



ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY GCE
GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
 Contemporary Government of the UK

F852

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet

OCR Supplied Materials:

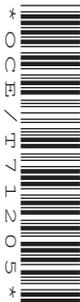
- 8 page Answer Booklet

Other Materials Required:

None

Friday 22 May 2009
Morning

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name in clear capital letters, your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Booklet.
- Write your answers in black ink in the Answer Booklet provided.
- Answer **both** questions in Section A and **one** question in Section B.
- You must use your own knowledge and the source material in your answers.
- Write the numbers of the questions you answer on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- If you use additional sheets of paper, fasten the sheets to the Answer Booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.
- You are advised to spend 65 minutes on Section A and 25 minutes on Section B.
- Do **not** write in the bar codes.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is **100**.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of written communication including clarity of expression, structure and presentation of ideas, spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- This document consists of **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

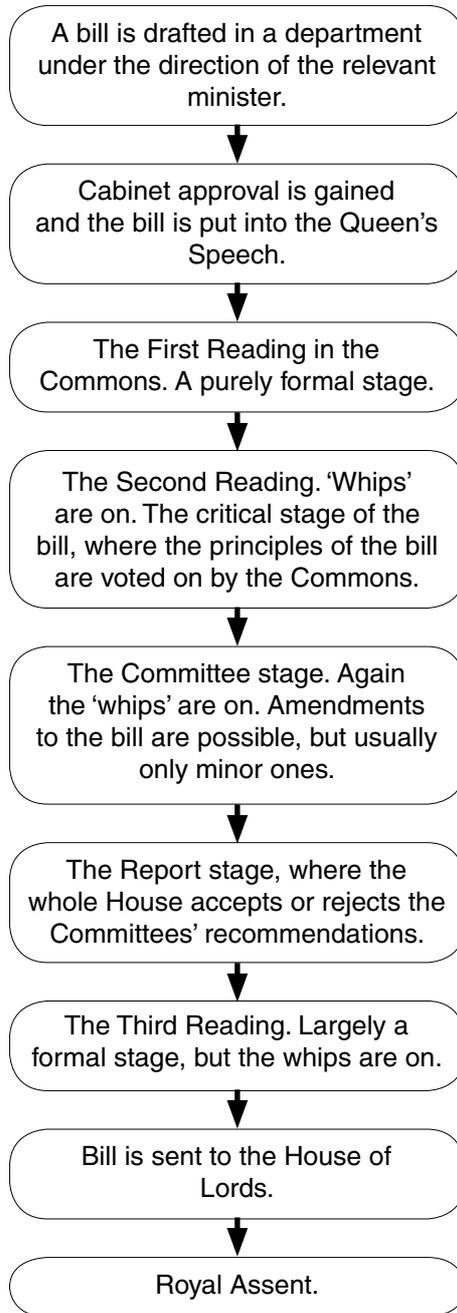
Sources for Question 1

Read the sources below and use them when answering Question 1.

Source A**An MP's Day**

- 8.30 Office. Deal with constituency mail. Daily briefing with secretary and research assistant.
- 9.30 Attend Public Bill Committee on Transport Bill, 3-line whip on.
- 11.30 Meet my constituency chair on likelihood of my reselection as their candidate.
- 12.00 Whips Office about possible abstention on today's bill.
- 1.00 See Chair of Select Committee on Education on government policy on village school closures.
- 2.00 Attend debate on Education Bill.
- 4.00 Meeting of All Party group on Education.
- 6.00 Vote on Education Bill. Vote for required amendment as promised in Public Bill Committee.
- 7.00 Support neighbouring MP in Adjournment Debate on local school buses.

Source B

How a Bill becomes an Act

Source C

The Role of the House of Commons

The House of Commons really has limited power at present. Decisions on major issues like the Iraq war and significant changes in economic policy are made in Number 10. The Whips ensure obedience. Even the ability of MPs to look after the interests of constituents and constituencies is becoming increasingly limited as the executive dominates the agenda of the Commons. Select Committees, set up to monitor government departments, often have their recommendations ignored.

Section A

Answer **all** the questions in this section.

- 1 (a) Using the sources and your own knowledge, describe the role of Public Bill (Standing) and Departmental Select Committees of the House of Commons. [12]
- (b) Using the sources and your own knowledge, discuss how well the House of Commons performs its functions. [28]
- 2 Discuss the view that the conventions of collective and individual ministerial responsibility are no longer important. [30]

Section A Total: [70]

Section B

Answer **one** question in this section.

- 3 Discuss the case both for and against the UK continuing with its unwritten constitution. [30]
- 4 To what extent is the UK judiciary independent? [30]
- 5 Discuss the UK's role in the decision making processes of the EU. [30]

Section B Total: [30]

Paper Total: [100]

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