

GCE

History A

Unit **F961/02**: British History Period Studies.
Option B: Modern 1783–1994

Advanced Subsidiary GCE

Mark Scheme for June 2017

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All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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These are the annotations, (including abbreviations), including those used in scoris, which are used when marking

Annotation	Meaning of annotation
BP	Blank Page – this annotation must be used on all blank pages within an answer booklet (structured or unstructured) and on each page of an additional object where there is no candidate response.
A	Assert
AN	Analysis
DET	Description
DEV	Develop
EXP	Explains
F	Factor
IRRL	Irrelevance
J	Judgment
LNK	linked
NAQ	Not answered the question
SC	Simple comment
X	Error/wrong
V	View

Subject specific instructions for this question paper

Distribution of marks for each level that reflects the Unit's AOs and corresponds to the UMS 2 answers: each maximum mark 50.

	AO1a	AO1b
IA	21-24	24-26
IB	18-20	22-23
II	16-17	19-21
III	14-15	16-18
IV	12-13	13-15
V	9-11	11-12
VI	4-8	6-10
VII	0-3	0-5

Notes:

- (i) Allocate marks to the most appropriate level for each AO.
- (ii) If several marks are available in a box, work from the top mark down until the best fit has been found.
- (iii) Many answers will not fall at the same level for each AO.
- (iv) Analysis refers to developed explanations; evaluation refers to the argued weighing up/assessment of factors in relation to their significance in explaining an issue or in explaining linkages between different factors.

AOs	AO1a	AO1b
Total mark for each question = 50	Recall, select and deploy historical knowledge appropriately, and communicate knowledge and understanding of history in a clear and effective manner.	Demonstrate understanding of the past through explanation, analysis and arriving at substantiated judgements of: - key concepts such as causation, consequence, continuity, change and significance within an historical context; - the relationships between key features and characteristics of the periods studied
Level IA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses a wide range of accurate, detailed and relevant evidence • Accurate and confident use of appropriate historical terminology • Answer is clearly structured and coherent; communicates accurately and legibly <p style="text-align: center;">21-24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and accurate understanding of key concepts relevant to analysis and to the topic • Clear and accurate understanding of the significance of issues in their historical context • Answer is consistently and relevantly analytical with developed and substantiated explanations, some of which may be unexpected • The argument evaluates a range of relevant factors and reaches clearly substantiated judgements about relative importance and/or links <p style="text-align: center;">24-26</p>
Level IB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses accurate, detailed and relevant evidence • Accurate use of a range of appropriate historical terminology • Answer is clearly structured and mostly coherent; writes accurately and legibly <p style="text-align: center;">18-20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and accurate understanding of most key concepts relevant to analysis and to the topic • Answer is mostly consistently and relevantly analytical with mostly developed and substantiated explanations • Clear understanding of the significance of issues in their historical context. • Substantiated judgements about relative importance of and/or links between factors will be made but quality of explanation in support may not be consistently high <p style="text-align: center;">22-23</p>

AOs	AO1a	AO1b
Level II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses mostly accurate, detailed and relevant evidence which demonstrates a competent command of the topic • Generally accurate use of historical terminology • Answer is structured and mostly coherent; writing is legible and communication is generally clear <p style="text-align: center;">16-17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly clear and accurate understanding of many key concepts relevant to analysis and to the topic • Clear understanding of the significance of most relevant issues in their historical context • Much of the answer is relevantly analytical and substantiated with detailed evidence but there may be some description • The analysis of factors and/or issues provides some judgements about relative importance and/or linkages <p style="text-align: center;">19-21</p>
Level III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses accurate and relevant evidence which demonstrates some command of the topic but there may be some inaccuracy • Answer includes relevant historical terminology but this may not be extensive or always accurately used • Most of the answer is organised and structured; the answer is mostly legible and clearly communicated <p style="text-align: center;">14-15</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some/uneven understanding of key concepts relevant to analysis and of concepts relevant to their historical context • Answers may be a mixture of analysis and explanation but also simple description of relevant material and narrative of relevant events OR answers may provide more consistent analysis but the quality will be uneven and its support often general or thin • Answer considers a number of factors but with very little evaluation of importance or linkages between factors/issues • Points made about importance or about developments in the context of the period will often be little more than assertions and descriptions <p style="text-align: center;">16-18</p>
Level IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is deployment of relevant knowledge but level/accuracy of detail will vary; there may be some evidence that is tangential or irrelevant. • Some unclear and/or under-developed and/or disorganised sections; mostly satisfactory level of communication <p style="text-align: center;">12-13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of key concepts relevant to analysis and the topic is variable but in general is satisfactory • Limited and patchy understanding of a few relevant issues in their historical context • Answer may be largely descriptive/narratives of events and links between this and analytical comments will typically be weak or unexplained OR answers will mix passages of descriptive material with occasional explained analysis • Limited points made about importance/links or about developments in the context of the period will be little more than assertions and descriptions <p style="text-align: center;">13-15</p>

AOs	AO1a	AO1b
Level V	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is some relevant accurate historical knowledge deployed: this may be generalised and patchy. There may be inaccuracies and irrelevant material also • Some accurate use of relevant historical terminology but often inaccurate/inappropriate use • Often unclear and disorganised sections; writing will often be clear if basic but there may be some illegibility and weak prose where the sense is not clear or obvious <p style="text-align: center;">9-11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General and sometimes inaccurate understanding of key concepts relevant to analysis and of concepts relevant to the topic • General or weak understanding of the significance of most relevant issues in their historical context • Attempts at analysis will be weak or generalised, based on plausible but unsubstantiated points or points with very general or inappropriate substantiation OR there may be a relevant but patchy description of events/developments coupled with judgements that are no more than assertions • There will be some understanding of the question but answers may focus on the topic not address the focus of the question <p style="text-align: center;">11-12</p>
Level VI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of relevant evidence will be limited; there will be much irrelevance and inaccuracy • Answer may have little organisation or structure; weak use of English and poor organisation <p style="text-align: center;">4-8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very little understanding of key concepts • Very limited understanding of the topic or of the question's requirements • Limited explanation will be very brief/fragmentary • The answer will be characterised by generalised assertion and/or description/narratives, often brief <p style="text-align: center;">6-10</p>
Level VII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No understanding of the topic or of the question's requirements; little relevant and accurate knowledge • Very fragmentary and disorganised response; very poor use of English and some incoherence <p style="text-align: center;">0-3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No understanding of key concepts or historical developments. • No valid explanations • Typically very brief and very descriptive answer <p style="text-align: center;">0-5</p>

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
1	<p>Assess the reasons why Britain avoided revolution in the 1790s.</p> <p>Answers should consider a number of reasons why Britain was able to avoid revolution in the 1790s. In order to access higher Levels than Band III for AO1b answers should evaluate the relative importance of the factors and reach a balanced judgement. There are a number of reasons that candidates might consider and it is not expected that they will deal with them all, what matters is the quality of the analysis. Some might consider the patriotic fervour engendered by the war against France and this might be linked to the reaction in England to execution of Louis XVI and the terror. There might be some consideration of the non-violent loyalist activity, which discouraged unrest and answers might make reference to papers and specific loyalist groups to support their argument. Some answers might consider Pitt's legislation and argue the harshness of the measures destroyed the possibility of resistance or that it so weakened the movement that it was driven underground and was too weak to resist. There might be some discussion of loyalist support for the king and particular groups that were established. Other answers might consider the weakness of the radicals or how the Whigs, who showed initial sympathy for the events, had been discredited.</p> <p>1.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.
2	<p>How repressive were Lord Liverpool's governments in the period from 1812 to 1822?</p> <p>The topic centres on a key historical debate, but examiners are reminded the historiography is not a requirement of AS, although candidates who make use of the debate to address the question should be rewarded. Some might see the government as contemporaries did as exponents of the 'Black' and unfeeling repression and cite the rejection of the handloom weavers' petitions, the suppression of Luddite activity 1812-14, the Corn Laws which resulted in high bread prices for the poor, the suspension of Habeas Corpus and a Seditious Meetings Bill in 1817. There might be discussion of the harsh measures and actions taken at Peterloo and the Six Acts of 1819. Some might discuss the execution of the Cato St conspirators in 1820 to argue that the government was repressive. However, if a balanced answer is to be achieved some might place these events in context and consider the extent of political and economic radicalism and the means they had available to deal with it – no police force, local militias, JPs and Home Office spies. Some might therefore</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>argue that repression was the only way to tackle threats or that there was a sensible and balanced use of the law with the temporary suspension of key liberties, the encouragement of local authorities as the government lacked anything else, the separation of political radicalism from economic, targeting ring leaders, practical measures with the Six Acts and the attempts to control a radical press. It might be argued that the government maintained law and order in a very difficult period, both politically and economically.</p>		
3	<p>Assess the reasons why Peel annoyed so many in the Conservative party during his ministry of 1841-6.</p> <p>Answers should focus on the reasons why Peel's policies and attitudes angered his supporters. Some answers will be aware of the varied composition of the party – Peelite, Conservatives, ordinary Tories, Ultras and Tory radicals and paternalists – and the problems this posed for Peel. Some may argue that as an economic liberal in a largely landed party Peel was bound to court unpopularity with his attitudes on taxation, finance, trade and factory reform, specially given his commitment to 'land' in the 1841 election. It might be argued that paternalists would not welcome his stance on Factory reform and the Poor Law. Some might argue that High Anglicans, like Gladstone, would dislike his Maynooth and Irish Colleges Bill. Protectionists, it might be argued, disliked a revised Corn Law in 1842, paper currency advocates disliked the Banks Charter Act. His brand of 'closed government', the unrepresentative nature of his cabinet and his statesmanlike aloofness alienated many. Peel rarely explained persuasively his policies on Irish land and education, the Sugar Duties or factory working hours. Answers may critically evaluate his policies in relation to the nature of the party. Some might mention some of the policies that pleased the party such as his budgetary policies and his firm stance on law and order given the Chartist threat.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.
4	<p>'A policy of free trade and laissez faire was the most important reason why Whigs and Liberals dominated politics during the period from 1846 to 1868.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>At the higher levels the relative importance of free trade and laissez faire as a reason for political dominance must be evaluated and compared with other factors. Post 1846, and given the mid-Victorian boom, such policies were seen as crucial to national and social well-being. The link with the Peelites after 1852, especially</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>Gladstonian finances, brought this advantage and with a propertied electorate, keen to keep taxation low and government interference at bay, this proved very popular. On the other hand, the Conservatives in the late 1840s and 1850s retained a Protectionist image, but they moved away from this in the 1860s and this might be used in some answers to argue that other factors were more important. In discussing other factors answers might consider the weakness of opposition for large parts of the period, the coalescing of key groups to create Liberalism – Peelites, Radicals, Whigs – the role of Russell and Palmerston, the nature of the electorate during the boom, the behaviour of the Peelites – especially Aberdeen and Gladstone – the absence of ‘big issues’ like the ‘Condition of England’ and Chartism and the dominance of foreign policy issues.</p>		
5	<p>To whom did Gladstonian Liberalism appeal most in the period from 1853 to 1874?</p> <p>In addressing the question answers should show a clear understanding of what Gladstonian Liberalism came to stand for – a moral foreign policy, free trade, laissez faire, retrenchment, reform of major institutions, civic and religious equality – and then assess those groups for whom this was most appealing and why. Answers might consider groups such as Nonconformists, Middle Class Radicals, Urban artisans, especially in the woollen areas of the North and the skilled Upper Working Class, the Whig aristocracy for much of the time, the new press of the 1860s, the Celtic Fringe and intellectuals. Some might look at the various liberal reforms and assess their appeal to such groups, although at the higher levels some might notice that the support of some groups was, at times ‘lost’. In discussing the loss of support answers might mention Whig aristocratic concerns over Ireland and non-conformist anger over education in 1870, Radical disillusion over reform in 1866. Some answers might distinguish between appeal at a local and parliamentary level, arguing that nonconformists and urban artisans were the most active at local level, but the Whigs at a parliamentary level.</p> <p>2.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.
6	<p>‘The ideas of Tory Democracy were the driving force behind the domestic reforms of Disraeli’s second ministry 1874-1880.’ How far do you agree?</p> <p>In order to access the higher levels candidates will need to address and prioritise the importance of Tory Democracy in reform. Some candidates will minimise its</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>importance, but no set answer is expected. Answers should show an understanding of the ideas of Tory Democracy – knitting up social divisions between rich and poor by paternalistic social reform, cementing an upper and working class bond at the possible expense of the middle class, looking for an electoral pay-back from this and its origins in Disraeli’s early Young England ideas. In arguing that it played a role evidence may be drawn from Disraeli’s speeches at Crystal Palace and Manchester, from the reforms themselves (Artisan’s Dwelling Act, Trade Union Act, Public Health Act, Food and Drink, Pollution, Merchant Shipping), their intentions and practice. In arguing that that other factors were more important answers might argue that such reforms were already in the pipeline, that they simply built on the existing practice of permissive legislation, that technology had matured to appoint where more was possible, that they followed a liberal framework, that Disraeli played a minor role with men such as Cross being of greater importance, that their impact was limited and that Tory Democracy was a later phase which electorally made little sense as a policy.</p>		
7	<p>How successfully did Britain secure its interests in the Eastern Question from 1856 to 1902?</p> <p>In order to answer the question candidates will need to understand what British interests were and this may include issues such as the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, to encourage its reform, to prevent Russian penetration of the Balkans and to contain its navy within the Black Sea, to prevent Russian influence in the Dardanelles and at Constantinople and French influence in Egypt and the Near East. Britain was concerned to secure trade routes, a balance of power, naval control of the Mediterranean and the safeguarding of North Africa and India. Some may argue that Britain was largely successful and argue that after the Crimean War a balance was achieved, neither Russia nor Turkey was allowed a Black Sea fleet and promises were mad about Balkan Christians. However, some may argue that the gains that were made were often short-lived as the demilitarization of the Black Sea ended in 1870, a new Romania emerged, little was done to protect the Balkan Christians which resulted in further problems and Russia conquered Central Asia. Some may argue that Disraeli was effective in containing France over the Suez, but the Near-Eastern Crisis of 1875-8 saw disagreement over policy. It might be argued that there was opposition to intervention to support Turkey and the Dreikaiserbund</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	gained influence towards the end of the period. It might be argued that Britain was forced, at Berlin, to accept the straits as an open waterway, although it might also be argued that there was success in reducing the size of Bulgaria, Turkey remained a power and Cyprus was gained. However, this might be balanced against the problems created by future commitments and Austrian Balkan expansion.		
8	<p>'Humanitarian and missionary motives were the most important reason for Britain's expansion in Africa from 1868 to 1902.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>At the higher levels answers will consider a range of reasons for British expansion into Africa. In support of the statement they might consider the 'civilising' idea prevalent among the educated of the 'Dark Continent' along the lines of Kipling, the use of inoculation and treatment of disease and especially the use of quinine in the fight against malaria, the conversion of native populations to Christianity and the pioneering work done by both Catholic and Protestant missionaries. In considering other factors answers may consider the economic advantages for business and discuss some of the raw materials and trading opportunities. Some might consider the strategic importance of Africa and discuss the importance of the Cape and Suez. There might be discussion of the desire to add to Britain's already huge Empire and gain further prestige. It might also be placed in the wider context of undermining the balance of power situation in Europe.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.
9	<p>'British attitudes to European countries changed significantly in the period from 1902 to 1914' How far do you agree?</p> <p>There are a range of countries that answers might consider, but it is likely that many will focus on France, Germany and Russia. Some might consider Belgium and argue that British attitudes towards Belgium remained constant, upholding the Treaty of London. In discussing France candidates might argue that attitudes did change and that France went from being a potential enemy, as seen at Fashoda. This might be developed to argue that over the period 1902 to 1914, it went from being an entente to a military agreement with military talks about the deployment of fleets, with France protecting the Mediterranean and Britain the North Sea and therefore attitudes changed from resolving colonial disputes to military agreements. In considering Germany candidates might argue that the change was significant as Britain went</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>from a friendly relationship to war, although some may argue that there was already economic and naval rivalry and that the situation just deteriorated. Attitudes towards Russia did appear to change, at the start of the period Russia was viewed as a threat to the Empire, particularly India, but in 1907 an entente was signed and Britain fought on the same side in the war. Some might consider Turkey, which Britain had upheld for much of the nineteenth century, but relations were already in decline and again it might be argued that the decline continued, but some might say this was due to German policy.</p>		
10	<p>'Lloyd George's fall from power in 1922 was the result of his failure to please the Conservatives.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>In order to understand Lloyd George's position candidates might consider the electoral arithmetic of the government. It was made up of 382 Conservatives and 133 Lloyd George Liberals. The Coalition liberals were further depleted by schemes to merge them with the Tories in 1920 in an anti-socialist stance. This meant that Lloyd George was dependent on Tory willingness to back his leadership, in itself dependent upon his ability to attract votes, as the Coupon had been used in 1918. He could not win twice as 'the man who won the war.' Some might consider his vision of transforming politics into a presidential system where the efficient of both sides would work for the national good. This was not just naïve as the experiences of the war and his hold over many in the Tory leadership, including initially Bonar Law, Austen Chamberlain, Balfour and Curzon. He did not necessarily set out to please the Conservatives, especially the rank and file. However, he was a useful populist and anti-socialist. However, he did divide over Ireland, the economy, housing and education. It might be argued that his policy over Ireland particularly annoyed the Conservative rank and file. Lloyd George also ignored Tory feelings over honours. He failed to integrate backbenchers and this made him powerless to ward off the Carlton Club rebellion once the backbenchers had a champion in Baldwin. Some might argue that the revolt was just as much against their own leaders, especially Austen Chamberlain, who they saw as too much under the spell of Lloyd George and reluctant to end the coalition. It might be argued that Chamberlain and Birkenhead's mishandling of the party was more serious than Lloyd George.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
11	<p>How important were conditions in the coal industry in causing the 1926 General Strike?</p> <p>At the higher levels answers will need to assess the relative importance of conditions in the coal industry in causing the strike. In arguing that it was an important factor answers might consider the collapse of traditional markets for a leading, well-unionised staple industry and the reaction of both unions and employers to this. It might be argued that the management of issues like pay, hours and reorganization were vital and their mishandling crucial to the strike. Some may argue that the coal industry was at the heart of the dispute, as its continuation for seven months after the nine day General Strike showed. In arguing that other factors were important answers might consider the dislocation of the world economy, new fuels, the issues of government intervention and its role both during and after the First World War in reorganizing an industry split into uneconomic small private concerns facing deteriorating geological and market conditions. Governments up to 1926 were reluctant to act on this, despite the findings of reports and commissions, this was made worse by the return to the Gold Standard in 1925 and the buying of time by Red Friday. Some might argue that the leadership of the miners was important. They were led by an uncompromising President, Smith, and Secretary, Cook, both of whom were unwilling to compromise on either pay or hours. The Trade Union movement might also be considered, they were led by moderates who thought that the government would give way in the face of the Samuel Report. It might be argued that Baldwin's government also has some responsibility as they prepared to break the strike before it had begun and abandoning further negotiation using the Daily Mail incident as an excuse. Some might even argue that class war was a factor and cite Trade Union militancy against government and employer resistance.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.
12	<p>'The creation of the NHS was the most significant feature of the Welfare State created in the period 1945-51.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>At the higher levels answers will compare the importance of the creation of the NHS with other features of the Welfare State in the period from 1945 to 1951 to reach a balanced judgement. The Labour government had a strategy for an integrated social-welfare system and this took the form of four major measures, which came into effect in the summer of 1948. Some answers might focus on the vision of Bevan and</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>consider both the promises and appeal of the NHS, using knowledge of developments such as free prescriptions. This development may be compared with other developments in areas such as National Insurance, education and the nationalization of industry. Some answers might consider the issue of Industrial injuries or National Assistance, which were part of the four major measures. The National Insurance Act created a system of universal contributions to a central fund from which payment came when needed for unemployment, sickness, maternity, widowhood and retirement. The Industrial Injuries provided cover for accidents at work and the National Assistance established Boards to deal directly and financially with cases of hardship and poverty. Answers will evaluate the importance of some or all of these developments to reach a judgement.</p>		
13	<p>How seriously did Britain take European co-operation and integration in the period from 1945 to 1963?</p> <p>Some may argue that Britain did not take European integration seriously until 1960, pointing to Britain's traditional world status, the extent of imperial involvement throughout the period, and her concern to shape Europe, rather than be shaped by it. The Atlantic Alliance was preferred by both Labour and Conservative governments, enabling them to compete at superpower level. National sovereignty was also invoked as a reason for staying out. Britain did not want the Pleven Plan for a European Defence Union, preferring the NATO alliance and the USA on military matters, and her own trading organisations, such as EFTA for the economy. The Schumann Plan and EEC were also mistrusted or not considered suitable for Britain. Europe became just another factor in domestic politics. Its thrust in the EEC – French control over German iron and steel – was less of an issue for Britain. Bevin was interested in a European Third Force, but it was more to deter. Economic issues also dictated Britain's go it alone attitude up to 1960. Some may argue that Britain was serious and stress the European economic recovery and British initiatives such as the Council of Europe in 1949, or the Eden Plan of 1952, with leadership coming through the OEEC and NATO. However, devaluation of the pound in 1949 encouraged Europe to find her own economic salvation, whilst the Board of Trade and Treasury both opposed entry because of economic weakness, the disruption of free trade and the need to protect sterling. Churchill, Bevan, Attlee and Eden were all sceptical and, although they took the issue seriously, did not see British interest as</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>lying with Europe. France consistently made it easy for Britain not to involve itself and thus accused Britain of not taking it seriously.</p>		
14	<p>How important was Indian Independence (1947) in changing British attitudes to decolonization during the period 1945-1960?</p> <p>Answers should consider a range of issues that changed British attitudes towards decolonization and, in order to go beyond Level III for AO1b, reach a judgement as to their relative importance. Some might argue that as India was seen as the most important imperial possession, its loss and partition might focus minds on decolonization. It might be argued that it set a precedent for rapid departure. Until 1947 Britain had hoped that a self-governing India would remain intact and contribute to defence of the Empire in manpower and military bases, and economically to the Sterling Area. Independence brought the realization that this would not happen, it would be partitioned, it was in debt to the US and could not bring hard currency to the Sterling Area, there were disputes over the partition of Kashmir and it would not contribute to Commonwealth defence. India, although it stayed in the Commonwealth, became the leader in the 1950s of the Non-Aligned movement and criticized Britain. Some might argue that it did not change British policies as it merely sought to achieve in Africa what it had failed to do in India. Some may argue that other factors were more important and consider issues such as the impact of the Second World war on Britain's political and economic status, US and Soviet pressure to decolonize and, in the case of the US to end a closed imperial economy and move to a free-trade one. Britain was determined to use her overseas assets to assist her ailing economy and maintain her prestige in the world of two superpowers. It might be argued that the turning point was the dependence on US loans – in 1945 it was agreed that in 1947 sterling would be freely convertible with dollars. Britain's only hope was that the US was not interested in Africa. All governments up to 1959 remained committed to the Empire and it might be argued that it was Suez and news of scandals in Kenya that were important. It might be argued that throughout the 1950s the Empire was more an obstacle than an asset in maintaining influence, due in part to African nationalism and White nationalism. Some might therefore argue that the key changes came before 1947 and after 1954, rather than as a result of Indian independence. It might also be argued that changes in Asia were even later, as the commitment to Malaysia showed.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
15	<p>'Britain was involved in the Cold War only to maintain its status as a great power.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>Answers should consider a variety of reasons why Britain was involved in the Cold War and, in order to reach the higher levels weigh up their relative importance and reach a balanced judgement. The other factors should be compared with the need for continued status. Some will argue that continued status was considered vital to post-war economic recovery in a more hostile world where, economically Britain had traditionally a proportionately high share. In a superpower Cold War Britain felt that it had to 'punch above its weight'. It also felt threatened by subversion at home, in Europe and in her overseas sphere of influence. A withdrawal from commitments to its sector in Germany would have deprived it of leverage and the same was true over Berlin and Korea. Some might note the importance of the atom bomb as an example of prestige and status – a seat at the top table – for which much was sacrificed in 1953. Britain wanted the illusion of control, rather than relying on US nuclear protection that might not materialize. However Britain lay within range of Soviet bombers. Events pointed to US dominance – Greece and Turkey, the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Aid – but Britain feared US hostility to its Empire and loss of control to the US. Other factors that might be considered include Britain's global position and active role in Europe, which inevitably determined her role in the Cold War; a traditional fear of Russia and its expansion; all British governments were concerned to alert the US to the need to commit to Europe and that wartime alliances and military cooperation with the US were standard. It was not possible to scale down to neutrality or isolationism. It might be argued that self-interest rather than status compelled alliance diplomacy – NATO – and a decision to ally with the US.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.
16	<p>'Social change and the prosperity of the 1950s were the most important reason for Conservative dominance from 1951 to 1964.' How far do you agree?</p> <p>Answers may consider a number of factors that played a role in Conservative dominance, but in order to access the higher levels answers will need to evaluate their relative importance and reach a balanced judgement. It might be argued that social change and economic prosperity were the most important reasons. In arguing this some might consider the consolidation of the middle and lower middle class,</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>especially electorally as the working class were more tightly confined in smaller areas. The prosperity that the Conservatives were associated with made Labour disputes appear petty. Some may argue that the Conservatives were simply lucky that economic recovery was underway in the 1950s once Korea was over and this allowed them to dismantle the apparatus of austerity and take the credit. Politics were devised to manage this by a range of ministers, including Butler, Maudling, Powell and MacLeod. It might be argued that a property-owning democracy had more electoral appeal than an expanded public sector. The Conservatives were able to reduce taxes, yet maintain and even increase social expenditure, completing the promised and very popular '300,000' homes ahead of schedule. Full employment spread the gain more widely and affluence became more marked. Some may consider the economic problems of 1958, but these had disappeared by the time of the 1959 election and the boom had resumed. The Conservatives timed elections well, avoiding moments of disaster such as Suez or Profumo. However, some might argue that other factors were more important and consider Labour weaknesses and divisions, but it might also be argued that these were less important as the elections were fought on the economy and taxation. Some might consider Conservative leadership, arguing that it was strong until Hume came to power. It might be argued that Eden was popular before Suez and Macmillan was popular, but also ruthless and exploited the affluence in 1959. Conservative organization might also be considered. It might be argued that economic factors were crucial given the return of economic uncertainty in the early 1960s and subsequent Conservative defeat.</p>		
17	<p>Assess the reasons why there was so much support for Thatcher and her governments.</p> <p>Thatcher was a controversial figure and some might challenge the question by discussing whether there was so much support and support this by reference to election results in which she did not win 50% of the popular vote, although she did secure large majorities. Some might argue that she was popular because of the weakness of the Labour party, and that some of its policies were seen as a threat, particularly over defence and the nuclear deterrent. There might also be discussion of Labour's move to the left and groups such as Militant Tendency, which ultimately led to a split in the party and the formation of the SDP. Some might argue that the weak leadership of Foot meant many supported Thatcher. There might be discussion</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

Question	Answer/Indicative content	Mark	Guidance
	<p>of her policies towards the Trade Unions, which after the Winter of Discontent were welcomed by many. Some supported Thatcher because of her economic policies, which brought a number significant financial benefit either through the reduction in income tax or the ability to purchase shares. There were a number who supported her decision to sell council houses as it gave them the chance to become home owners. Thatcher's foreign policy was often popular, particularly over the Falklands, but also her tough stance over Europe, although it might also be argued that it also weakened her.</p>		
18	<p>Assess the reasons why it took so long to achieve a ceasefire in Ireland.</p> <p>The Specification refers to the IRA and Loyalist declarations of ceasefire in 1994, which is at the end of the specified period. Answers may consider a number of reasons, but the strongest answers will focus on 'so long' and to reach the higher levels will evaluate a range of reasons in order to reach a balanced judgement. Some might argue that the long-term issues between nationalists and loyalists was a significant reason. They might consider the lack of trust engendered by the various outbreaks of violence and deaths and discuss the role of the 'troubles'. There might be some discussion about the willingness or otherwise of the extremist groups to negotiate and the British government's attitude towards them. There might be some discussion of the policies of both Labour and Conservative governments and how these sowed seeds of distrust among both communities. Some will argue that there was a distinct unwillingness until the end of the period to agree to a ceasefire as neither side believed the other would keep it. There might be some discussion of the role of the British army in Northern Ireland. Some might consider the attitudes of the Irish Republic or the USA as a significant factor. There might be some discussion of the fact that until the end of the period the British government had not recognized the key republican and nationalist positions on the status of Northern Ireland and that Britain was not committed to indefinite control of the province. In order to achieve a ceasefire it was necessary to win over the paramilitary groups. The ceasefire was agreed because it served the interests of the IRA and loyalist paramilitaries, which had not been the case before.</p>	50	No set answer is looked for but candidates will need to answer the question.

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