



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2019

Pearson Edexcel GCE
In Government and Politics (6GP03)
Paper 3C

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Question Number	Question
1.	How and why have conservatives opposed affirmative action?
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
Conservatives have opposed affirmative action because: • it penalises members of the white population with no responsibility for past wrongs • it perpetuates racial discrimination by using race to counter the effects of previous discrimination • it is unconstitutional and contrary to the constitutional protection of the individual • it is counter to the American ethos of 'rugged individualism' • it is unnecessary - other minorities, e.g. Irish and Chinese, have survived discrimination and prospered in earlier eras • it places minorities in courses/jobs they aren't suited to Methods they have used include: • state propositions to ban affirmative action • <i>amicus curiae</i> briefs to the Supreme Court • the Reagan justice department tried to curb state and local programs A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

LEVELS	DESCRIPTORS
Level 3 (11-15 marks)	Good to excellent: • knowledge and understanding of relevant institutions, processes, political concepts, theories or debates. • ability to analyse and explain political information, arguments and explanations. • ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments, making good use of appropriate vocabulary.
Level 2 (6-10 marks)	Limited to sound: • knowledge and understanding of relevant institutions, processes, political concepts, theories or debates. • ability to analyse and explain political information, arguments and explanations. • ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments, making some use of appropriate vocabulary.
Level 1 (0-5 marks)	Very poor to weak: • knowledge and understanding of relevant institutions, processes, political concepts, theories or debates. • ability to analyse and explain political information, arguments and explanations. • ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments, making little or no use of appropriate vocabulary.

Question Number	Question
2.	Explain three issues which have caused significant conflict between the two major parties since 2008.
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
The main issues which have caused greatest conflict between the two major parties since 2008 include: • health care • immigration • gun control • abortion rights • Supreme Court nominations • foreign policy A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

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Question Number	Question
3.	Why are US elections so expensive?
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
The main factors which make US elections so expensive include: • length of campaigns • size of the USA • cost of TV advertising • failure of campaign finance reform • multiplicity of pressure groups competing for influence • wealth of corporate donors A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

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Question Number	Question
4.	How effective are the methods which pressure groups use to influence Congress?
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
The methods which pressure groups use to influence Congress include: • lobbying – expensive • campaign donations – subject to donation limits • endorsement – of large pressure groups may be significant • grading • email/phone blitzes by supporters • independent campaigns via super PACs A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

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Question Number	Question
5.	Why do minority voters mostly support the Democratic Party?
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
The reasons why minority voters have tended to mostly support the Democratic Party in recent elections include: • attempts to expand healthcare coverage • immigration reform • more generous welfare • affirmative action programs • history of support for civil rights movement • Republicans have become identified as a 'white' party A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

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Question Number	Question
6	'The divisions within the Democratic Party are more significant than those within the Republican Party.' Discuss.
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
Over recent years the Democratic Party has been clearly identified with liberal values and the Republican Party with conservative values. Both parties still contain different factions though, and the divisions between which may be argued to be more or less significant: Democratic Party has centrist elements: - the ideas of Bill and Hillary Clinton and their identification with 'triangulation' - support of Obama for trade deals e.g. TPP and programme of targeted drone killings and liberal elements: - prominent role of the ideas of Sanders and Warren within the party and their demands e.g. for a \$15 minimum wage - liberal agenda of President Obama e.g. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Feb 2009 and Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act 2009 Republican Party's Wall St/Washington establishment's beliefs in - free trade - immigration reform clash with the populist right's demands for: - protectionism - rejection of 'amnesty' A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

AO1	Knowledge and understanding
Level 3 (9-12 marks)	Good to excellent knowledge and understanding of relevant institutions, processes, political concepts, theories or debates
Level 2 (5-8 marks)	Limited to sound knowledge and understanding of relevant institutions, processes, political concepts, theories or debates
Level 1 (0-4 marks)	Very poor to weak knowledge and understanding of relevant institutions, processes, political concepts, theories or debates
AO2	Intellectual skills
Level 3 (9-12 marks)	Good to excellent ability to analyse and evaluate political information, arguments and explanations
Level 2 (5-8 marks)	Limited to sound ability to analyse and evaluate political information, arguments and explanations
Level 1 (0-4 marks)	Very poor to weak ability to analyse and evaluate political information, arguments and explanations

AO2	Synoptic skills
Level 3 (9-12 marks)	Good to excellent ability to identify competing viewpoints or perspectives, and clear insight into how they affect the interpretation of political events or issues and shape conclusions
Level 2 (5-8 marks)	Limited to sound ability to identify competing viewpoints or perspectives, and a reliable awareness of how they affect the interpretation of political events or issues and shape conclusions

Level 1 (0-4 marks)	Very poor to weak ability to identify competing viewpoints or perspectives, and a little awareness of how they affect the interpretation of political events or issues and shape conclusions
AO3	Communication and coherence
Level 3 (7-9 marks)	Good to excellent ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments, making good use of appropriate vocabulary
Level 2 (4-6 marks)	Limited to sound ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments, making some use of appropriate vocabulary
Level 1 (0-3 marks)	Very poor to weak ability to construct and communicate coherent arguments, making little or no use of appropriate vocabulary

Question Number	Question
7	To what extent do US pressure groups undermine democracy?
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
Evidence pressure groups in the US are anti-democratic includes the disproportionate influence of wealthy groups through: • direct campaign donation • creation of supporting 'Super PACs' which run 'independent' campaigns • lobbying • agency capture Evidence that pressure groups strengthen democracy includes: • pressure groups carry out important democratic functions such as education and scrutiny • the public are still able to persuade politicians thro: • demonstrations • mobilising supporters to contact member of Congress • monitoring votes in Congress • endorsement A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

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8	'Mid-term elections are more about the record of the president than about the members of Congress who are on the ballot.' Discuss.
Indicative content (<i>this is not an exhaustive account of relevant points</i>)	
Reasons why mid-term elections can be considered a referendum on the record of the president include: • the president's party almost invariably loses seats • when it doesn't – e.g. 2002 – it is clearly linked to the president's performance Reasons why mid-term elections might not be considered a referendum on the record of the president include: • individual campaigns can be significant • the record of the congressional leadership may be significant • the power of incumbency A threshold Level 2 response will typically exhibit the following features: some limited knowledge and understanding, some attempt to make a relevant response to the question, but superficial, and only limited development. A threshold Level 3 response will typically exhibit the following features: a range of clear knowledge and understanding, explicitly addressing the question, with supporting detail or evidence.	

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