'What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?' have had extra wording added to improve clarity.

<b>AS Politics</b>	<b>Unit 8PL01 - UK Politics</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1(a) and 1(b)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions carry 10 marks for AO1 only.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions may be based on content from any part of the specification.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe...</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sources will not be used</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates' answers must be based wholly on their own knowledge and understanding (AO1)</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer either Question 1a or Question 1b</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar. Neither introductions nor conclusions are required.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (a) Describe the main features of representative democracy in the UK today.</li> <li>• (b) Describe the main features of political parties in the UK today.</li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

AS Politics	Unit 8PL01- UK Politics
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This question carry 10 marks, 5 for AO1 and 5 for AO2</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions will always be taken from any of the four sections of specification content.</li> <li>• This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the source, explain....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Text or data or a combination of text and data. Data sources may take the form of pie-charts, tables or simple graphs.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates' answers should respond to the specific question by relevantly explaining points from the source. No credit will be given for discussing points not in the source</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer both Question 2 and Question 3.</li> <li>• In your response you must use knowledge and understanding to analyse points that are only in the source. You will <b>not</b> be rewarded for introducing any additional points that are not in the source.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar. Neither introductions nor conclusions are required.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None; though it must be noted that points not based on the source material cannot gain credit</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the source, explain the problems which arise from using the first past the post system for General Elections.</li> <li>• In your response you must use knowledge and understanding to analyse points that are only in the source. You will <b>not</b> be rewarded for introducing any additional points that are not in the source.</li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

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<b>AS Politics</b>	<b>Unit 8PL01 - UK Politics</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This question carry 10 marks, 5 for AO2 and 5 for AO3 but none for AO1</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions will always be taken from any of the four sections of specification content – this may involve asking questions that overlap between sections</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the sources, assess....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be two contrasting sets of information. These will contain text or data or a combination of text and data. Data sources may take the form of pie-charts, tables or simple graphs.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates are expected to analyse and evaluate the sources provided without introducing knowledge and understanding from elsewhere, as there are not AO1 marks available for this question.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer both Question 2 and Question 3.</li> <li>• In your response you must compare and contrast <b>similarities</b> and <b>differences</b> and consider competing points by analysing and evaluating them; <b>only</b> knowledge which supports this analysis and evaluation will gain credit.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is not necessary but a conclusion is most definitely required, since there is an allocation of AO3 marks for this question.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no comparison between countries.</li> <li>• This question does, however, require candidates to consider the key differences between the content of the contrasting sources.</li> <li>• Candidates who do not undertake any comparative analysis of the source cannot achieve beyond Level 1 (See mark scheme).</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None; though it must be noted that points not based on the source material cannot gain credit.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the sources, assess whether the use of referendums can be contested.</li> <li>• In your response you must compare and contrast <b>similarities</b> and <b>differences</b> and consider competing points by analysing and evaluating them; <b>only</b> knowledge which supports this analysis and evaluation will gain credit.</li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
<b>AS Politics</b>	<b>Unit 8PL01 - UK Politics</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4(a) and 4(b)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions carry 30 marks, 10 for AO1, 10 for AO2 and 10 for AO3</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions will always be taken from any of the four sections of specification content – this may involve asking questions that overlap between sections</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How far do you agree....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be a single sentence viewpoint which will be immediately followed by the question.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers must refer to the single sentence viewpoint but should concentrate on answering the precise question asked.</li> <li>• Candidates will be expected to introduce a wide range of knowledge and analysis of their own.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer either Question 4(a) or Question 4(b).</li> <li>• In your answer you must refer to at least two [things from the question] and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is desirable and a conclusion is essential, since this question carries an allocation of AO3 marks.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates who do not consider at least two types of (topic) or considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve beyond Level 2 (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>

What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider the viewpoint which precedes the question and examine one or more possible alternatives in a balanced manner.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Various types of media simply reinforce political choice - they do not alter it.' How far do you agree with this view of media influence in UK politics?</li> <li>• <i>In your answer you must refer to <b>at least</b> two types of media and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• 'Party leaders are the crucial factor in whether or not a political party is successful.' How far do you agree with this view of what determines the success of a political party?</li> <li>• <i>In your answer you must refer to <b>at least</b> two political parties and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

<b>AS Politics</b>	<b>Unit 8PL02 - UK Government</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1(a) and 1(b)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions carry 10 marks for AO1 only.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions will always be taken from Sections 1–3 of the specification content</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe...</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sources will not be used</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates' answers must be based wholly on their own knowledge and understanding (AO1).</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer either Question 1a or Question 1b</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> <li>• Neither introductions nor conclusions are required.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (a) Describe the main sources of the British Constitution.</li> <li>• (b) Describe the main stages that a legislative bill may go through in the House of Commons</li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

AS Politics	Unit 8PL02 - UK Government
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This question carry 10 marks, 5 for AO1 and 5 for AO2</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions will always be taken from Sections 1-3 of specification content.</li> <li>• This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the source, explain....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Text or data or a combination of text and data. Data sources may take the form of pie-charts, tables or simple graphs.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates' answers should respond to the specific question by relevantly explaining points from the source. No credit will be given for discussing points not in the source</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer both Question 2 and Question 3.</li> <li>• In your response you must use knowledge and understanding to analyse points that are only in the source. You will <b>not</b> be rewarded for introducing any additional points that are not in the source.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> <li>• Neither introductions nor conclusions are required.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None; though it must be noted that points not based on the source material cannot gain credit</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the source, explain the advantages of how members are selected for the House of Lords.</li> <li>• In your response you must use knowledge and understanding to analyse points that are only in the source. You will <b>not</b> be rewarded for introducing any additional points that are not in the source.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li></ul>
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AS Politics	Unit 8PL02 - UK Government
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This question carry 10 marks, 5 for AO2 and 5 for AO3 but none for AO1</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions will always be taken from Sections 1-3 of specification content.</li> <li>• This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the sources, assess....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be two contrasting sets of information. These will contain text or data or a combination of text and data. Data sources may take the form of pie-charts, tables or simple graphs.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates are expected to analyse and evaluate the sources provided without introducing knowledge and understanding from elsewhere, as there are no AO1 marks available for this question.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer both Question 2 and Question 3.</li> <li>• In your response you must compare and contrast <b>similarities</b> and <b>differences</b> and consider competing points by analysing and evaluating them; <b>only</b> knowledge which supports this analysis and evaluation will gain credit.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is not necessary but a conclusion is most definitely required, since there is an allocation of AO3 marks for this question.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no comparison between countries.</li> <li>• This question does, however, require candidates to consider the key differences between the content of the contrasting sources.</li> <li>• Candidates who do not undertake any comparative analysis of the source cannot achieve beyond Level 1 (See mark scheme).</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None; though it must be noted that points not based on the source material cannot gain credit.</li> </ul>

Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using the sources, assess whether membership of the European Union (EU) has limited parliamentary sovereignty.</li> <li>In your response you must compare and contrast <b>similarities</b> and <b>differences</b> and consider competing points by analysing and evaluating them; <b>only</b> knowledge which supports this analysis and evaluation will gain credit.</li> <li><i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
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AS Politics	Unit 8PL02 - UK Government
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4(a) and 4(b)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These questions carry 30 marks, 10 for AO1, 10 for AO2 and 10 for AO3</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both questions will always contain an element of section 4, and may also include elements of sections 1-3.</li> <li>This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How far do you agree....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be a single sentence viewpoint which will be immediately followed by the question.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answers must refer to the single sentence viewpoint but should concentrate on answering the precise question asked.</li> <li>Candidates will be expected to introduce a wide range of knowledge and analysis of their own.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer either Question 4(a) or Question 4(b).</li> <li>In your answer you must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>refer to <b>both</b> x and y</li> <li>consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way</li> <li>draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of study from Component 1: UK Politics</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An introduction is desirable and a conclusion is essential, since this question carries an allocation of AO3 marks.</li> <li>All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>

What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates who fail to consider both views in a balanced way cannot achieve beyond Level 2 (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidate must establish relevant links to content on Paper 1</li> <li>• Candidates who do not make any synoptic points cannot achieve Level 5.</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider the viewpoint which precedes the question and examine one or more possible alternatives in a balanced manner.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'The Supreme Court is neutral and independent of the Uk government.' How far do you agree with this view of the Supreme Court? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your answer you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• refer to <b>both</b> independence and neutrality</li> <li>• consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way</li> <li>• draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of study from Component 1: UK Politics</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• 'Prime Ministers are able to successfully control Parliament.' How far do you agree with this view of Prime Ministerial power? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your answer you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider <b>one</b> pre-1997 Prime Minister and one post-1997 Prime Minister</li> <li>• consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way</li> <li>• draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of study from Component 1: UK Politics</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

A level Politics	Unit 9PL01 - UK Politics and Core Political Ideas
Question(s)	1(a) and 1(b)
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both questions carry 30 marks, 10 marks for AO1, 10 marks for AO2, 10 marks for AO3.</li> <li>• One question only is to be attempted.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions can be drawn from any part of the specification</li> <li>• This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the source, evaluate....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Text or data or a combination of text and data.</li> <li>• Data sources may take the form of pie-charts, tables or simple graphs.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are AO1 (knowledge and understanding) marks associated with this question, so candidates are expected to introduce knowledge and understanding of their own to help them evaluate the source material and the particular view specified by the question</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer one question from either Question 1(a) or Question 1(b) and then answer one question from either Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b).</li> <li>• Do not answer Question 1(b) if you have answered Question 1(a).</li> <li>• In your response you must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• compare and contrast different opinions in the source</li> <li>• examine and debate these views in a balanced way</li> <li>• analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is desirable but a conclusion is essential since AO3 marks are assessed by this question.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates are required to compare and contrast points in the source.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>do not</i> undertake any comparative analysis of the source and/or <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2 (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>

What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way.</li> <li>• The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Marks for <b>analysis</b> (AO2) and <b>evaluation</b> (AO3) will be awarded <b>only</b> where they relate to information in the source.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper1</li> <li>• (a) Using the source, evaluate the view that UK democracy is in crisis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• (b) Using the source, evaluate the view that the major parties still remain the dominant force in UK politics. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) Using the source, evaluate the view that pressure group activity supports democracy and participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• (b) Using the source, evaluate the view that referendums create more problems than solutions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>		<b>Unit 9PL01 - UK Politics and Core Political Ideas</b>	
Question(s)	2(a) and 2(b)		
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both questions carry 30 marks, 10 marks for AO1, 10 marks for AO2, 10 marks for AO3.</li> <li>• One question only is to be attempted.</li> </ul>		
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions can be drawn from any part of the specification.</li> <li>• This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections.</li> </ul>		
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate....</li> </ul>		
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>		
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must produce answers based on their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material is available for these questions</li> </ul>		
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following each question, the rubric '<i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way</i>' will be printed.</li> </ul>		
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is desirable and a conclusion is essential, since there are AO3 marks to be awarded.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>		
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates are expected to present arguments to support and to oppose the view expressed in the question.</li> </ul>		
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In developing their answers, questions may require candidates to material from different content sections of the specification</li> </ul>		
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>• (a) Evaluate the extent to which general elections in the UK are lost by the government rather than won by the opposition.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way</i></li>   <li>• (b) Evaluate the extent to which social factors determine voting behaviour.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) Evaluate the view that citizens can no longer feel confident that their rights in the UK are secure and established.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• (b) 'Evaluate the view that for the general public the impact of the media is more significant than policy statements from political parties'</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL01 - UK Politics and Core Political Ideas</b>
Question(s)	3(a) and 3(b)
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 24 marks for each question, 8 for AO1, 8 for AO2 and 8 for AO3. Only one question is to be attempted.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any of the core political ideas - liberalism, conservatism, socialism.</li> <li>• For example, question 3(a) may assess liberalism and 3(b) may assess conservatism. But there may be two separate questions which assess the same political idea. For example, 3(a) may assess conservatism, and 3(b) may also assess conservatism.</li> <li>• There will not be questions requiring a comparison between political ideas.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent....</li> <li>• .....and then ask students to examine the political idea's view on the economy, society, the state or human nature</li> <li>• .....or ask the students to examine the divisions within the political idea.</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers will be based on the candidate's own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer one question from either Question 3(a) or 3(b).</li> <li>• You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides/differing views in a balanced way.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is desirable and a conclusion (because of the existence of AO3 marks) is essential.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some questions may require candidates to demonstrate the agreements and disagreements between thinkers associated with a particular political idea.</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

<p>Will there be any extra requirements?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both sides presented in the question. The judgement a candidate reaches about these sides should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>do not</i> refer to specific thinkers from the specification and/or only consider one side cannot achieve beyond Level 2.</li> </ul>
<p>Specimen questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do modern and classical liberals agree over the role of the state?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent are different socialists committed to 'equality of outcome'?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) To what extent are the views of One Nation conservatives on the economy consistent with those of the New Right?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do conservatives have a common view of human nature?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>

A level Politics	Unit 9PL02 - UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas
Question(s)	1(a) and 1(b)
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both questions carry 30 marks, 10 marks for AO1, 10 marks for AO2, 10 marks for AO3.</li> <li>One question only is to be attempted.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Questions can be drawn from any part of the specification. This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using the source, evaluate....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text or data or a combination of text and data.</li> <li>Data sources may take the form of pie-charts, tables or simple graphs.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are AO1 (knowledge and understanding) marks associated with this question, so candidates are expected to introduce knowledge and understanding of their own to help them evaluate the source material and the particular view specified by the question</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer one question from either Question 1(a) or Question 1(b) and then answer one question from either Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b).</li> <li>Do not answer Question 1(b) if you have answered Question 1(a).</li> <li>In your response you must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</li> <li>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</li> <li>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An introduction is desirable but a conclusion is essential since AO3 marks are assessed by this question.</li> <li>All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates are required to compare and contrast points in the source.</li> <li>Candidates who <i>do not</i> undertake any comparative analysis of the source and/or <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2 (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>

What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way.</li> <li>• The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Marks for analysis (AO2) and evaluation (AO3) will be awarded <b>only</b> where they relate to information in the source.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper1</li> <li>• Using the source, evaluate the view that the logical next step after devolution to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is the devolution of further power to England.</li> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• (b) Using the source, evaluate the view that Constitutional reforms in the UK since 1997 have been weak, incomplete and require further change.</li> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) Using the source, evaluate the view that Prime Minister’s Questions should be abolished and replaced by other forms of parliamentary scrutiny.</li> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (b) Using the source, evaluate the view that judges should not exercise control over the power of government.</li> <li>• <i>In your response you must:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>compare and contrast different opinions in the source</i></li> <li>• <i>examine and debate these views in a balanced way</i></li> <li>• <i>analyse and evaluate only the information presented in the source.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL02 - UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas</b>
Question(s)	2(a) and 2(b)
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both questions carry 30 marks, 10 marks for AO1, 10 marks for AO2, 10 marks for AO3.</li> <li>• One question only is to be attempted.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions can be drawn from any part of the specification.</li> <li>• This may involve asking questions that overlap between sections.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must produce answers based on their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material is available for these questions</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following each question, the rubric</li> <li>• <i>'In your answer you should draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of the study of Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.'</i> will be printed.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is desirable and a conclusion is essential, since there are AO3 marks to be awarded.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>

What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates are expected to present arguments to support and to oppose the view expressed in the question.</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In developing their answers, candidates must establish links to relevant knowledge and understanding from their study of Component 1: UK politics and core political ideas</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way.</li> <li>• The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</li> <li>• Candidates who do not make any synoptic points cannot achieve Level 5.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>• (a) Evaluate how far Parliament retains sole sovereignty within the UK political system.</li> <li>• <i>In your answer you should draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of the study of Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) Evaluate the extent to which UK government's control over Parliament has reduced in recent years.</li> <li>• <i>In your answer you should draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of the study of Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) Evaluate the argument that there are more advantages to having a codified constitution than remaining with an uncoded constitution.</li> <li>• <i>In your answer you should draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of the study of Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) 'Evaluate the view that the conventions of ministerial responsibility no longer adequately account for the actions of ministers.</li> <li>• <i>In your answer you should draw on relevant knowledge and understanding of the study of Component 1: UK</i></li> </ul>

	<p><i>Politics and Core Political Ideas and consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL02 - UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas</b>
Question(s)	3(a) and 3(b), 4(a) and 4(b), 5(a) and 5(b), 6(a) and 6(b), 7(a) and 7(b)
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 24 marks for each question, 8 for AO1, 8 for AO2 and 8 for AO3.</li> <li>• Only one question is to be attempted from the candidate's chosen political idea.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any of the core political ideas - anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism</li> <li>• There will not be questions requiring a comparison between political ideas.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what extent...</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers will be based on the candidate's own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material will be provided.</li> <li>• Reference should be made to at least two of the specific thinkers listed in the specification for their association with the candidate's chosen political idea.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer ONE question EITHER (a) OR (b) from the political idea that you have studied.</li> <li>• You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction is desirable and a conclusion (because of the existence of AO3 marks) is essential.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some questions may require candidate to demonstrate the agreements and disagreements between thinkers associated with a particular political idea.</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

<p>Will there be any extra requirements?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both sides presented in the question. The judgement a candidate reaches about these sides should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>do not</i> refer to specific thinkers from the specification and/or only consider one side cannot achieve beyond Level 2.</li> </ul>
<p>Specimen questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1 (Anarchism)</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do individualist and collectivist anarchists disagree about the economy?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do individualist and collectivist anarchists agree about human nature?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do anarchists agree on the nature of a future anarchist society?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent is anarchism more united than divided?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1 (Ecologism)</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do deep green ecologists and shallow green ecologists agree over the economy?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do ecologists agree over environmental ethics?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do ecologists agree about the role of the state in protecting the environment?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do ecologists disagree about the type of society they wish to create?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1 (Feminism)</li> <li>• (a) To what extent is the disagreement within feminism about the nature of men and women significant to this political idea?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do feminists disagree about the role of the state?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do feminists agree that gender distinctions are based on human nature?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent is feminism more divided than united?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1 (Multiculturalism)</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do multiculturalists support diversity?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do multiculturalists' views of minority rights support integration?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) To what extent does multiculturalism promote divisions in society?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent do multiculturalists disagree over the limits of tolerance?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1 (Nationalism)</li> <li>• (a) To what extent is nationalism progressive?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) To what extent does nationalism support self-determination for all nations?</li> <li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) To what extent do various nationalists have a common understanding of what forms a nation?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li><li>• (b) To what extent do different nationalists agree that nationalism promotes inclusive societies?</li><li>• <i>You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.</i></li><li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li></ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL03A - Comparative Politics (USA)</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1(a) and 1(b)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each question carries 12 marks, 6 for AO1 and 6 for AO2.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions will always be used to assess the comparisons to the UK content from Section 6.2.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must produce answers from their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer one question from either Question 1(a) or Question 1(b).</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no requirement for an introduction or conclusion.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must compare and contrast the two features of the US and UK political systems specified in the question.</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates who refer to only one named country cannot achieve beyond Level 1 (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>• (a) Examine the ways in which the US and the UK Constitutions are similar.</li> <li>• (b) Examine the factors that create a two-party dominance both in the US and in the UK.</li>   <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• (a) Examine the ways in which the US and the UK Constitutions are similar.</li> <li>• (b) Examine the factors that create a two-party dominance both in the US and in the UK.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li></ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL03A - Comparative Politics (USA)</b>
Question(s)	2
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This question carries 12 marks, 6 for AO1 and 6 for AO2.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This question will always contain content from Section 6.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no sources associated with this question.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates must produce answers from their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer Question 2.</li> <li>In your answer you must consider the relevance of a least one comparative theory</li> <li>[This relates to rational or cultural or structural theory.]</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no requirement for an introduction or conclusion.</li> <li>All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An awareness of comparative theory is required [ie relating to rational or cultural or structural theory].</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates must make linkages between content in UK and US politics</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates who refer to one named country cannot achieve beyond Level 1.</li> <li>Candidates who do not make any comparative theory points [i.e. relating to rational or cultural or structural theory] cannot achieve beyond Level 3.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>Analyse the differences in party unity in the US and in the UK.</li> <li><i>In your answer you must consider the relevance of a least one comparative theory.</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specimen Paper 2</li><li>• Analyse how independent the Supreme Courts are in the USA and the UK.</li><li>• <i>In your answer you must consider the relevance of at least one comparative theory.</i></li><li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li></ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL03A - Comparative Politics (USA)</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3(a) and 3(b) and 3(c)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must choose two from three questions. Each question carries 30 marks, 10 for AO1, 10 for AO2 and 10 for AO3.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions will always be based on parts of Sections 1-5 of the specification.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No source material will be provided</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must produce answers from their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer two questions from Question 3(a) or 3(b) or 3(c)</li> <li>• You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a requirement for a conclusion, since there are AO3 marks attached to this question; there is no requirement for an introduction, though this may be helpful.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions may cut across specification sections, requiring candidates to establish links between different areas of specification content.</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way.</li> <li>• The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>• Evaluate the extent to which the Supreme Court is now an 'imperial judiciary'.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (b) Evaluate the extent to which Congressional oversight of the President is ineffective.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (c) Evaluate the extent to which racial equality has been advanced in the 21st century.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> <li>• Evaluate the view that the US Constitution ensures that civil rights are effectively protected by the Supreme Court.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• Evaluate the view that campaign finance is the most significant factor in determining the outcome of congressional elections.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li> <li>• (c) Evaluate the view that the legislative process is more effectively influenced by pressure groups than political parties.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL03B - Comparative Politics (Global Politics)</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1(a) and 1(b)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each question carries 12 marks, 6 for AO1 and 6 for AO2.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions will always be taken from Sections 1–5 of specification content, focusing on comparing two elements, such as institutions, organisations, practices or issues.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examine....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must produce answers from their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer one question from either Question 1(a) or Question 1(b).</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no requirement for an introduction or conclusion.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must compare and contrast two elements, such as institutions, organisations, practices or issues, as specified in the question.</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates who refer to only one institution cannot achieve beyond Level 1. (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>• (a) Examine the criticisms that have been made of both the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.</li> <li>• (b) Examine the effectiveness of both the international courts and tribunals in protecting human rights.</li> <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (a) Examine the factors that account for the increased use of soft rather than hard power in global politics.</li><li>• (b) Examine the main controversies relating to the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly.</li><li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li></ul>
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A level Politics	Unit 9PL03B - Comparative Politics (Global Politics)
Question(s)	2
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This question carries 12 marks, 6 for AO1 and 6 for AO2.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This question will always contain content from Section 6.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are no sources associated with this question.</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates must produce answers from their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer Question 2.</li> <li>In your answer you must discuss any relevant core political ideas</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no requirement for an introduction or conclusion.</li> <li>All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An awareness of the differences between political thinkers needs to be demonstrated</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates must make linkages between content in Global Politics and Component 1: UK Politics and Core politics ideas.</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates who refer to only one named theory cannot achieve beyond Level 1.</li> <li>Candidates who do not make any synoptic points cannot achieve beyond Level 3 (see mark scheme).</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen Paper 1</li> <li>Analyse the divisions regarding human nature that exist between realists and liberals. <i>In your answer you must discuss any relevant core political ideas.</i></li> <li>Specimen Paper 2</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Analyse the explanations of global politics provided by anarchical society theory.</li><li>• <i>In your answer you must consider the relevance of at least one comparative theory.</i></li><li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li></ul>
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<b>A level Politics</b>	<b>Unit 9PL03B - Comparative Politics (Global Politics)</b>
Question(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3(a) and 3(b) and 3(c)</li> </ul>
How are marks divided between assessment objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must choose two from three questions. Each question carries 30 marks, 10 for AO1, 10 for AO2 and 10 for AO3.</li> </ul>
What content section(s) from the specification will this question assess?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These questions will always be based on parts of Sections 1-5 of the specification.</li> </ul>
What key command words will be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate....</li> </ul>
What types of sources will be used, if any?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No source material will be provided</li> </ul>
Should answers focus solely on the source material or should outside knowledge be introduced?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must produce answers from their own knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>• No source material will be provided.</li> </ul>
What will be the rubric for each question?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer two questions from Question 3(a) or 3(b) or 3(c)</li> <li>• You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way</li> </ul>
Do answers require an introduction and/or conclusion or to be written in a particular form?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a requirement for a conclusion, since there are AO3 marks attached to this question; there is no requirement for an introduction, though this may be helpful.</li> <li>• All answers should be written in sentences and paragraphs and in accordance with the rules of English grammar.</li> </ul>
What comparative elements are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
What synopticity issues arise?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions may cut across specification sections, requiring candidates to establish links between different areas of specification content.</li> </ul>
Will there be any extra requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way.</li> <li>• The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusion.</li> <li>• Candidates who <i>have not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2.</li> </ul>
Specimen questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specimen Paper 1</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the extent to which cultural globalisation has had a greater impact on the world than any other form of globalisation.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• Evaluate the extent to which the European Union (EU) has been a model for regionalism around the world.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• Evaluate the extent to which the rise of other states has diminished the US as the global hegemonic power.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• Specimen Paper 2</li>   <li>• (a) Evaluate the view that state sovereignty has been eroded by different regional organisations.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• (b) Evaluate the view that global order is significantly affected by the nature of government in different types of state.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• (c) Evaluate the view that global governance has been more effective in addressing economic issues rather than human rights issues.</li> <li>• <i>You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.</i></li>   <li>• <i>Required/rewardable content is listed in the mark scheme.</i></li> </ul>
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