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Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level in
History(WHI01) Paper 1D

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Introduction

The entry for this paper was very small. Candidates chose two questions from four.

Question 1

This was generally a well answered question by candidates. Some candidates considered the legislation that was passed and how it allowed the birth of the permissive society and countered that with other aspects that heralded the permissive society. Other candidates considered the legislation and then countered it with other changes made by Labour governments in the period. Both approaches were equally appropriate and credit worthy.

Question 2

This was answered well by many candidates. There was detailed knowledge of the problem posed by Trade Unions in the 1970s, with reference to the many strikes that impacted the Conservative and Labour governments of the 1970s. To balance and provide counter-arguments many candidates focused on the economic issues creating significant inflation, the oil crisis, resorting to the IMF and problems created by the crisis in Northern Ireland.

Question 3

This question was popular with candidates. Many candidates were well versed in the conservative policies that appeared to improve opportunity for individuals in the 1980s, e.g. denationalisation and share ownership, sale of council homes, changes in education and changes in taxation. To counter that many candidates suggested that some of these policies did not improve opportunities and social division and unrest were also impacts of conservative policies.

Question 4

There were limited and varied responses to this question. Answers tended to be generalised and descriptive.

Points to consider:

- This is a 'Depth study with Interpretations' which means that knowledge on its own is not enough. Knowledge needs to be applied to the interpretation that is raised by the question and judgements made.
- The time allowed for this examination is sufficient to allow a small amount of planning time for each answer.
- When judgments are made they need to be supported with criteria – it is not sufficient to state that a factor or consequence/effect/impact is the most 'important' or 'significant' without explaining the basis upon which that judgment has been made.

