

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname

Other names

Pearson Edexcel
Level 3 GCE

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Monday 3 June 2019

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper Reference **9PL0/01**

Politics

Advanced

Paper 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

You do not need any other materials (including calculators which are not permitted).

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- There are **two** sections and you must answer **three** questions:
 - in Section A answer **either** 1(a) **or** 1(b) and then **either** 2(a) **or** 2(b)
 - in Section B answer **either** 3(a) **or** 3(b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
 - *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 84.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
 - *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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Pearson

SECTION A: POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Answer ONE question from EITHER Question 1(a) on page 2 OR Question 1(b) on page 3 and then answer ONE question from EITHER Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b) on page 10.

EITHER

- 1 (a) *The source below considers the factors which deliver success for political parties in general elections. It reflects on whether the outcomes of general elections are predictable or whether the electorate can spring surprises, making the results more volatile.*

Some people claim that success in a general election for a political party depends on stable and predictable forces. Few seats change hands in a general election and voting patterns are predictable and constant. In studies of voting behaviour factors such as an individual's class and family background combined with the area in which they live all merge together to provide a clear indication of the way an individual will vote. On this basis, opinion polls accurately indicate the outcomes of a general election. When many people are asked, they readily identify with both a specific class and endorse the policies of a major political party. The dice is loaded from the start and outcomes of general elections are all too predictable and fixed.

However, many now doubt the idea of predictability and the assumptions on which it is based. Instead of predictability they infer unpredictability and volatility with an inability to forecast accurately the outcome of how the public will vote. In fact in 2015, 111 seats changed hands and in 2017, 70. General elections and success in them is built around capturing ideas and having media support. What the political parties say in new policies and their manifestos matters greatly. Opinion polls, as the general election in 2017 showed, are no longer good indicators of the outcome. If anything, the 2017 general election illustrated the importance of age and education as indicators of how people vote. The media can make and break a political party. Riding the wave of media attacks, a political party must have a good leader who can weather any storm and connect with the masses. This is what Blair and Thatcher did and was the basis of their success. Policies and leaders are the crucial factors and, as such, they are the leading indicators for success at the polls.

Using the source, evaluate the view that the outcomes of general elections are stable and predictable.

In your response you must:

- *compare and contrast different opinions in the source*
- *examine and debate these views in a balanced way*
- *analyse and evaluate **only** the information presented in the source.*

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Do not answer Question 1(b) if you have answered Question 1(a).

OR

- 1 (b) *This source is adapted from a Hansard report of a debate in the House of Commons held in October 2017. More than 100,000 people had signed a petition calling for the introduction of proportional representation for elections to the Westminster parliament. Here are extracts from the speeches made by Steve Double MP (Conservative Party) and Caroline Lucas MP (Green Party).*

Steve Double MP

Proportional representation will damage democracy by putting more power into the hands of parties. First-past-the-post (FPTP) invariably delivers strong and stable government. Votes are not wasted for we have seen turnout increase in recent times. It is clear and easy to understand. In addition it prevents extremist parties from gaining seats. There is a direct link between the MP and their constituency. The FPTP system enables us to exchange our strongly, passionately held views in the House of Commons. My party is committed to FPTP as the best system for this country.

Caroline Lucas MP

FPTP is damaging the legitimacy of our system of governance. A winner-takes-all approach to elections promotes adversarial politics. It encourages each of the major parties to seek to defeat their opposition completely, negating the need for post-election cooperation. Policy is likely to change dramatically when governments change. Countries with proportional representation (PR) systems outperform those with FPTP systems; PR would be likely to encourage more people to vote. It is very hard to persuade people to vote when they live in so-called 'safe seats'. We would also improve the chances of electing a parliament that better reflects modern Britain.

(Sourced from: Crown Copyright)

Using the source, evaluate the view that proportional representation would improve elections to the House of Commons.

In your response you must:

- *compare and contrast different opinions in the source*
- *examine and debate these views in a balanced way*
- *analyse and evaluate **only** the information presented in the source.*

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(Total for Question 1 = 30 marks)



AND EITHER

- 2 (a) Evaluate the view that think-tanks, lobbyists and pressure groups have little impact on government decisions.

You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.

(30)

OR

- (b) Evaluate the view that the only political parties that matter in our political system are the Labour and Conservative parties.

You must consider this view and the alternative to this view in a balanced way.

(30)

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(Total for Question 2 = 30 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 60 MARKS



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SECTION B BEGINS ON THE NEXT PAGE.



SECTION B: CORE POLITICAL IDEAS

Answer ONE question from EITHER Question 3(a) OR Question 3(b).

EITHER

- 3** (a) To what extent do socialists have conflicting views over how the economy should operate?

You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider both sides in a balanced way.

(24)

OR

- (b) To what extent are conservatives united in their view of society?

You must use appropriate thinkers you have studied to support your answer and consider differing views in a balanced way.

(24)

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Total for Question 3 = 24 marks

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 24 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 84 MARKS



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