

General Certificate of Education
June 2003
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
Unit 2 Parties and Pressure Groups

GOV2

Tuesday 3 June 2003 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen. Pencil should only be used for drawing.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is GOV2.
- Answer **one** question from Section A **and one** question from Section B.
In Section A answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.
In Section B answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

Advice

- You are advised to spend approximately 10 minutes reading the examination paper before you attempt the questions.
- You are advised to spend the same amount of time on each question.

Answer **one** question from Section A **and one** question from Section B.

SECTION A

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

- 1 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

The Conservative Leadership Contest

Iain Duncan Smith was elected as leader of the Conservative Party under a new system. For the first time 318 000 Conservative Party members participated in choosing their new leader. In the early stages of the contest, Conservative MPs voted to elect two candidates who were then put to the wider grassroots membership for election. Although the election of the leader is more democratic than in the past, the new system has its critics. The Campaign for Conservative Democracy feels that the two-stage election is flawed since it does not always allow grassroots members to vote for the candidate of their choice. It is argued that with *internal party democracy*, party members should be free to vote on all candidates, not just two. However, the more democratic the Conservative Party becomes, the more it may reflect the policy preferences of an ageing membership.

Source: adapted from Politics PAL 2002

- (a) Explain what is meant by *internal party democracy*. (8 marks)
- (b) How successful have Conservative Party leaders been in changing the party since 1997? (22 marks)

OR

- 2 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Britain's Changing Party System

Fifty years ago, the Labour and Conservative parties dominated the party system at general elections in terms of voting behaviour and candidates returned to Parliament. Since then, the UK has developed a 'multi-party electorate' which has resulted in significant parliamentary gains for *third parties*. The Liberal Democrats have enjoyed a revival in popularity. Nationalist parties have won representation since the 1960s and 1970s. The Green Party and the BNP have made advances, although not yet in Westminster. However, single-issue politics is represented with the election of Martin Bell as an 'anti-sleaze' MP in 1997 and Richard Taylor as the Independent Kidderminster Hospital and Health Concern Party MP in 2001.

Source: adapted from Politics PAL 2002

- (a) Explain what is meant by the term *third parties*. (8 marks)
- (b) 'Britain now has a multi-party system.' Discuss. (22 marks)

TURN OVER FOR THE NEXT SECTION

SECTION B

Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

3 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

The text extract, adapted from 'Social Movements in Britain' by P. Byrne, □
Routledge (1997), is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright □
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from AQA Publications □
Tel: 0161 953 1170□

- (a) Explain what is meant by *single-issue politics*. (8 marks)
- (b) How **and** why has pressure group politics in Britain altered in recent decades? (22 marks)

OR

- 4 Study the extract below and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

Interest Groups and the Policy Process

Interest groups have an important role in the policy process. Britain has a political culture that is highly consultative. It is seen as important to consult in order to simplify the policy process and to ensure the legitimacy of political decisions. However, consultation is not a right; it is given only to groups which abide by the 'rules of the game'. These rules frequently mean not upsetting the closed nature of policy-making and abiding by the demands for secrecy. Thus, *insider groups* gain access to Whitehall policy makers at a price.

Source: adapted from M. J. SMITH, Pressure, Power and Policy (Harvester-Wheatsheaf) 1993

- (a) Explain what is meant by the term *insider groups*. (8 marks)
- (b) To what extent do 'outsider' groups have the resources necessary for influencing policy-making? (22 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS