

Thursday 17 January 2013 – Morning

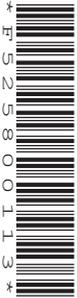
AS GCE CRITICAL THINKING

F501/01/RB Introduction to Critical Thinking

RESOURCE BOOKLET

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

To be issued with the Question Paper



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Read all the documents before starting to answer the questions.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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- This document consists of 4 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Background information

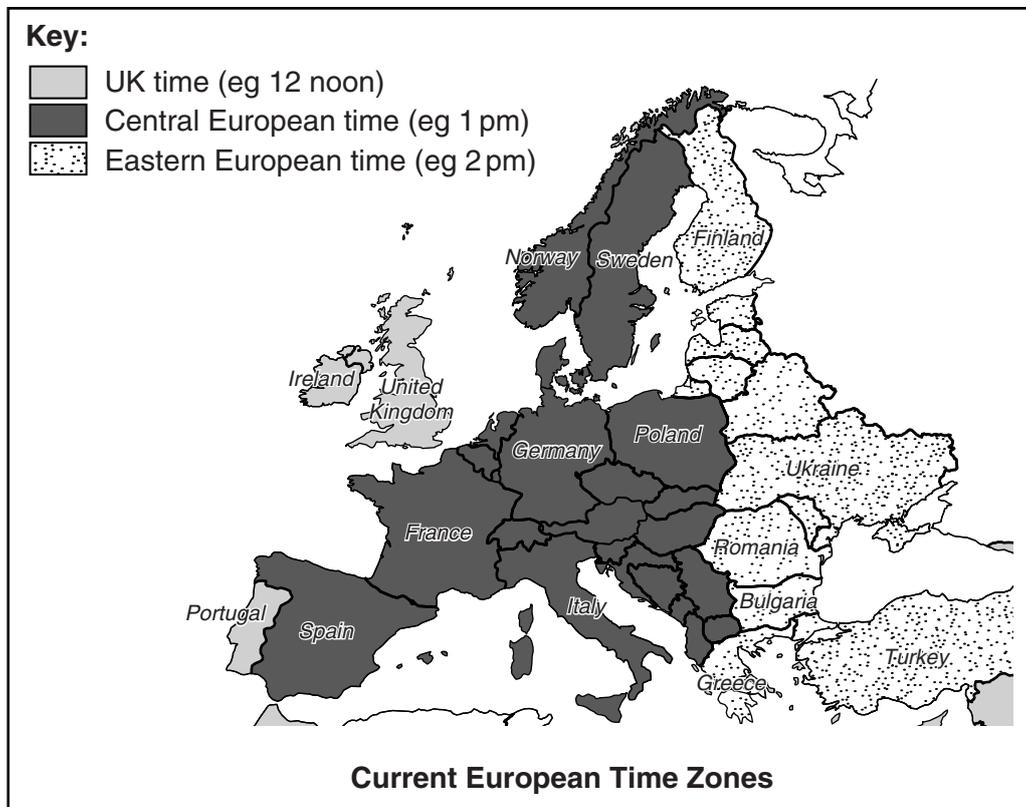
Double Daylight Saving (DDS): We already have Daylight Saving in the UK: we put the clocks forward by one hour between March and October. DDS would mean permanently putting the clocks forward by one hour all year round and then also applying the one hour change between March and October on top of this. The consequences would be:

- darker mornings and lighter evenings throughout the year
- an extra hour (ie Double) Daylight Saving between March and October
- putting the UK in the same time zone as Central Europe (see map below) but increasing the time difference between the UK and the US.

Document 1

Double Daylight Saving (DDS): the proposal for a three year trial

MPs have claimed that long, lazy summer evenings could be on the way if Britain decides to put its clocks forward by an extra hour all year round. 1



Conservative MP Rebecca Harris has introduced the parliamentary Bill calling for a three year trial of this measure. She claimed, “The tourism industry has been crying out for extra daylight saving for years. We would have longer, lighter evenings, which could extend the tourist season and boost the economy by up to £3.5 billion a year.” 2

London Mayor Boris Johnson, who supported the measure, pointed out, “It’s mad that a great trading city like London has a different time zone from the rest of Europe.” 3

Whilst the resulting darker mornings may be hugely unpopular, it is important that we support the DDS trial. Gaining an extra 235 hours of daylight after work every year could actually raise people’s spirits. It could also result in fewer accidents, including fewer deaths from road crashes. From November to February, there are over 50% more fatal and serious injuries to adults on roads during busy afternoon times, compared with the morning rush hour. 4

Document 2

Reactions to Double Daylight Saving

When DDS was previously trialled between 1968 and 1971, it resulted in more road deaths in the darker mornings, but these were more than counter-balanced by a reduction of accidents in the lighter evenings. So, overall there was a fall in road deaths and injuries. A **spokeswoman for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)** pointed out, “There were a lot of misconceptions about the success of the trial at the time, but if you read through studies done back then, they clearly show an overall decrease in road deaths. Studies since have also concluded that this measure would save lives and we agree.”

For many people it’s the extra darkness in the morning that is the problem. A **professor from the Sleep Research Centre at Loughborough University** explained, “Biologically we’re designed to wake up with the sunrise. If we do, it resets the body clock, makes us more alert and happier. It’s more of a struggle to wake up if it’s dark. That has psychological implications – we are more gloomy.”

However, a **livestock farmer** pointed out, “There will be very little benefit to most farmers, especially free range chicken farmers and those with lambing ewes, who would have to stay up longer.” This is because their livestock naturally come inside at nightfall, when foxes tend to attack, and DDS makes nightfall later.

UK reports claim to show that DDS would reduce CO₂ emissions through not needing lighting and heating until later in the day. However, US evidence may challenge the claim that CO₂ emissions will be reduced. An **economics professor from the University of California** examined more than seven million monthly meter readings, covering most households in one US state over a three year period. He compared the cost of energy consumption before and after they put the clocks forward in time. He concluded that this measure cost an additional \$8.6 million in electricity bills and that therefore daylight saving may actually lead to more energy use, not less.

Document 3

A boost to UK trade

If the UK moved to DDS, then the overlap in the number of business hours with North America would shorten. The opening of the New York Stock Exchange would then be at 3.00pm UK time. However, the UK trading statistics (Table 1) show that the UK’s main trading partner is Europe and not the US. DDS would inevitably act as a boost to UK trade.

Changing the clocks would provide businesses in London with 40% more business time overlap with Europe. UK businessmen also make 8–9 times more business trips to Europe than to North America and this would enable them to attend morning meetings in Europe without staying overnight. As a move to DDS would help business travel and communications with European partners, customers and suppliers, we should support the introduction of DDS for economic reasons.

Europe	64%
Americas	14%
Asia + Australasia	18%
Other	4%
Table 1: UK trading statistics	

1

2

*Greater London Authority (GLA) Economics Unit
We provide expert advice and analysis on London’s economy and the economic issues facing London. We are grateful to Dr Mayer Hillman (Senior Fellow Emeritus, Policy Studies Institute) for his helpful comments. The unit is funded by the Greater London Authority.*

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