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Examiners' Report

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GCE History 9HI0 36

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Introduction

It was pleasing to see candidates able to engage effectively across the ability range with the new A Level paper 36 which deals with Protest, agitation and parliamentary reform in Britain, c1780-1928 (36.1) and Ireland and the Union, c1774-1923 (36.2).

The paper is divided into three sections. Section A contains a compulsory question which is based on two enquiries linked to one source. It assesses source analysis and evaluation skills (AO2). Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth (AO1) by targeting five second order concepts – cause, consequence, change and continuity, similarity and difference, and significance. Section C comprises a choice of essays that relate to aspects of the process of change over a period of at least 100 years (AO1). Most candidates appeared to organise their time effectively and there was little evidence of candidates being unable to attempt all three sections of the paper within the time allocated. Examiners did note that more scripts than has been usual posed some problems with the legibility of hand writing. Examiners can only give credit for what they can read.

In Section A, the strongest answers demonstrated an ability, in both parts of the enquiry, to draw out reasoned inferences developed from the source and to evaluate the source thoroughly in relation to the demands of the two enquiries on the basis of both contextual knowledge and the nature, origin and purpose of the source. It is important that candidates appreciate that weight is not necessarily established by a discussion of what is missing from a source. If the author of the source has omitted something intentionally in order to modify meaning or distort the message of the source, then it will be relevant to discuss that omission in reaching a conclusion regarding the use that a historian might make of the source. However, comments on all the things that the source might have contained, but failed to do so, is unlikely to contribute to establishing weight.

Candidates are more familiar with the Section B essay section of Paper 3 and most candidates were well prepared to write, or to attempt, an analytical response. Stronger answers clearly understood the importance of identifying the appropriate second order concept that was being targeted by the question, although weaker candidates often wanted to engage in a main factor/other factors approach, even where this did not necessarily address the demands of the conceptual focus. Candidates do need to formulate their planning so that there is an argument and a counter argument within their answer; many candidates lacked any counter argument at all. The generic mark scheme clearly indicates the four bullet-pointed strands which are the focus for awarding marks and centres should note how these strands progress through the levels. Candidates need to be aware of key dates, as identified in the specification, and ensure that they draw their evidence in responses from the appropriate time period.

In Section C, most candidates were well prepared in terms of their contextual knowledge of individual elements within the period, but not all candidates fully engaged with the elements of the process of change that are central in this section of the examination. Candidates do need to be aware that this is a breadth question and that the questions that are set encompass a minimum of 100 years. This has important implications for the higher levels in bullet point 2 of the mark scheme. To access level 5 candidates are expected to have responded 'fully' to the demands of the question.

The requirements of questions will vary and key developments relating to the question may be more specific to the entire chronological range in some questions and options than in others. In some, there was little of significance that related to relevant key events, development and changes for part of the specified chronology in the precise question.

However, it was judged not possible for candidates to have 'fully met' the demands of any section C question unless at least 75% of the chronological range of the question was addressed.

To access level 4 candidates need to meet most of the demands of the question.

It was unlikely that most of the demands of the question would be met if the answer had a restricted range that covered less than 60% of its chronology

The candidates' performance on individual questions is considered in the next section.

Question 1

Candidates at all levels were able to access this source and respond to the two enquiries within the question. Whilst the weakest answers did engage in simply paraphrasing the content of the source, most candidates were able to draw out some valid inferences. Weaker candidates tended to be rather generalised in their development of these inferences, but stronger candidates developed them fully, drawing on both the content of the source and relevant contextual knowledge. The first enquiry tended to be more effectively addressed than the second enquiry, where a significant minority of candidates only identified the response of MPs and the government, thereby missing the opportunity to discuss both 'two thousand signatures' and the reaction of the press. Candidates do need to read the provenance of the source carefully and use it as part of the process of weighing the evidence.

Source 1 also reveals an insight into the nature of opposition by the government and individual MPs who were "well known in public life". The source reveals the "sympathetic" nature of MPs such as James Stanfield and Henry J. Wilson by claiming that the "powerful manifesto" was "quite a new thing". Active women protesters such as Elizabeth Wolstenholme and Josephine Butler were not really present prior to the Contagious Diseases Act. Women were completely excluded from political life as in the 1832 Reform Act and the 1867 Reform Act. For this reason, the nature of government response was particularly challenging as they didn't want to further contribute further to the opposition by even hearing

treatments. Stansfeld was particularly instrumental figure in the repeal of the Act ~~considering~~ considering he was an MP in Gladstone's government. His sympathetic nature towards the LNA and the issue of repeal was immense in influencing government behaviour and in creating the National Medical Association in 1870. However, the source limits this by simply claiming they were sympathetic as opposed to how they were sympathetic.

The fact that the LNA had "Shaken" the Houses of Parliament very badly also implies the power of the LNA, making the government feel very "awkward".

This therefore reveals that the nature of responses were completely mixed with the Houses of Parliament, with some completely sympathetic and ^{eager} to implement reform, with others unaware of how to maintain the opposition, by questioning "What are we to do with such an opposition".

However, the source limits itself as it fails to explain why the reform repeal of the Act ^{in 1876} took so long, as not all members were completely sympathetic and swayed by the moral force of the LNA.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

In this section from a response you see the candidate dealing with the second part of the enquiry and focusing here on the response in Parliament. This is what is expected from work which is at level 5 – the candidate is clearly interrogating the evidence with discrimination and using their contextual knowledge to support this approach. For an answer to be awarded level 5, both parts of the enquiry would need to be approached in this way.

Question 2

Candidates at all levels were able to access this source and respond to the two enquiries within the question. There were some impressive answers seen where candidates were able to draw out a range of inferences from the source in relation to both enquiries. Weaker candidates tended to quote directly from the source without developing what was being quoted. This made it difficult for these candidates to pick up on nuances such as tone. Some effective answers were seen that did consider aspects of the tone of the piece, most notably identifying the author's attitude towards Larkin. Most candidates had contextual knowledge that they used with varying degrees of success to elaborate on and/or challenge points that were raised in the source. Candidates were able to make effective use of the source provenance to test the validity of Wright's report for both enquiries. Stronger responses developed the idea that Wright was paid by Dublin employers to write his piece and probed the statistics, the issue of wages and the reference to Larkin.

Chosen question number: Question 1 Question 2

Source 2 is valuable for ~~addressing~~ revealing the severity of the ~~conditions of the~~ severity of the conditions experienced by unskilled workers in Ireland and the reasons for the 1913-14 Dublin strike to a significant extent. The source, an excerpt from a book that is skewed by the financial incentive behind it, is remarkably accurate in portraying the severity of the working and living conditions of the unskilled work force. ~~The~~ ~~the~~ source is more valuable for investigation enquiry 1, but it still offers a ^{valuable} useful insight into the reasons for the Dublin revolt, despite its vitriolic and emotive tone.

Source 2 is extremely valuable for investigating the severity of the conditions of the experience of unskilled workers in Ireland. The source states that ~~the~~ many people like it "Dublin slum [5], which the author describes as a "the hellhole of social

infrastructure forced unskilled workers to live in an abject state. This can be supported by evidence that factory and mill owners built shanty housing and bunk-to-bunk tenement housing to accommodate their workers. While the language of "hellhole" is

intended to inspire a dramatic image, we cannot accuse the author of exaggerating too much as evidence shows that conditions were disease-ridden, filthy and filthy as people shared water pumps and sewers, leading to the spread of disease. Moreover, the factual side of the source comes through when Wright states there was a "total population of 87,205", which suggests he has conducted research into the specific number of people living in the cramped space. This implies that unskilled workers lived in terrible conditions, which were cramped and "injurious to health and life", as they were poorly built, quickly and poorly and spread disease quickly. Finally, the source addresses the working conditions for unskilled workers, noting that "wages... were low", so "the struggle for existence... was intense". This can be supported by the fact that the average wage for an unskilled worker was 10 shillings and 9 pence a week, when historians estimate that families needed 22 shillings and 5 pence a week to lead

a good shakedown of living. Thus, source 2, corroborated by significant evidence, accurately portrays the daily struggles of existence for an unskilled worker owing to their poor living conditions and low wages.

In contrast, source 2 is moderately valuable for revealing the reasons for the 1913-1914 Dublin strike. The preface states that Wright "was reportedly paid £500 by Dublin employers" for writing the book. This suggests that ~~the~~ Wright takes a more cynical and dismissive perspective on the reasons for the strike, ~~also~~ implying it is driven by a "smooth-tongued orator", when it was also driven by the conviction of an increasingly militant workforce who wanted to improve their ~~two~~ rights. Nevertheless, this detail in the preface is also valuable, because it reveals tensions between employers and employees, who both want to manipulate the narrative on working conditions. In this way, it seems that one of the reasons for the strike was challenging the employers, which is true, as ~~for~~ Larkin was challenging Murphy and his inadequate treatment of workers. The source is also valuable because it notes the low "wages" and "old, rotten" living conditions, which underlines the main reason for the strike: to improve living and

working conditions for unskilled workers. Moreover, the value of the source is limited by its unfair and ~~stark~~ portrayal of Harkin as a liar, spreading "false arguments" and taking advantage of "easy prey". The emotive language of the source vilifies Harkin as a predator, preying on the

vulnerabilities of unskilled workers for his own ~~per~~ aims. While Harkin was certainly motivated to start the strike with ITGWU (Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, set up in January 1909), he was also motivated by men-at-arms reasons and was genuinely concerned with the disempowered position of workers. Nevertheless, the source is still moderately reliable for identifying "Jim Harkin" as the leading force of the strike, as he was the engine behind it. It also states that the strike was inspired by "a wave of industrial unrest... over Britain", which explains another reason for the strike, namely the support ~~over~~ and financial support provided by British trade unions made 1913-14 an opportune moment to strike.

Overall, source 2 is ~~signif~~ valuable for investigating both enquiries together to a significant extent.

It is extremely reliable for investigating the extreme suffering of Dublin's skilled workers by

explaining both their living and working conditions. The value of the source for this first enquiry is also ~~also~~ increased because it comes from an employer perspective that wishes to appease employees. This shows that Wright simply could not disguise or ~~underestimate~~ ^{underestimate} the dire experience

of unskilled workers. The source is also moderately valuable for ~~source~~ enquiry 2; while its emotive and tense and unbalanced perspective portrays harkin as a villain, it addresses a variety of credible reasons for the Dublin Strike. Therefore, ~~given~~ given the weight of evidence that corroborates the source, it is reliable for investigating both enquiries to a significant extent. This is especially useful for a historian because it comes from an employer ^{-friendly} perspective, yet accurately describes the reasons for strikes and the experience of the workers.



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Examiner Comments

This response clearly has a secure understanding of the use to which the source can be put for both parts of the enquiry. There is a sustained focus on the question. It interrogates the evidence demonstrating a number of ways in which the material can be used. There is some historical context which is used to develop inferences. Evaluation in relation to the enquiries is well developed, seeing some differences between how the source can be used in each case. This is a level 5 response.

Question 3

This was the more popular choice in this section. Some impressive answers were seen to this question which provided analysis of the varying levels of threat posed by a number of radical reformers at different points in the period, demonstrating a secure understanding of wider issues. Many weaker responses simply described one or two threats or protests in detail, without really considering how this linked to the focus of the question. Such answers were often focused more on the events at the end of the period than at the start.

A number of candidates seemed to perceive the Luddites as an example of radical reformers.

Chosen question number: Question 3 Question 4

Question 5 Question 6

Plan

Intro - Not accurate. Threat overstated by gov.

P1 - 1792 - 1800. LLS (Not a threat). Seditious Meeting Act, TADE

P2 - 1801 - 1819. Spa Fields meeting. Peterloo. Pentridge.

P3 - Government response to threats against.

Conc - Summarise and conclude.

Essay

It is partly accurate to say that the threat posed to government by radical reformers in the years 1792-1819 was ^{fairly} extremely serious however the threat was not as serious as believed at the time. A threat to government is any movement or action that compromises the effectiveness of the state to govern the country in this case from radical reformers who sought wide scale reforms introduced to democratic parliament. These groups included the London Corresponding Society (LCS), Spenceans and the Hammersmith Club.

From 1792 to 1800 the threat posed to the government by radical reformist groups was far too small to be termed "extremely serious." As far as the government was concerned the biggest threat was the newly formed, in 1792, London Corresponding Society (LCS). The LCS sought voting rights for the skilled working classes who were disenfranchised by high household voting qualification in borough seats. They did this by holding small meetings and connecting like minded individuals by letter writing. The LCS was a peaceful society on its face with a membership of just a few thousand, mainly London based, men as its leadership sought to avoid being labelled as revolutionary. In its own right the threat posed by the LCS was minuscule, even when combined with the force of other small societies.

In the first twenty years of the 1800s however the government came under intense pressure from reformist groups, particularly in the Midlands and the North. Large protests and demonstrations posed little real threat to government however the emergence of a new order of radical reformists did. In 1816 the government faced the aftermath of the Spa Fields meeting: armed men marched on the Tower of London, demanding reform. Inspired by a group of Spenceans, a more revolutionary group of reformists, peaceful protesters rolled a guano barrel and took up arms. This was followed by the Pentrich Rising, a group of men led by one

Jeanine Brantell who attempted to seize Nottingham City, and a demonstration by 80,000 at St Peter's Field, Manchester, demanding an extension to the franchise. In this period the government came under huge pressure to reform as papers such

as the Leeds Mercury advocated the working class. By the 1840s after the Peterloo incident the government viewed an armed insurrection as extremely likely, validating the claim of an extremely serious threat to government.

Recognising the threat potential threat posed by radical groups, however, the government used its position of power to ensure the threat posed, even in the late 1840s, never became too serious. New laws were passed frequently that limited the ability of potentially threatening groups to function beginning in 1845 with the Seditious Meetings Act and the Treason Act which led to the arrests of Hardy and other L.S. leaders, leading to the collapse of the L.S. As the potential threat grew in the early 1850s the Home Office of Lord Liverpool's government, formed in 1812, used more underhand tactics to combat the threat. Spies and 'agent provocateurs' were placed in many organisations, feeding information to the government and encouraging illegal activity. This led to the post-arrests after Spa Fields and the top trial for the Peterloo Rising had led to 80 arrests. Restrictions imposed on the press and public activity in Six Acts such as in the Criminal Libel Act, also helped quell radical activity.

In conclusion the threat posed to government by radical reformers in the years 1792 - 1819 was fairly serious, particularly from 1815, but was not "extremely serious" as believed at the time. By the time radical reformist movements had gathered enough support in the early 1800s to pose a serious threat to government the state was fully prepared with a spy network and restrictive laws to counter the threat. Thus whilst radical events such as the Spa Fields meeting, and Pentrich Rising and Peterloo did pose a ~~fairly~~ serious threat the government was never truly at risk of losing the ability to govern effectively making it impossible to label the threat posed as "extremely serious."



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Examiner Comments

This answer engages in sustained analysis across the response which is supported by sufficient contextual knowledge. The answer clearly appreciates that the threat varies over time and explains the basis for that judgement. This answer achieves level 5.

Question 4

This was the less popular choice in this section. Candidates found this a very accessible question, with most of them being aware of a number of the reasons why the General Strike failed in 1926. Candidates were generally able to demonstrate how the government played a significant role in its failure, weighing this up against the shortcomings of the TUC. Stronger answers considered a range of factors on both sides of the argument to gain a balanced answer. Some candidates failed to link their reasons for the failure of the General Strike to assessing the overall strength of the government, instead providing a set of reasons for the failure of the strike without suggesting how they directly linked.

Chosen question number: **Question 3**

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

The General Strike of 1926 was a result of the failure of government's Samuel Report which had been published in March 1925. It ~~had been~~ had concluded that the future of the coal industry was not to be nationalisation. In addition to this, there was not to be any wage increases. The coal industry was already being undercut by a fall in foreign trade. Countries were buying their coal from other countries such as the US as it was cheaper. In addition to this private companies had failed to invest in new industrial equipment. This meant the miners of Britain were less efficient than the workers. Ultimately all of this led to the General Strike in May 1926.

One key reason for the failure of the General Strike was the government. It was efficient and had been prepared for a full-scale revolution nationwide since the Clydeside Strikes of 1915.

and the ~~the~~ '40 hour strikes' of Jan 1919. Since the October Revolution of 1917 the fear of a full Socialist uprising in ~~the Russia~~ Britain had never been higher. Due to the extension of the railways and the newly built telegraph lines - all invested in by the government troops had been moved around efficiently, especially since Red Friday in 1925 when Churchill had been starting to prepare. When the actual strikes occurred in ~~the~~ May 1926, the government was fully prepared. Volunteers had been drafted in to drive lorries and to drive trains. Even when wheat supplies ^{had} become dramatically to low levels a convoy of lorries drove from the London Docklands to Hyde Park under armoured car supervision to distribute food to the people. Ultimately all of these efforts by the government helped to maintain peace and keep all the bare ~~min~~ necessities running. ~~For~~ Its for this reason why the strike had been ultimately peaceful and the miners were forced back to work.
it was a success

Although from the 'Triple Alliance's' point of view the General Strike was a mixed success, in terms of the number of people who went on strike, but the ultimate outcome was not a success for the miners. The miners had managed to gain the

support of the printer, power, transport, ~~the~~ and train workers. For example on the first day only 1% of transport workers went to work.

In total over 3 million workers went on strike was a great success. They also gained the support of the TUC which was vital. The miners managed to stay on strike for a ~~whole~~^{three} month but eventually were forced to go back to work on wages that had been reduced by 30%. The failure of the miners and the TUC to hold purposeful talks eventually lost them sympathy support from the rest of the Triple Alliance and ultimately ~~the~~ a successful outcome from the General Strike.

It's also important to mention the role of the media. While the BBC had to respectively remain neutral the other papers did not. The Times was supportive of the strikers as they had been sympathetic to other causes in the past, such as the Chartists. The Gazette was very hostile towards the strikers and helped to boost the government's position in the negotiations over the strikes. Its editor was none other than Winston Churchill who had helped to organise the government's response. Although this was a key factor it was not the ultimately deciding factor.

It was the efficiency and organisation skills that lead to the failure of the General Strike. This outweighs the ~~failure of~~ self-failures of the Triple Alliance because they were genuinely successful. They helped to gather up support from the working class and across all Trade Unions. But the government managed to hold out longer as the miners were always going to be forced back to work as there was a reason why they were working in the mines in the first place; they were poor.



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Examiner Comments

This is a level 3 response. It is aware of the argument and the counter argument and does link these to the question although they are not developed very far and the judgement is quite weakly substantiated. There is accurate and relevant contextual knowledge but it lacks depth.



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Examiner Tip

Develop your answer as fully as you can.

Question 5

This was the more popular choice in this section.

Some very impressive answers were seen where candidates discussed the piecemeal nature of legislation across the chronology to benefit Irish Catholics in terms of tokenism and were even critical of the timing and nature of the 1829 Roman Catholic Relief Act.

In the best answers, the knowledge deployed was detailed, accurate and relevant and was used to fully meet the conceptual demands of the question, ranging across the whole chronology and referencing the Penal Laws, Catholic Relief Acts and the 1829 Roman Catholic Relief Act in support of the argument. Weaker answers tended to focus predominantly only on the last of these three elements.

Range in the counter arguments offered was sometimes less secure.

Chosen question number: **Question 3** **Question 4**

Question 5 **Question 6**

In the years 1774-1830, the rights of Catholics were moderately improved. The improvement to the rights of Catholics can be assessed by their legal rights, freedom to hold different positions, ~~and~~ level of emancipation, ^{at different sections of society} and economic opportunities. Given these criteria, the repeal of the Penal Laws and the election of Daniel O'Connell ~~is~~ mark significant improvements to the rights of Catholics. However, the significance of these improvements is limited by the lack of full emancipation and the minimal economic opportunities for Catholics. Therefore, the rights of Catholics from 1774-1830, ^{were} improved moderately.

The rights of Catholics were significantly improved by the ~~repeal~~ an increased level of emancipation for Catholics. The Penal Regime 1774, the rights of Catholics

were minimal; they were disempowered and treated by society and the law as inferior. For example, the Penal laws, established in 1695 after the 1690 Battle of the Boyne, restricted Catholics the right to practice and promote their religion, vote in elections, hold civic positions or have a Catholic education.

Thus, Catholic rights were limited in the sphere of politics, education and society. However, their rights were substantially improved with a series of ^{Catholic relief acts} ~~emancipation~~ bills, repealing the Penal laws. The ^{first} ~~first~~ ^{Catholic Relief Act} ~~emancipation~~ bill (1778) gave Catholics the right to pass on land to their heirs and have leases of up to 999 years, while the second Catholic Relief Act (1782) gave Catholics the right to buy land and removed restrictions on Catholic education and clergy. These rights for Catholics to have more control over their land and buy land were hugely important because the Anglo-Irish had unvalued 95% of the land, when they only made up 20% of the population. Thus, the first two bills put Catholics in a more powerful position and, in many ways, restored ~~the~~ ^{the} land to the native Irish, so they could run their own farms and live a more profitable life. Furthermore, the ~~two~~ second Catholic Relief Act (1793) gave Catholics the right to practice law, which prompted

to the rise of a ~~new~~ generation of more educated and qualified Catholics, such as O'Connell. Lastly, the Fourth Catholic Relief Act (1793) was the most significant because it ~~removed the rights of~~ ^{allowed Catholics to} stand for military and civil positions as well as vote in elections. This marked a substantial improvement to their rights, as all wealthy Catholics gained

emancipation, equalizing their position with Protestant voters. It also meant Catholics would stand in powerful posts, directing and influencing life in Ireland, rather than being in a subordinate, disempowered position.

Therefore, the Catholic Relief Acts afforded Catholics in all sections of society with greater emancipation, which were enshrined in law. This marked a substantial improvement to Catholic rights because it permanently empowered Catholics in several ways: politically, ^{and} socially and in ^{the realm of} education and land.

The rights of Catholics were substantially improved in ~~the~~ because Catholics gained political representation. With the Penal Laws, Catholics were not allowed to be a member of parliament, which meant both the British parliament and the brief Irish parliament (1782-1801) only had Protestant MPs. The political position of Catholics improved markedly with the rise of Daniel O'Connell. O'Connell created established the

Catholic Association in May 1823 to publicize emancipation and fund pamphlets, speakers and public meetings. It became a powerful and vocal force for Catholic rights, raising £1,000 a week and gained £10,000 by the end of the year for investment. Their financial gains were significant because it enabled them to finally support pro-emancipation

MPs. ~~That~~, subsequently, they achieved huge successes in the 1826 General Election, when pro-emancipation MPs were elected in Roscommon, North ~~th~~, Longford and Westmeath. This meant that, while Catholics could not stand as MPs before 1830, they still had some MPs in parliament who raised and vocalised the issue of emancipation to the benefit of Catholic rights. The efforts of the Catholic Association culminated ~~in~~ when they promoted Daniel O'Connell as the new MP for County Clare, discovering a loophole in the law. Their opportunism led to the election of the first Catholic MP on ~~30~~²⁹ July 1830, when Daniel O'Connell replaced the sitting MP Fitzgerald for County Clare. O'Connell's election, coupled with his landslide victory (20,000 votes to 10,000) showed that the rights of Catholics had been substantially improved by 1830. Thus, increasing political representation for

Catholics marked a significant improvement to the rights of Catholics.

However, the rights of Catholics were not substantially improved in the 1774-1830 because owing to the lack of economic opportunities for Catholics. There were ~~some~~ ~~ex~~ Catholic relief acts repealed the Penal laws, but they did not address the

economic rights of Catholics who suffered considerably under a system of absentee landlordism and ~~and~~ unfair land distribution. While by 1830, there was only one Catholic MP at Westminster. While O'Connell could voice Catholic issues and gave Catholics representation, the success of one man does not account for the millions of Catholics who ~~that~~ ~~they~~ were trapped in a cycle of poverty. The Anglo-Irish dominated the land and the middlemen had leases up of 1021 years for fixed rent, so Irish Catholic tenant farmers ~~had to deal with~~ were left with small parcels of land, which wouldn't be invested into. Thus, the unequal distribution of land undermines the political gains made in 1774-1830 because ordinary Catholics lack economic rights to their land. Moreover, absentee landlordism also harmed the position of

Catholics. The system in place withheld £800,000 from an economy that only produced £4 million annually. Thus, the lack of economic opportunities for Catholics ~~with~~^{limits} the significance of the Catholic relief acts and shows Catholic economic rights had yet to be addressed.

Overall, the rights of Catholics were moderately improved in the years 1774-1830. Increases while

Catholics had limited economic opportunities because land distribution and absentee landlordism had yet to be addressed, there were improvements made to the rights of Catholics. The Catholic relief acts affected Catholics in all sections of society greater political and social rights, which were enshrined in law. Likewise, the efforts of the Catholic Association created greater political representation for Catholics and gave Catholics the right to stand as an MP, which worked well for the country's future. Given the lack of economic opportunities for Catholics and that there was only one Catholic MP by 1830, the rights of Catholics improved only moderately.



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Examiner Comments

'Criteria by which the question can be judged' is the justification that candidates provide for seeing one content area as more significant than another. It does not apply to the content that candidates select to construct their answer. Despite this misidentification of criteria in the introduction, this response is in level 5. It has a secure understanding of the conceptual focus and uses a range of evidence from across the chronology of the question in order to reach clearly reasoned judgements. The line of argument is sustained throughout the response.

Question 6

This was the less popular choice in this section.

Students at all levels were prepared to engage in the opportunity this question offered to discuss the role of key figures such as Parnell, Davitt and Gladstone. Whilst for weaker candidates, this often led to descriptive responses involving biographical detail and not always focused on the question, amongst stronger candidates there was a determined effort to consider the roles of individuals in achieving the two Land Acts. The interest in individuals did mean that responses to this question were not always balanced, but in many answers there was some developed discussion of the Land War and the achievements of the Land League. Candidates were familiar with the three Fs, often developing their answers well around these concepts. There was very limited consideration in most answers of the economic context and how this moved the debate on land reform forward.

Chosen question number: **Question 3** **Question 4**

Question 5 **Question 6**

The role of individuals in passing the 1870 and 1881 Land Acts was indeed crucial as the key attitudes and skills that both Parnell and Davitt ~~obtained~~ obtained allowed them to control the course of the Land League and direct it, while Gladstone's and Forster's liberal and reforming ideas meant the danger posed by the Land League could be answered with desired reform. However, the passing of the 1870 and 1881 Land Acts were arguably conceivable without a conciliatory and pragmatic British attitude, coupled with the strength and unity of the Irish Nation.

The work and leadership of Parnell was instrumental for the passing of the 1881 relief Act. After the new departure

In 1778, Pennell had the support of the HR Association as well as in Land League - the ~~the~~ membership of which totalled well over 100,000. Pennell was able to effectively dominate the organization and use it skilfully to fulfill

his ideas for land reform. Pennell's first important decision was to combine the HR and land issues as he realised that their separate goals were inextricably linked.

The ~~HR~~ foresight was an important aspect of Pennell's ~~role~~ skillset as it allowed him to outmanoeuvre the British. Possibly his strongest asset was a leader - what ~~ultimately~~ gave him power of the Land League and ultimately ~~over~~ the passing of the Land Act - was his skills in oration. This granted him ~~the~~ to be a strong leader and garnered immense popular support for himself. This meant that the Land League continued to follow his orders even after his imprisonment in 1880 - successfully getting the Land Act passed. Pennell's immense leadership was supplanted by the figure of ~~D~~ Michael Davitt. While he was not the speaker of the organization, he was a sophisticated organizer, allowing him to carefully orchestrate

the success of the Land League, and utilise
them during the Land War effectively. It is
possible that without Davitt's leadership, the
Land League's numerous techniques would not
have been as effective as they wouldn't
have been organised by a strong executive.
The attitudes of the British, and
the Land League in England, were also
~~the~~ crucial in the passing of the Land
Acts. This is most obviously exemplified in the
form of Gladstone who stated - after coming to
power in 1868 - 'my mission is to pacify
Ireland'. This reveals a reforming attitude and
a Prime Minister willing to invest in the
troubled state of Ireland. This attitude
quickly manifested itself in the form of
the 1870 Land Act - which had very little
to do with Davitt and Parnell. While the
Land Act was not completely effective
it still revealed a conciliatory
attitude from Britain, and provided a
key first step in the slow reform of
Irish land. Gladstone's prominence in the
process and his responsibility for passing
the Land Acts is reinforced in 1880, when
he is re-elected as Prime Minister and subsequently

This is evidenced by the numerous tactics they employed in the land war which were only resolved by the passing of the Land Act. The implementation of Boycotting was particularly effective as it isolated the landowners and caused them extreme economic harm. This is evidenced by the much on a Bishop in Kilkenny who was boycotted for high rents and so reduced them by 25%. The Irish people also ostracised 'Land Grabbers' - those who took over evicted land - and this increased the national unity. However, these techniques (which were effective) were controlled by Parnell and Quett. When the split from leadership and people is sharply revealed is not as with Violence. Whilst Parnell strictly objected to the use of violence there were still three key examples of violent protest in Ireland, most notably the death of Lord Mountmorres (an Irish landowner). This caused huge shock in England and meant that the British parliament was even more focused on the issue of Irish land.

Thus to conclude, however, that it is extremely unlikely that the strength of the Irish and James would have been directed

properly ^{and} effectively without the Army executive
in the form of Parnell and Davitt. Their
key organisational skills ~~played~~ ^{played} the sophisticated
upon the insecurities of Landowners and the British.

Parnell's history as an MP of County Meath
- and use of obstructionism - meant that he was
able to manipulate the British parliament. While
the ~~1881~~ ~~1882~~ 1870 Land Act was clearly due
to B. a renowned British Unionist and the
leadership of Gladstone, the 2nd Land Act relied
crucially upon the strong leadership of Parnell. While
the Irish farmers were dangerous and motivated,
they could not have effectively organised
themselves without Parnell and Davitt. Therefore,
it is clear that the passing of the two Land
Acts ~~was~~ ~~almost~~ in 1870 and 1881 was
almost entirely due to the role of leading
individuals, Gladstone for the first, and Parnell
for the second.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

Although there is some occasional default to describing biographical detail, the response does return to the question focus and for most of the answer there is sustained analysis supported by relevant knowledge. The answer explores the role of key individuals, but also links those individuals to their wider context, using this as the basis for reaching some clearly substantiated judgements. This response is doing sufficient to be in level 5.

Question 7

This was significantly the more popular choice in this section. Many of the candidates focused on the word 'democratic' and were able to discuss whether individual pieces of legislation across the period were a turning point in relation to making parliament more representative. Many candidates were prepared to make a reasoned argument that 1832 was not the key turning point, with most other pieces of legislation offered as the key turning point by some candidates for a range of valid reasons. Weaker candidates tended to work through the pieces of legislation chronologically asserting, rather than developing an argument, as to which piece of legislation was the key turning point. Indeed, these answers often seemed to lack a secure understanding of what a turning point was. Such answers also sometimes lacked a secure grasp of contextual knowledge, often linking a development to the wrong piece of legislation or engaging in anachronistic comment. Most, but not all, candidates engaged with a substantive part of the chronology that was being addressed in this question.

Chosen question number: **Question 7** **Question 8**

Question 9 **Question 10**

The passing of the 1832 Reform Act signified a huge change in the democracy of parliament. Though ~~movement gives the democratic representation of~~ ~~the people before that~~ 1832 had numerous criticisms, it nonetheless was a key turning point, as it was the act that tackled corruption, franchise and distribution seen afterwards.

Before 1832 parliament was ~~to~~ almost entirely made up of ~~to~~ aristocracy, with the monarch using patronage in order to sway the House of Lords in his or her favour. Parliament ~~could~~ was frequently dissolved by the king and ~~was~~ ministers dismissed easily - the remains of a feudal system were still clearly recognisable. The 1832 act ~~emerged~~

acted as a huge turning point, underlining the
commitment of the Lords ~~not~~ during the 'Days
of May' and thousands march of 100,000. The
The passing of the act, in concordance with popular
opinion emphasised a dynamic shift in democracy,
moving from placocracy to a more democratic
system. The reform act increased the electorate by
60% and saw contested elections rise from 38 - 50%.
UK seats were abolished including 'rotten boroughs' such as
Old Sarum which had just 7 voters. Though bribery ~~and~~
remained a problem; ^{70% of MPs remained related to power} and very few people ~~remained~~ were
enfranchised still; ~~with~~ Earl Grey's enforcing of the
1832 reform act despite animosity in the Lords and by
William IV it is a symbolic turning point as part in the
development of a more democratic system from the earlier
placocratic one of years type.

The challenging of that the conversions in distribution
of seats and the franchise are also vital developments
in the creation of parliamentary democracy. The franchise
increasingly improved representation. By 1867 the ~~the~~ voting
qualifications became more uniform, with another several
hundred thousand added to the electorate including ^(some) working
class men. Not only was the electorate increased but
56 of the smallest constituencies had lost their MPs
taken away in favour of granting industrial areas like

~~Constitution~~ Manchester more seats. The 1883 1884/5
Reform and Distribution Acts are similarly important in not
only increasing electorate but changing constituencies.
London moving from 22 to 55 constituencies. This
improved representation as (as in 1867) challenged
aided in the development of parliamentary democracy,
allowing the views of the public to be better
conveyed (shown in ~~the~~ ~~election~~ ~~of~~ ~~13~~ ~~coloured~~ ~~Trade~~ ~~Unions~~ and the enfranchising
of Londoners by merchants and businessmen for the first
time.) Similarly, the enfranchisement of all men in 1918
and then women in the 'Franchise Act' of 1928
(the electorate tripled) both created a more representative
parliament. The shift demonstrated in the election of
the first Labour Prime Minister MacDonald & Macdonald.
The combined effect of the franchise and distribution
reforms led to not only a more reflective representative
to Government but the development of a parliamentary
democracy. Thus it was these reforms acting together
that rechristened the pluralistic system of before,
aiding in creating a two-party political system through
events such as the Tooting Street Campaign that
created a parliamentary democracy for the first time,
~~not~~ merely a far cry from the untroubled Tory
Governments of earlier years. Crucially, whilst distribution
and franchise reforms remain vital, it was still 1832

that triggered the 'reform era' and created the drive of political expediency that drove reform. Corruption was another vital element to overcome in 1858 the property qualifications for MPs were abolished and in 1853 the Corrupt and Illegal Practices Prevention Act made it illegal to buy votes. Even following 1832, bribery was rife. With the Secret Ballot Act of 1872 unaddressing the problem 'CIPRA' also regulated expenditure (necessary after the £2 million spent in 1880 alone). The continued reform and rooting out of corruption helped make the reform and distribution changes matter, leading to the drop in uncontested elections in 1910 (4 to 70% had been uncontested) and the Parliament Act asserting the predominance of the House of Commons over the Lords. One more, albeit developing parliamentary democracy, 1832 remains the point the reform age was kicked off.

Overall, through the reform of corruption, franchise and distribution led to the development of a parliamentary democracy, 1832 nonetheless remains the turning point. Crucially, it was this act that shifted the Government from a feudal to democratic systems, increasing

directly in representation but elicited more reforms over time. Though 1832 was undoubtedly limited, it nonetheless marked for the first time the predominance of public opinion and the Commons over the Lords and monarch (monarch had to capitulate to Grey), the Liberal gains ~~over~~ ~~over~~ creating the drive of political expediency that would lead as Disraeli would later adopt and Overall, therefore, though limited, 1832 was a turning point in the development of parliamentary democracy, emphasizing dominance of public opinion and Commons over the aristocracy for the first time, symbolising the move ^{from} to ~~from~~ ^{from} aristocracy towards parliamentary democracy.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is a level 5 response. It considers a number of potential developments and discusses their significance. The answer is analytical in approach and reaches a clearly reasoned judgement in relation to the question focus. The answer ranges across the full period, considering the pre-1832 period as well as extending the answer all the way through to 1928.

Question 8

This was significantly the less popular choice in this section. It gave rise to some very impressive answers and some very weak answers. Stronger answers were clearly aware of the conceptual focus of this question and were able to use sound contextual knowledge to consider the organisation of different parties and the extent to which certain pieces of legislation and/or other developments assisted or not. Such candidates were securely aware of the development of party organisation and able to discuss whether such changes were 'dramatic'. Weaker candidates tended to work chronologically through the key reforms, not always making the link to the question explicit. Many candidates failed to engage with the chronology that was being addressed in the question.

1867
prim. 1883
NFF + Conventions 1877
Gorst + Central office 1867
Nacca 1871

~~1832 + 1884~~
Individual
Pitts

~~1818 1828~~
Policies /
Club
Splits

Political Parties changed vastly between 1780-1928 leading to the organised groups we know today. The 1867 Reform Act was indeed to be the most influence in creating ~~democratic~~ ^{dramatic} changes to the organisation of parties with the Primrose League, Central office and Conventions system following it. The ^{other} 19th century Reform Acts, ^{such as 1832} narrowed organisation significantly too ~~not~~ as did those of the ~~19th~~ 20th century in 1918 and 1928. ~~Other~~ changes to organisation included the changes caused by splits in the Party from the Catholic Emancipation ¹⁸²⁹ to the Corn Law Repeal 1846 and the issues of Tariff Reform. These changed organisation of

~~Parties by generating new ideas and causing parties to~~
~~rethink strategies after splits.~~ Yet this did not ^{the degree of change} make ~~1867~~
in 1867.

The 1867 Reform Act critically ~~added~~ formed an electorate of 2 million. This ~~was~~ ^{led to} a dramatic change in organisation in order to provide for the newly enfranchised. The Conservatives established the Central Office run by Gorst in 1867 which registered conservative voters and combined the smaller local conservative organisations under the N.U.C.C.A. This increased organisation of the Party greatly, since the smaller groups now held the same, unified voice as the overall Party. Similar revelations came ~~from~~ ⁱⁿ the Liberal Party, with the foundation of the National Liberal Foundation in 1877. ~~They~~ This used the ideas of Joseph Chamberlain who had used a caucus system to ~~win~~ ^{strategically} cast votes in Birmingham, and ^{all 3 MP seats in} won 13 consecutive elections due to this strategy. Such organisation cannot be attributed to any other Act, ~~but the~~ The ~~for~~ Tories pushed their organisations in 1863 with the Primrose League in Disraeli's memory. It was essential in bringing in vast numbers of voters, especially women. This makes it very convincing that the 1867 Act was the most dramatic change, since ~~the~~ ^{at a wide} scale of Party loyalty at grass-roots levels had been established, and this is unheard of after the 1832 Reform Act previously.

Other
 Looking to 19th Century Acts, the 1832 Reform Act proved an important step in establishing Political Party Organisation, yet was limited in its success. The electorate of 1 million in the wake of 1832 caused the Parties to make ^{modest} changes to their organisation. In 1834 Peel released his Tamworth Manifesto. This was the first of its kind, and expressed the ^{dramatic} change of Parties revealing Policy. That said, the manifesto did not resemble ^{one of} the clarity of ~~a 21st~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{those of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~present~~ ^{the} day, ~~yet~~ but was no doubt a significant step towards more organised methods. The Act also ^{saw} the formation of political clubs, ~~the~~ Reform by both Parties, the Hampden Clubs for Tories and Reform Club for Whigs. The change in organisation can be witnessed in the 1841 election, which was the first to be fought by two clearly defined Parties, showing the ^{improved} ~~new~~ loyalty of MPs to their Parties. ~~Thus~~ Although this shows greater organisation levels, Parties still clashed and fell unorganised. Such examples include ~~to~~ the Corn Law Repeat debate of 1846, which saw the ~~liberal~~ Whigs split. This proves organisation levels were still low, since the Parties couldn't command their MPs. This portrays the 1832 Act as ~~less~~ important, yet not the most dramatic change.

The Acts of the 20th Century in ¹⁹18 and 1928 saw organisation reach its highest, with the new working class electorate of 21 million (1918) and then 28 million (1928). The Conservatives and Liberals established cheap subscription clubs for social and leisure to establish links to the new voters. The 1906 Labour party also developed, into its 1924 government under Ramsay MacDonald. This organisation of a totally new party is no doubt a dramatic significant change for political parties, as was the subsequent fall of the Liberals after the Lib-Lab pact. Although ^{in party organisation} a vast change was experienced, it ^{Reform} built on foundations established by the 1867 ~~Act~~ Act, since it had examples of this include the establishment of links with women in 1883 after the 1867 Reform Act, which gave the Conservatives the majority of the new female votes in ~~18~~ 1918 and 1928. The organisation in place allowed these voters to be courted before they had the vote, showing the most dramatic change to be most strikingly after 1867. The organisation of the parties in terms of composition did change, since ^{many} new MPs were from working class origins.

Overall, the 1832 Reform Act started the realisation to need to appeal to the electorate, which in turn prompted change in Party organisation. Yet due to the middle-class enfranchisement it didn't lead to vast change, and cannot be considered the most dramatic, ~~between 1832 and 1867~~ Although the Acts of the 20th century did change organisation towards the working-class, this had already begun in 1867 and so the ~~the~~ continuation and extension of this cannot be considered ^{the} most dramatic change. The Central Office and NLF saw both Parties ^{promote} ~~grow~~ organisation, whereas the 1832 Reform Act had seen many Conservative changes. This again, leads to the conclusion that the most dramatic change was in 1867, as the increase ⁱⁿ organisation is greater than anything to come before or after.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response does have some chronological range. It uses relevant contextual knowledge and makes links from that to the question and is aware of the need to engage in an argument and counter argument. However, the response does not fully develop its arguments and analysis. There is sufficient for this answer to access level 4.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Always develop your analysis as fully as possible

Question 9

This was the more popular choice in this section. It offered candidates the opportunity to select appropriate evidence from across the chronology to support their line of argument. All candidates were able to discuss some aspects of rebellion and violence and they dealt with a range of key individuals and events in the course of their answers. Stronger answers used this discussion to develop responses which directly engaged the conceptual focus of the question and ranged across the chronology. Candidates must ensure that they consider counter arguments as well as looking to support the statement in the question in order to arrive at a fully reasoned judgement. This may be a timing issue, but should be addressed by candidates. A number of candidates failed to engage with the chronology that was being addressed in the question, with some focusing on a very narrow time period.

Chosen question number: **Question 7** **Question 8**

Question 9 **Question 10**

The years 1774 - 1923 in Irish history saw a surge of nationalism which developed in several ways. ~~set~~ certain time periods within this period were more violent ~~than~~ while others were more politically motivated. Overall, ~~the~~ rebellion and violence did achieve little for Irish nationalism and legal proceedings were successful. However, some aspects of the rebellions did have some achievements. This can be judged by looking at the outcome of rebellions in comparison to alternatives, in achieving nationalism.

One way that rebellion and violence achieved little for Irish nationalists was that they were mostly failed rebellions. The 1798 uprising was one of the first in a series of nationalist uprisings. Led by Wolfe Tone it was meant to be a direct challenge of Britain's involvement in Ireland and the aim was full independence. However, despite a very violent battle, their poor

organisation meant that they failed to occupy key cities like Dublin and following their defeat at Vinegar Hill they had to accept defeat. Not only did this rebellion fail and lead to the death of Wolfe Tone who was a key nationalist leader, but it worsened nationalists position. This can be judged by looking at the introduction of the Act of Union in 1801 ~~which~~ and the consequences of it. The rebellion worried the British government and so William Pitt, PM, introduced the Act of Union which made Ireland part of a union and Britain a more integral part of ~~the~~ Ireland's life. The Act removed the Irish parliament which had existed for 5 decades and removed agreements made in the 1782 constitution which gave Britain only the power to veto Irish legislation but no other involvement. This was a serious step back for the nationalists and they didn't regain some powers lost by the Act until the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty. This is one example of how violence ~~did not~~ ~~we~~ did achieve little for nationalists.

Another way it achieved little was that it didn't make the British government willing to negotiate. The violence and rebellions held up until ~~the~~ 1870, such as the ~~1867~~ 1848 Young Irelanders rising or the 1867 Fenian rising, had all been very bloody with many casualties ~~the~~ and led to British to think that

they did not deserve negotiations. # whereas, the introduction of the idea of Home Rule by Isaac Butt in 1870 was a shift away from the violent nationalism and towards a more civilised political and legal agreement. Although the first two bills were rejected in 1914, home rule became law. This was a big improvement for nationalists as PM Gladstone's decision to support Home Rule in 1886 was the time Britain had supported any form of Irish independence. Professor Buckland states how Irish history can be split in two, "with the turning point being 1870" as this is when nationalists made real progress. This shows that the rebellions and violence used in 1774 - 1870 were less successful at achieving change and British support than more peaceful, political measures like Home Rule.

Similarly, the 1900s saw a revival of violence as the Irish became more impatient, but ~~for~~ like the 1800s had shown, this was not very successful. The 1916 Easter Rising and the 1920 Anglo-Irish war were very violent and the Irish were "willing to die for their independence" as said by Buckland. However, they also created a lot of resentment and split the Irish people into those who wanted to accept the 1920 treaty and those who didn't,

subsequently causing the civil war. In the end it was the political works of Michael Collins who worked and negotiated towards the creation of the 1920 Anglo Irish Treaty which was an achievement for nationalism, not the violence and rebellions. Therefore, this is another way that the rebellions and ~~the~~ violence achieved little.

Although they achieved little for nationalism in the political sense, socially they were important. Wolfe Tone said "hundreds will die so that one day Irish people know freedom" and this is the mentality that was held by many nationalists. Although the risings failed they did inspire a new generation of nationalists and also revived the Gaelic League which created a new Irish identity and this fuelled nationalist feelings. The 1867 rising saw the rise of Fenianism which Forster saw as a "mentality" and this fuelled support for the nationalist movement. Therefore, the rebellions ~~were not~~ did achieve some progress socially.

In conclusion, the rebellions and violence did achieve little for nationalists from 1774 - 1923 because mostly they were failures and made Britain more

~~the~~ involved in Ireland in order to prevent rebellion. Similarly, alternative options like political movements were more successful in gaining British support. ~~Of~~ However, the influence of the rebellions on Irish identity and Gaelic revival cannot be ignored as they fuelled national feelings in Ireland.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response does sufficient to access level 4. It clearly has range across the chronology of the question. It raises a number of issues that are pertinent to the question and starts to develop them, although not always fully. There is clear evidence of both support for the statement and counter argument.

Question 10

This was the less popular choice in this section. Some impressive answers were seen to this question where candidates were able to draw on a wide range of examples from across the chronology. Such answers were able to clearly consider the constitutional nature of the Act of Union and apply this to a discussion of whether it was a key turning point, going on to weigh it against other possible pieces of legislation that might also be argued to be the key turning point. Weaker answers were often characterised by an insecure grasp on the Act of Union and generally approached the question by describing some aspects of British policy in the 19th century. Some candidates appeared to have a limited understanding as to what was meant by a turning point. A significant minority of candidates had a very limited chronological range in their answers which does impact on achievement.

Chosen question number: **Question 7** **Question 8**
Question 9 **Question 10**

The passing of the Act of Union in 1801 can most certainly be seen as being a key turning point in the evolution of British government policy towards Ireland in the years 1774 to 1914. However, government policy before 1801 such as the granting of the 1782 Constitution would suggest that British desire for political control was already prominent, ~~and~~ and the continued reluctance to pass Home Rule until 1914 would also support the idea that ^{the} British government's policy of political control over Ireland was consistent throughout the time period.

The passing of the Act of Union in 1801 by the British Prime Minister William Pitt symbolised a degree of evolution in government policy towards Ireland. The fact that it abolished the Irish Parliament granted in 1782, which offered a limited

amount of political independence, suggests that the British government appreciated Anglo-Irish relations to an extent which caused them to establish an even tighter union. While the relatively limited political deal granted in 1782 was in response to a minimal threat of Irish volunteers, the fact that the Act of Union was instigated due to fears of an politically unstable Ireland, evidenced by Wolfe Tone's United Irishmen uprising in 1798. It is evident that an increased and more direct threat had led to a more significant and controlling government policy. In this light the 1801 Act of Union can be seen as a key turning point in British government policy towards Ireland as they decided to take a more hard line stance on political independence when more apparent and direct threats manifested.

However, it can be argued that the Act of Union was not as significant a turning point in government policy as earlier political policy such as the granting of the 1782 constitution also highlighted an evident desire for significant political influence in Irish affairs. While the 1782 constitution did offer the Irish parliament full power over domestic affairs the fact that the British government

retained a veto as well as the position of a Lord Lieutenant evidences the fact that it did in fact not grant the legislature independence that Irish politicians demanded. While the 1782 constitution could be seen as opposing the political liberty granted by the British government in the 1801 Act of Union, the fact that the British government still had great influence over Irish political affairs through the use of patronage suggests the government policy in both cases had similar political motives in restricting Irish political power. While the severity of action is juxtaposed this can be put down to the underlying causes for action.

The idea that British government policy towards Ireland between the years 1774 and 1914, was that of British rule is further evidenced by the continued reluctance to grant Home Rule. The fact that the Act of Union allowed Irish MPs to sit in Westminster, inadvertently progressed the Irish cause for home rule. The Irish MPs influence evidenced by the fact that the Irish Parliamentary Party^(IPP) held the balance of power over the Liberal British governments in 1886 and 1914 while Home Rule Bills sailed in 1886 and 1893, the lack of Irish political affairs consulted under Prime Minister Disraeli suggests

British government policy was still focused on maintaining a strong Anglo-Irish ~~re~~ political relationship. When Home Rule was finally passed in 1914, it was due to another ~~re~~ liberal administration that was reliant on the political support of the IPP to hold the balance of power. The British government policy towards Ireland after the 1801 Act of Union is further supported by the government's rejection of O'Connell's Repeal campaign, banning a meeting in Clontarf. Throughout the 1800's the British government's policy towards Ireland was still along the lines stated in the Act of Union, however the fact that the 1801 Act had inadvertently led to the enactment of Irish issues such as Home Rule to be discussed suggests that the original aim of the policy was to tighten the union.

Overall, it is clear that the 1801 Act of Union symbolised a shift in British government policy towards Ireland that was far more severe than those imposed in 1782, marking it as a key turning point. However, the further and consequential act of Home Rule passed in 1914 saw an undoing of this union, and this was only possible due to the ~~the~~ short-sighted nature of the 1801 Act which

allowed Irish MPs to sit in Westminster to
push Irish issues. While the Act of Union symbolised
a shift in policy, it also enabled the progression
of the Irish home rule movement, therefore the 1801
Act of Union can most certainly be seen as a
major turning point.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This response clearly engages with the chronology, even in the introductory paragraph. It raises a number of issues that are linked to the conceptual focus of the question, although could have had slightly more range in what it examined. Notwithstanding this, there is evidence of a discussion of the Act of Union and its importance and it is weighed against several other potential turning points. This is a secure level 4 response.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

Section A

Candidates should ensure that they deal with both parts of the enquiry.

Candidates should aim to develop valid inferences supported by the arguments raised in the source, not merely paraphrase the content of the source.

Inferences can be supported by reference to contextual knowledge surrounding the issues raised by the source.

Candidates should move beyond stereotypical approaches to the nature/purpose and authorship of the source by, e.g. looking at and explaining the specific stance and/or purpose of the writer.

Sections B and C

Candidates must provide more precise contextual knowledge as evidence. Weaker responses lacked depth and sometimes range in Section B and lacked range across the period in Section C.

Candidates should avoid a narrative/descriptive approach; this undermines the analysis that is required for the higher levels.

Candidates need to be aware of key dates as identified in the specification so that they can address the questions with chronological precision.

Candidates should try to explore the links between issues in order to make the structure of the response flow more logically and to enable the integration of analysis.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

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