

Examiners' Report
June 2012

GCSE Citizenship 5CS03 3C

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Introduction

It is pleasing to report that many candidates approached this sitting of the Unit 3 Papers with confidence. They demonstrated an ability to focus in greater depth on the three themes introduced in Unit 1.

Many candidates responded effectively to the challenge of examining a theme from a number of different perspectives: individual, community, national, global, political, social and ethical. They successfully identified and sought to reconcile the different and often conflicting ideas and opinions associated with these perspectives.

Overall the strongest responses demonstrated sound knowledge and understanding in the multiple choice section and complemented the Source material in the data response and short extended writing questions with relevant and topical 'own knowledge'.

Most candidates made good use of the time available and left sufficient time to respond to the final 15 mark question.

A few candidates misinterpreted some questions and were not able to exploit fully the stimulus Source material or the scaffolding points provided for Question 15. These however were in a minority.

This report does not include examples of the multiple choice questions but covers the short answer, extended answer and essay questions.

Question 8

In their response to this question many candidates just copied from the Source and didn't really answer the question. The better answers included the effect of the ruling on the ability of the disabled to be able to work and lead independent lives.

8 Give **one** reason why Jane Cordell (Source A) is concerned about the ruling of the employment tribunal.

(1)

It may make it harder for other people with disabilities to gain employment meaning they are discriminated against.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a good response covering all points on the mark scheme.

Question 9

This was a well answered question by the majority of candidates who were mostly able to extract the correct information from the Source material.

9 Using Source B, state **three** offences with which violent protesters might be charged. (3)

1 Damaging property such as smashing windows, vandalising buildings, etc.

2 provoke religious or racial hatred e.g. make racist remarks.

3 assault or injure people e.g. ~~also~~ pushing people from the opposing party seriously.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

In this response the three offences given relate to the mark scheme (Bullet Point 4, Bullet Point 1 and Bullet Point 3).



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

When the question states 'Using the Source', the answer can be obtained from the Source material.

Question 10 (a)

The majority of candidates had an understanding of a coalition government and could identify the two parties involved.

Question 10 (b)

Many candidates cited the reason for the coalition government was 'to stop the introduction of identity cards'.

Question 10 (c)

This question was generally well answered, with the majority of candidates being able to state either cost or limited human rights as the reason for not introducing the cards.

(c) Give **one** reason why the government decided not to introduce identity cards. (1)

The government came to an agreement to stop the introduction of identity cards.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate has not answered the question and has given a response that has not scored a mark.

Question 11

This question was generally well answered with candidates giving a balanced view and attempting to answer the question by looking at arguments for and against. Many of the candidates made use of the Source material and their own knowledge to support their view.

Some of the answers had little explanation of the Source material. The better answers tended to build on the Sources with sound own knowledge, including examples such as the tuition fees protest or the Suffragettes.

11 Using Source B and your own knowledge, what are the arguments for and against allowing protest marches and demonstrations to occur?

(6)

By allowing protest marches and demonstrations to occur it lets the public have their say, with the right to free speech. It also lets people know their points of view, then they can make changes for the public to be happy. Peaceful protests don't hurt anyone; people can show their opinion without using violence. Protests can make a difference such as suffragettes gaining votes for women.

On the other hand, protests can often be violent and cause people to break the law. Violent protests can cost millions of pounds to police. It also causes so much inconvenience for other members of the public, such as shops/homes being damaged, people being injured and transport being stopped. Also, some people might think they make no difference such as the 2 million people marching against the Iraq war but it still went ahead.



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Examiner Comments

This response answers the question well, showing a two sided argument. The main points raised are 'freedom of speech', 'point of view', 'Suffragettes', 'violence', 'inconvenience' and 'cost'. This is Level 3, 5 marks.

Question 12

Many of the candidates did not answer this question well and often misinterpreted the question. Instead of giving ways how a campaign could be carried out, they concentrated on why the campaign was set rather than how the aims of the campaign could be achieved. The weaker answers used the Source only.

12 Using evidence from Source D and your own knowledge:

State **three** ways in which a campaigning group, such as *Cure the NHS* set up by Julie Bailey, can work most effectively to achieve its aims.

(3)

- 1 create a website/facebook page to show how many people back them.
- 2 peaceful protest to show the amount of people who back them in what they do to get change to happen.
- 3 petition of signatures, people can sign it to show they support the cause and want to help as much as possible.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response clearly shows 3 good ways, from Bullet Points 4, 5 and 3 of the mark scheme.

12 Using evidence from Source D and your own knowledge:

State **three** ways in which a campaigning group, such as *Cure the NHS* set up by Julie Bailey, can work most effectively to achieve its aims.

(3)

- 1 It could work by reducing the death of patients that have got hospital because of sub-standard treatment
- 2 It could allow the hospital to get better treatment.
- 3 ~~get better~~ make sure that at each patient was cared and looked after properly.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is an example of how a candidate has misinterpreted the question. This candidate has focussed on the aims rather than how they can be achieved and therefore no marks could be awarded.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Tip

Read the question carefully. This question asked 'how a campaign group could meet its aims?' Compare this response with the other example.

Question 13 (a)

This question was well answered and the majority of candidates could extract at least one reason from the Source and give one from their own knowledge.

13 (a) Using Source E and your own knowledge, give **two** reasons why prisoners re-offend.

(2)

1. Things such as money can affect a person's mind, making his mind set so that they will do anything for money.
2. As part of a revenge type offence.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate has not made reference to the Source material at all.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Compare this answer with the Source material and see if you can find these answers? What could you put in instead?

Question 13 (b)

This was another well answered question. The majority of candidates scored at least 1 mark on this question with 'mental health' from the Source being the most popular response. Weaker answers could not achieve the second mark which required candidates' to use their own knowledge.

(b) Using your own knowledge, give **two** possible reasons why the number of prisoners doubled between 1995 and 2010.

1. New laws have been made in which ⁽²⁾ people can now be convicted for more things meaning more people in prison.
2. ~~Becc~~ Because, the sentences for prison terms increased due to pressure factors and life sentences were introduced.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate clearly achieves 2 marks for a good answer. The first for Bullet Point 6 'new laws', and the second for Bullet Point 1 'sentences have increased'.

Question 14

This question built on knowledge shown in 13(a) and (b). Weaker answers often gave no expansions beyond the Source and therefore could not proceed above Level 2. Although many candidates could give points for and against, in general their explanations were poor and lacked incisiveness.

Both Sides.

gangs

14 Using evidence from Source E and your own knowledge, do you agree that prison is the best place for all criminals?

Give reasons for your opinion, showing that you have considered an **alternative point of view**.

(8)

I think that prison is a good place for criminals as it makes them learn that there are consequences for their actions which will hopefully encourage them not to re-offend as they will have learnt their lesson. Another reason it is a good idea is that it makes the victim feel that the offender is getting what they deserve and paying for their actions. Also, prison is a deterrent against crime as it stops people offending if they know that they will end up in prison with a criminal record.

However, I think that prison teaches people bad habits which can cause them to be worse when they get out of prison. This can be due to them being placed in a prison with people worse than them e.g. a thief being put with a rapist. Another reason why prison is ~~not~~ not a good place for all criminals is that it encourages gangs to form creating more violence which is bad for everyone involved as it endangers people's lives and encourages this activity for when they leave prison. As well as this, it costs the government £40,000 a year to hold one prisoner which the country can not afford considering the economic crisis we are currently in with the country being in so much debt.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

This is a Level 4 response achieving full marks. Many of the points for and against in this response were in the mark scheme. This is a well-structured answer, with good evidence from Source E and the candidate's own knowledge to support clear understanding. There is an overall conclusion, evaluating the points raised.

14 Using evidence from Source E and your own knowledge, do you agree that prison is the best place for all criminals?

Give reasons for your opinion, showing that you have considered an **alternative point of view**.

(8)

Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• They must suffer the consequences of breaking the law• Society is protected from all criminals.• Prisoners will learn how harsh prison-life is and less likely to re-offend.• Time for reflection and reformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some crimes deserve harsher sentences, (murder) and some, lenient ones (stealing sweets).• Criminals should be given another chance to become law-abiding citizens as forgiveness is better.• Some criminals think of prison as a 'free' way of living. They have free food, shelter etc. and it's a waste of tax payer's money. Community sentences may be better.• Criminals may learn off other criminals in prison

In conclusion, I agree with the statement because I think that if people commit a crime or break the laws, they should suffer the consequences by going to prison. This way, society will be protected from dangerous people and also, it would give the prisoners time to think about what they have done and to reflect over their actions. Prison is also an effective way of deterring a criminal from re-offending once they see how harsh prison-life is.

However, on the other hand, I do also think that some criminals take prison as an advantage as they are practically living off the tax-payer's money which is unfair to the latter and in some cases, an alternative may be better such as community pay-back where the criminals could learn skills which could possibly earn them a stable job in the future.

(Total for Question 14 = 8 marks)



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is a balanced approach even if demonstrated in an unusual manner, covering both points of view and which uses clear evidence to support arguments and demonstrate good knowledge and understanding. Level 4, 8 marks.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Look at how this candidate has set out the answer, which is useful if you are running short of time.

Question 15

Weaker answers often did not include any evidence to support candidates' views. The better answers were supported with international examples such as dictatorships in North Korea, Iran and China. The more discerning could recognise the difficulties some countries have with human rights due to poverty and internal fighting.

Some candidates were unaware of the difference between Europe and North America regarding human rights. Those candidates that had this understanding were able to access the higher levels as they could focus on a comparison and explanation.

Some answers which relied on the scaffolding points in the question sometimes got distracted away from the flow of the for and against arguments. Very few answers included specifics like the UDHR or EU laws. Several candidates mentioned Zimbabwe and USA, but often the comments were too vague to be given any credit.

*15 'Human rights will always vary from country to country because there are different beliefs and values in countries across the world.'

Do you agree with this view?

Give reasons for your opinion, showing you have considered **another point of view**.

(15)

You could consider the following points in your answer and other information of your own:

- Are there human rights which all countries should accept – eg freedom of speech, association, privacy and movement, or right to vote?
- Do all European and North American countries guarantee human rights?
- How and why do some other countries deny human rights?
- Are there sometimes good reasons for denying people human rights?

Plan: • Agree happens, but shouldn't • Basic human necessities and rights • America has death penalty - N Korea, China, Zimbabwe • Prisoners - no right to vote • Conclusion

I do agree that human rights will always vary from country to country, however I do not agree they should vary.

Human rights are the very basic necessities and rights that every human being deserves so that they might live a peaceful and enjoyable life without fear of persecution, pain or death. And yet, though almost all countries have signed up for them (except North Korea and Zimbabwe),

they vary.

In the U.S.A, some states such as Texas, still carry out the death penalty which directly contradicts the right to life.

In recent months, the world has watched as hundreds of protestors in Syria were massacred by government troops just because they utilized their right to a peaceful protest. There can be no doubt that this mocks the very purpose of human rights and everything that they stand for.

Even here in the UK—where human rights are part of EU law and, subsequently, part of our law—we do not allow prisoners to vote in elections.

People may argue that, by committing a crime they have in some respect given up their rights and thus don't deserve a vote, but it is part of the human rights act and part of EU law, both of which the UK is ~~is~~ infringing on. It could also be argued, however, that outside of the EU where human rights are not part of law, that they in fact have no authority and thus countries should be able to decide and vary which human rights are kept depending on beliefs and values.

But what is the point in a country

being signed up to them if they are not willing to honour them and the agreement.

In conclusion, human rights are the very basis of what we deserve as beings on this planet, and it both sickens and scares me to see them almost ridiculed in some parts of this world. So yes, while I agree that human rights will vary from country to country, ~~but~~ I absolutely do not agree that they should, and to any person who might argue they're not law and that we should have the freedom to choose which are obeyed, I say they shouldn't need to be law as surely they should be given and honoured regardless.



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Examiner Comments

This is an example of a good Level 4 answer.

This candidate has a good understanding of human rights. The reference to human rights in the USA shows a good comparison of how this contradicts human rights, and why the USA did not sign up to the UDHR. Several of the points in the mark scheme are used. There is identification that not all countries have signed up to the UDHR. The candidate recognises the purpose of human rights and how it is really a Western concept.

A more evaluative conclusion would have put it into level 5.

Paper Summary

Based on the performance on this paper, candidates should:

- consider each question carefully and spend time to ensure a relevant interpretation is made
- where appropriate be more concise eg where the question says give a reason, a relevant sentence will be rewarded equally with a longer and more time consuming paragraph
- in questions that require a longer answer attempt to summarise the discussion and give a simple conclusion
- recognise that source material for some questions will be contextual rather than information providing
- make full use of scaffolding points where appropriate. It is not essential that you use these but they can be very useful in supplying a structure for organising material and can often be a stimulus for developing ideas and arguments

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