

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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Time 2 hours

Paper
reference

9PL0/01

Politics

Advanced

PAPER 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

You do not need any other materials.

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.
- Good luck with your examination.

Turn over ►

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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) *Source 1 concerns the use of opinion polls in UK politics. Part of the extract comes from a House of Lords report into the recent impact of the use of polls. The second part of the extract is a more positive view of polling from Peter Kellner in The Evening Standard.*

Source 1

Opinion polls influence voters and parties. They can deflate turnout if they show one party way ahead. Opinion polls cause voters to vote tactically. Opinion polls can influence the demand to call a general election and for parties to abandon principles in order to gain popularity. In the Scottish independence referendum, a poll showing that 'leave' was in the lead made all the parties work harder to change the outcome. The core issue is that they mislead and do not give an accurate reflection of the voting preferences across the UK and as such they damage democracy.

The 2017 polls were not all wrong. They successfully reflected changing opinions during the campaign. Theresa May's rating tumbled, while Jeremy Corbyn's rose. Social care was the issue that caused Conservative support to fall. They correctly showed the Liberal Democrats had stalled, with UKIP support collapsing, and a significant switch from the SNP to the Conservatives in Scotland. They showed how Labour's manifesto gained them support while the Conservative manifesto put voters off. In a close contest, opinion polls can improve turnout. Opinion polls are part of a free media and integral to a healthy representative democracy.

(Sources: adapted from https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/ldppdm/106/10605.htm#_idTextAnchor010, and <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/general-election-polls-how-the-pollsters-got-it-wrong-a3560936.html>)

Using the source, evaluate the view that opinion polls bring more advantages than disadvantages to elections and referendums.

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.*

(30)



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

OR

- 1 (b) Source 2 depicts two letters with differing opinions printed in a newspaper concerning the importance and scope of the manifestos of political parties.

Source 2

Dear Editor,

In the 2017 General Election both Conservative and Labour parties made explicit manifesto commitments. MPs should always obey the policies in their party's manifesto, and not vote against them. They are trustees of political parties and should follow the policies on which they stood. MPs should faithfully represent the constituents who elected them. Our democracy relies on clear manifestos, one of which is converted by the winning party into a legitimate mandate for government. MPs are also expected to implement the outcomes of referendums.

Dear Editor,

Manifesto promises and referendum decisions should be subject to change when facts or public opinion change. Democracy is bigger than any mandate, manifesto or referendum. Edmund Burke in 1774 told his electors in Bristol: '*Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays, instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion.*' Democracy must mean that MPs are free to change their minds. MPs can or do swap parties or change allegiances. On certain issues they have a right to vote according to their conscience. Political parties have had too much power for too long and democracy should allow greater freedom.

Using the source, evaluate the view that in a democracy MPs are free to ignore referendum results and their own political party's manifesto.

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.*

(30)



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AND EITHER

- 2 (a) Evaluate the view that the emergence of multiple parties in the UK means that the Westminster electoral system must be changed.

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

(30)

OR

- (b) Evaluate the view that the influence of the media in politics is exaggerated; it is not heavily biased and has little power of persuasion.

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

(30)

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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 is liberalism more concerned with society than with the economy?

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

(24)

OR

- 3** (b) To what extent is there more to unite rather than divide the New Right from One-Nation conservatives?

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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