

Examiners' report

GCSE

CITIZENSHIP STUDIES

**OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in
Citizenship Studies**

J270

For first teaching in 2016

J270/01 Summer 2025 series

Contents

Introduction	4
Paper 1 series overview	5
Section A overview	6
Question 1	6
Question 2	7
Question 3	8
Question 4	8
Question 5	9
Question 6	9
Question 7	10
Question 8	11
Question 9	12
Question 10	13
Question 11	14
Question 12	16
Question 13	17
Question 14	18
Section B overview	19
Question 15	19
Question 16	20
Question 17	21
Question 18	21
Question 19	22
Question 20	23
Question 21	24
Question 22	24
Question 23	25
Question 24	26
Question 25	27
Question 26	27
Question 27	28
Question 28	28
Question 29	29
Question 30	29

Section C overview.....	30
Question 31	30
Question 32	31
Question 33	31
Question 34	32
Question 35	33
Question 36	34
Question 37	35
Question 38	36
Question 39	36
Question 40 (a)	37
Question 40 (b)	38
Question 41	38
Question 42	39
Copyright information.....	40

Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from [Teach Cambridge](#).

Please note: OCR Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in Citizenship Studies (J270) will no longer be funded in Wales for new learners after **30 September 2026**. Please check the [Qualifications in Wales](#) portal (QiW) for more information.

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Paper 1 series overview

The overwhelming majority of candidates completed the paper. Almost all candidates understood what they were required to do and seemed able to access the paper without difficulty.

Many candidates performed well on factual recall questions but less so on those questions where they were asked to apply their knowledge and understanding in unfamiliar contexts.

Candidates tended to do well on Section A where they showed good knowledge and understanding of rights and responsibilities.

However, there was considerable uncertainty this year about aspects of UK government and politics. Responses to questions on the British constitution and the economy were often poor. Consequently, levels of achievement in Section B were disappointing in comparison with previous years. Despite generally strong performances on Section A of the specification, marks were depressed overall.

Examiners were especially concerned by some candidates' poor understanding of the relationships between taxation, economic growth and public spending, and their uncertainty about the separation of powers and its implications.

On the other hand, many candidates had clearly been well taught, were familiar with the specification and understood several key issues and debates around rights, the economy and decision making. They deserve to be congratulated on their achievements, as do their teachers.

Candidates who did well on this paper generally:	Candidates who did less well on this paper generally:
• had a good knowledge and understanding of the specification's key concepts and terminology • had a strong knowledge and understanding of British politics and government necessary for success in Section B • read the sources and questions carefully • were able to apply their knowledge and understanding in unfamiliar contexts • were prepared to reconsider and change their responses • underlined or highlighted key points in the sources.	• had insufficient knowledge and understanding of the concepts and terminology relevant to the specification • relied on their 'common sense' to select responses rather than information and perspectives from their studies • had insufficient knowledge about the British constitution or the economy • seemed to have little experience applying their knowledge and understanding to unfamiliar contexts • did not spend enough time analysing and interpreting the sources especially those that included statistical data.

Section A overview

This section on rights and responsibilities was well answered by candidates.

They showed good knowledge and understanding of rights and applied their learning to respond well to different scenarios.

Most used written and visual sources effectively although many lacked confidence with the statistical source used for Question 11.

The only significant gap in candidates' knowledge related to the role of trade unions in supporting workers' rights.

Question 1

- 1 Why is the **Magna Carta** important?
- A it established a national police force
 - B it established a sovereign parliament
 - C it established the right to a fair trial
 - D it set out citizens' voting rights for the first time

Your answer

[1]

An overwhelming majority of candidates started the paper well by correctly choosing option C - they knew that the Magna Carta 'established the right to a fair trial'. Of the very few who chose incorrectly, most answered that the Magna Carta 'set out citizens' voting rights'.

Question 2

2 Study **Source 2** and answer the question that follows.

Source 2

The Equality Act 2010

It is against the law to discriminate against anyone because of marital status or disability. These are just two of the protected characteristics covered by equality laws in the United Kingdom (UK)

Which other characteristics are protected under UK equality laws?

P	ethnicity
Q	sex
R	social class

- A** P and Q
- B** P, Q and R.
- C** P and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

Ethnicity and sex are the two characteristics, other than those mentioned in Source 2, that are protected under UK equality laws. Most candidates responded correctly by choosing option A. A minority answered that social class was also protected.

Question 3

3 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: The European Convention on Human Rights places a duty on European nations to protect individual rights and freedoms.

Second statement: It is the responsibility of each nation to decide which rights and freedoms to protect.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

The correct option (D) was chosen by most candidates but some answered incorrectly that each signatory to the European Convention on Human Rights is able to decide which rights and freedoms to protect.

Question 4

4 What are the **legal responsibilities** of citizens in England and Wales?

P	educate their children
Q	pay tax
R	vote

A P and Q

B P, Q and R

C Q and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

Educating children and paying tax are both legal responsibilities for citizens. Voting is not a legal responsibility, so option A is the correct response, chosen by most candidates. A significant minority thought incorrectly that citizens do have a legal responsibility to vote.

Question 5

5 Which row in the table best describes the role of the judge?

	Justice	Law
A	judges decide guilt or innocence	judges decide new laws
B	judges decide guilt or innocence	judges establish precedents
C	judges decide sentences	judges decide new laws
D	judges decide sentences	judges establish precedents

Your answer

[1]

Most candidates chose option B showing that they knew judges decide sentences rather than guilt or innocence and establish precedents rather than decide new laws.

Misconception



Judges do not decide new laws. That is parliament's role. Judges interpret the law and can establish legal precedents as a consequence of these interpretations.

Question 6

6 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: People accused of a crime must prove their innocence.

Second statement: People found guilty by a Crown Court cannot appeal.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

Both these statements are false. The correct answer is option A. In criminal trials, the prosecution must prove that the accused person is guilty, and people found guilty in a Crown Court do have a right of appeal. Many candidates did answer correctly but some answered that people accused of a crime must prove their innocence.

Question 7

7 Choose **two** differences between a youth court and an adult court.

- A adult courts are prevented from dealing with the trial of young people aged under 18
- B either three magistrates or a district judge decide the verdict and sentence in a youth court
- C in a youth court, defendants are called by their first name
- D in a youth court, solicitors from both sides agree on the verdict and sentence
- E witnesses do not attend a youth court
- F youth courts can impose only community sentences

Your answer

[2]

Most candidates chose at least one correct response (B or C) but only a minority offered both these correct answers. Many candidates chose option A answering, incorrectly, that adult courts are unable to dispense justice to young people under 18.

Question 8

8 Choose **four** ways that civil law is different from criminal law.

- A both sides in a civil case must arrange their own legal support
- B civil courts usually impose prison sentences
- C civil law is used to settle disputes between people, organisations and businesses
- D civil laws are proposed by judges not by governments
- E claimants are always supported financially by the government when taking a case to a civil court
- F county Courts are used to decide civil cases but not criminal cases
- G decisions in civil cases are made only by judges
- H juries in a civil case are told about the defendant's previous offences before deciding their verdict
- I parliament has the right to decide important civil cases
- J people who lose a civil case usually compensate the other side in the dispute
- K sentences in civil cases are usually more severe than in criminal cases
- L the police assist both sides in a civil case

Your answer

☐☐☐☐

[4]

Almost all candidates chose at least one correct difference between criminal and civil law (options A, C, F or J) and most identified at least three differences. An overwhelming majority knew that civil law is used to settle disputes between people, organisations and businesses. Far fewer knew that losers in a civil case usually compensate the other side in the dispute.

Question 9

9 Study **Source 9** and answer the question that follows.

Source 9

A UK news channel's secret investigation has found evidence that a Member of Parliament (MP) has been selling information about Britain's defences to a foreign government.

The news channel must decide whether to make its findings public.

Which of the statements below are true **and** relevant to the news channel's decision?

P	the news channel has broken the law by doing a secret investigation
Q	MPs have special legal protection
R	everyone has the right to take action in the High Court to protect their reputation and prevent the investigation being made public

- A** P and Q
- B** P and R
- C** P, Q and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

This question differentiated well between candidates. Many thought, incorrectly, that it is illegal for the media to conduct 'secret' investigations while others answered that MPs enjoy special legal protection. R is the only correct statement. Many candidates correctly chose option D.

Question 10

10 Study the image and answer the question that follows.

The King and Queen face protesters



Which row in the table best describes the likely police action?

	How will the police respond to this protest?	Why will the police respond in this way?
A	arrest the protesters	protests against the King are illegal
B	make sure the protest is peaceful	peaceful protest is a democratic right
C	arrest the protesters	many people will be offended by the protest
D	make sure the protest is peaceful	to show respect to the monarchy

Your answer

[1]

Most candidates understood the right to peaceful protest and the role of the police in making sure that protests are peaceful, option B. A small minority believed incorrectly that protests against the monarch are illegal while others thought that the police should arrest the protesters.

Question 11

11 Study **Tables 11a and 11b** and answer the question that follows.

Table 11a

Assault offences recorded by the police where a knife or gun was used in selected years from 2011–2023.

Year	Offences using a knife	Offences using a gun
2011	14 647	7040
2015	13 915	4911
2019	22 837	6881
2023	21 456	6365

Data extract from Crime in England and Wales, March 2023

Table 11b

Offences of violence reported by victims in the Crime Survey of England and Wales in selected years from 2011–2023

Year	Violent offences experienced by people over 16 years old
2011	2 126 000
2015	1 726 000
2019	1 344 000
2023	998 000

Data extract from Crime in England and Wales, March 2023

What factors may be affecting the number of crimes recorded by police?

P	an increasingly violent society
Q	police recording offences more efficiently
R	availability of knives and guns

- A** P and Q
- B** P and R
- C** Q and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

This challenging question was answered correctly (option C) by many candidates. Candidates who gained the mark understood that recorded crime rates could be affected by the police recording offences more efficiently (Q) and by the availability of knives and guns (R). Some candidates answered that rates of recorded crime could be affected by 'an increasingly violent society' but Source 11 does not support such an assumption.

Assessment for learning



It is important to help candidates develop the ability to effectively analyse and interpret statistical sources. Practising this question, along with other similar past questions, can help candidates build these important skills.

Question 12

12 Study **Source 12** and answer the question that follows.

Source 12

Sam applies for a new job

Sam is interviewed by an employer for a sales job in a technology company.

Sam has had a ten-year break due to ill health but is now keen to return to work.

Sam is 55 years old. The other applicants are much younger.

Which of the employer's actions are **illegal**?

P	rejecting Sam after a very good interview because of poor references
Q	asking Sam to take maths and English tests linked to the demands of the job
R	rejecting Sam because other employees in the business want to work with someone younger

A P and Q

B P and R

C Q and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

Most candidates realised that it would be illegal to reject Sam's application because of other employees' preference for a younger recruit, option D. A minority also answered, incorrectly, that it would be illegal to ask Sam to undergo tests linked to the demands of the job.

Question 13

13 Study **Source 13** and answer the question that follows.

Source 13

Zayn ordered a digital camera online and paid in advance. Zayn was sent the wrong camera. The camera supplier agreed to send the correct model as long as Zayn returned the incorrect item.

Zayn did this and was sent an email saying the camera had been received. Nothing happened.

Zayn contacted the company but was told that the original camera was damaged when they unpacked it. They refused to send a replacement camera or refund Zayn's money. Trying to settle the dispute through mediation had not worked.

What should Zayn do next?

- A** appeal to a magistrates court
- B** let the police know
- C** make a small claim through a civil court
- D** take the case to a tribunal

Your answer

[1]

As with Question 12, this question tested candidates' ability to apply their citizenship knowledge and understanding to an unfamiliar scenario. Most responses were correct; most candidates understood that Zayn's claim should be made through a civil court (option C), although a significant minority regarded Zayn's problem as a criminal matter and recommended the police or a magistrates court as a valid route to justice.

Question 14

14 In which of these examples would a **trade union** advise and support their members?

P	a group of workers claim their workplace is unsafe. Their employer disagrees
Q	a group of workers feel that they deserve higher pay but their employer refuses to pay more
R	a worker loses their job after a serious argument with their employer. Their employer refuses to let them come back

- A** P and Q
- B** P and R
- C** P, Q and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

The correct answer was option D. All three examples were ones where a trade union might legitimately advise and support its members. Many candidates did not gain the mark here, suggesting there may be misunderstanding about a trade union's role in the workplace.

Section B overview

Many candidates lacked the knowledge and understanding of government and politics to achieve well in Section B. Many did less well on this section, compared to their strong performance on Section A.

There were particular difficulties with questions on the economy (23 and 24), the British constitution (16, 18, 20, 22, 26 and 29), devolution (27) and local democracy (28). Even the straightforward question on voting systems (17) elicited only a modest level of response.

Notable was the apparent lack of understanding candidates' had of the relationship between levels of taxation, economic growth and government spending. These critical relationships are, of course, fundamental to an understanding of the policy differences between political parties and may help determine candidates' voting behaviour.

Question 15

15 Why is the **rule of law** so important in a **democracy**?

- A** so that all citizens can speak out against any injustice
- B** so that citizens are confident that everyone will be subject to the same laws
- C** so that the police can make important decisions without delay
- D** so there is little crime and people feel safe

Your answer

[1]

The rule of law is important in a democracy so that citizens are confident that everyone will be subject to the same laws. This correct response (B) was selected by most candidates. Some candidates thought that the rule of law enabled citizens to speak out against injustice (A).

Question 16

16 Why are **national referendums** held in the UK?

P	to decide any petition to the UK Parliament that has the support of at least 100 000 people
Q	to decide election outcomes when the main political parties have equal numbers of seats
R	to decide important matters that affect the British constitution

A P, Q and R

B P and R

C Q and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

A significant number of candidates knew that national referendums were held to decide important matters that affect the British constitution, option D. Examples would include referendums to leave the European Union or to introduce proportional representation. A significant minority of candidates thought referendums were used to decide the outcome of tied elections or to decide responses to parliamentary petitions.

Question 17

17 Which row in the table best describes an election to the UK parliament?

	Voting system	Number of constituencies
A	first-past-the post	250
B	first-past-the post	650
C	proportional representation	250
D	proportional representation	650

Your answer

[1]

Most candidates made the correct choice of option B but many were uncertain about the number of constituencies in the UK and chose option A instead.

Question 18

18 Which row in the table best describes the rights and responsibilities of the **Official Opposition's** leader?

	Rights	Responsibilities
A	be represented in the Cabinet	make sure the prime minister is accountable for their actions
B	be represented in the Cabinet	run the government in the prime minister's absence
C	propose changes to the law	make sure the prime minister is accountable for their actions
D	propose changes to the law	run the government in the prime minister's absence

Your answer

[1]

There was considerable uncertainty about the rights and responsibilities of the Official Opposition's leader. Many thought the leader of the opposition would be represented in the Cabinet, while others answered the opposition leader would run the country in the prime minister's absence. Many candidates answered correctly by choosing option C.

Question 19

19 Which of the following must people have if they want to vote in a **UK general election**?

P	citizenship of the UK, Ireland or, in certain cases, the Commonwealth
Q	photo identification (ID)
R	to be on the Electoral Register

A P, Q and R

B P and R

C Q and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

To be able to vote in a UK general election, people must meet all three criteria (P, Q and R) making option A the correct response. Many candidates chose correctly but some discounted either P or Q and so did not gain the mark.

Question 20

20 Study **Source 20** and answer the question that follows.

Source 20

A general election was held in 2019 and Boris Johnson, leader of the Conservative Party, became prime minister. Johnson resigned in 2023. Liz Truss took over as prime minister following a vote of Conservative Party members and MPs. She resigned after less than two months. Another Conservative MP, Rishi Sunak, then became prime minister.

There was no general election. Neither Conservative Party members or MPs elected Rishi Sunak to be prime minister.

Later, Rishi Sunak chose a Lord to become a senior minister in his cabinet.

Which row in the table explains why some people were unhappy about what happened in **Source 20**?

	The role of prime minister	Choosing a cabinet
A	prime ministers are usually elected by the public	Lords cannot join a government
B	prime ministers are usually selected by MPs and members from their own political party if it's necessary between elections	Lords cannot join a government
C	prime ministers are usually selected by MPs and members from their own political party if it's necessary between elections	prime ministers usually choose popular and skilled MPs to join their cabinet
D	prime ministers are usually elected by the public	prime ministers usually choose popular and skilled MPs to join their cabinet

Your answer

[1]

There was considerable uncertainty about how prime ministers are chosen and whether members of the House of Lords can join a government. Those candidates who gained the mark knew that prime ministers are selected by MPs and usually choose popular and skilled parliamentary colleagues (House of Commons and House of Lords) to serve in their cabinet. Option C is the correct response.

Misconception – how prime ministers are chosen



There is a common misconception that UK prime ministers are directly elected by the public in a process similar to the one used to choose presidents of France or the United States of America.

Question 21

21 Reform UK believes that the UK's first-past-the-post voting system is **undemocratic**. Choose **one** reason that supports this viewpoint.

- A** electors in constituencies where the same party usually wins feel that their votes are wasted
- B** the first-past-the-post system results in weak government
- C** the first-past-the-post system is too complicated for most electors to understand
- D** there is only one representative for each constituency in the first-past-the-post system

Your answer

[1]

Option A is correct. Most candidates chose this option. A significant minority seemed to be unfamiliar with the first-past-the-post voting system and its implications for democracy. Many answered, incorrectly, that it tended to result in 'weak government' which is a frequent criticism of proportional representation.

Question 22

22 Study **Source 22** and answer the question that follows.

Source 22

In November 2023, judges in the Supreme Court blocked a plan to send asylum seekers from the UK to Rwanda (a country in East Africa). The UK Parliament had approved the plan, but the Court decided that the plan was illegal. The judges explained their reasons.

What is the UK Government able to do?

P	appeal to a higher UK court
Q	appoint Supreme Court judges who agree to support government policy
R	change their plan to fit in with what the judges had said

- A** P and Q
- B** P and R
- C** Q and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

The only option for the UK Government is to change their plan to fit in with what the judges had said (R), so, option D is the correct response. Candidates who got this incorrect answered that an appeal to a higher court was in order (the Supreme Court is the highest court in this case). Others opted for appointing different judges – but the judiciary is historically independent from government. the judiciary's historical independence from government.

Question 23

23 Why might a government decide to **increase** taxation?

P	to increase spending on welfare and pensions
Q	to renew public assets such as hospitals and schools
R	to stimulate economic growth

- A** P and Q
- B** P, Q and R
- C** P and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

'P' and 'Q' are correct in this case whereas 'R' is not. Tax increases would not stimulate economic growth. They would be much more likely to slow it down, so, option A is the correct response to this question. Candidates who performed well on this question tended to be successful on the rest of the paper.

Assessment for learning



Questions on the relationships between taxation, economic growth and government spending prove difficult for candidates but these relationships are key to understanding economics and politics. More practice with these types of question and engagement with simple teacher-devised scenarios may improve candidates' confidence.

Question 24

24 Study **Table 24** and answer the question that follows.

Table 24

Government spending – 2023

Row	Government spending (£ billions)	Examples of government spending
1	320.1	
2	230.7	Health
3	106.8	Education
4	55.5	Defence
5	42.4	Public order and safety including police and courts
6	16.2	Housing and community amenities
7	13.8	Leisure, culture and religion
8	13.7	Environmental protection

Which category of government spending is missing from **Row 1**?

- A** asylum and immigration
- B** interest payments on government debt
- C** social protection including welfare and pensions
- D** transport including roads and railways

Your answer

[1]

The correct answer is option C. Spending on social protection including welfare benefits and pensions outstrips other areas of government spending by a considerable margin. The costs of asylum and immigration are insignificant in comparison, but many candidates thought that was the largest area of government spending. Others answered, incorrectly, that most was spent on roads and railways.

Question 25

25 What part does **Black Rod** play in the State opening of Parliament?

- A** helps the monarch write their speech
- B** summons MPs to the House of Lords to hear the monarch's speech
- C** organises security within the Palace of Westminster
- D** supports the prime minister

Your answer

[1]

This factual recall question was answered well by most candidates, who answered option B. A significant minority claimed that Black Rod organised security - possibly confusing this role with that of the Sergeant of Arms.

Question 26

26 What is the purpose of the King's or Queen's Speech to Parliament?

- A** future government policy is set out by the monarch
- B** Lords and Commons meet to discuss how best to support the Royal Family
- C** Members of Parliament have the chance to ask the monarch questions
- D** the monarch describes their ideas for new laws

Your answer

[1]

The correct answer is option A. The monarch's speech to parliaments sets out future government policy. Many candidates thought that the monarch's speech was a chance for parliamentarians to ask questions.

Question 27

27 Which responsibility does the UK Government have across **the whole** of the UK?

- A** defence
- B** taxation
- C** the legal system
- D** transport

Your answer

[1]

This question exposed candidates' general lack of knowledge about the power of the UK Government in the nations and regions. Of the options available to candidates, only defence (option A) is a full UK Government responsibility. Taxation and transport are significantly devolved, and Scotland has a separate legal system. Candidates who answered correctly tended to do well on the rest of the paper.

Question 28

28 How are **local authority** councillors chosen in England?

- A** by interview with the council's chief executive officer
- B** by the council's mayor
- C** by the electorate
- D** by their local MP

Your answer

[1]

The correct answer is option C. This question exposed a considerable level of uncertainty about the workings of local democracy and, for some, ignorance about the meaning of the term 'electorate'. Many candidates answered that local authority councillors were chosen by the council's mayor or MP.

Question 29

29 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: The House of Commons must obey the House of Lords.

Second statement: The UK Parliament must obey the UK's government.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

This was another 'government and politics' question where candidates often did not choose the correct answer (option A). The House of Commons does not have any obligation to 'obey' the House of Lords and it's the UK Parliament that is sovereign rather than the government.

Candidates who did well on this question also succeeded on the rest of the paper. Candidates do need to develop a good understanding of the fundamentals of the British constitution.

Question 30

30 What does the **civil service** do?

P	follows government instructions
Q	gives advice to ministers
R	implements government decisions

- A** P and Q
- B** P, Q and R
- C** P and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

The civil service is responsible for all the functions listed above and so the correct answer is option B.

Candidates do need an understanding of what it is the civil service does.

Section C overview

Section C was answered competently by most candidates who showed a good understanding of key concepts and terminology such as community cohesion, emigration and immigration.

As in previous years, many candidates showed uncertainty about issues and trends connected with migration and asylum seeking.

Knowledge and understanding of the Commonwealth was relatively weak but candidates were more familiar with the United Nations and the role of Non-governmental organisations.

Question 31

31 Which countries make up the UK?

- A** England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland
- B** England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic
- C** England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- D** England, Wales, Scotland and the Irish Republic

Your answer

[1]

The overwhelming majority chose the correct option (A). Those who chose incorrectly answered that either the Irish Republic was part of the UK or that Scotland was independent.

Question 32

32 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: Community cohesion means neighbours living together with respect and cooperation.

Second statement: Community cohesion is more likely where people experience equal opportunity.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

There was a good understanding of the term 'community cohesion' with the majority of candidates deciding correctly that both statements are true, answering option B.

Question 33

33 What is the **main** reason for **migrants** to come to the UK?

- A** joining other family members
- B** seeking asylum
- C** studying or working
- D** welfare benefits

Your answer

[1]

Many candidates incorrectly chose B, answering that people seeking asylum in the UK are responsible for high levels of immigration, whereas the overwhelming majority of immigrants arrive in the UK to work or study – so option C is correct.

Question 34

34 Which **rights** do **asylum seekers** have when arriving in the UK?

P	somewhere to live
Q	to have their claim for asylum decided fairly and accurately
R	employment opportunities

A P, Q and R

B P and Q

C P and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

Asylum seekers currently have the right to accommodation and to have their claim for asylum decided fairly and accurately. They do not have a right to be offered employment – so option B is correct. Most incorrect responses included employment as a right that asylum seekers have when arriving in the UK.

Question 35

35 Study **Source 35** and answer the question that follows.

Source 35

Why Britain needs more migrants

The Economist magazine used the headline above to argue against cutting immigration too far. It explained that the country would be poorer unless migration to the UK was encouraged.

Headline from The Economist June 14 2022.

Which of the facts would concern The Economist?

P	many more older people live in rural and coastal areas than urban areas
Q	the number of people aged 85+ will rise from 1.7 million in 2020 to 3.1 million by 2045
R	the number of children a woman will have in her lifetime is 1.65

- A** P and R
- B** Q and R
- C** P, Q and R
- D** R only

Your answer

[1]

The facts that would concern the author of Source 35 would be the UK's ageing population and low fertility rate (Q and R). They would be less concerned about where older people choose to live (P) – so B is the correct option.

Question 36

36 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: Over 500 000 European Union (EU) citizens left the UK in the period 2020–22.

Second statement: More people now leave the UK than arrive here.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

It is true that over 500 000 EU citizens left the UK in the period 2020–22 but not true that more people now leave the UK than arrive here, so option D is correct. Many candidates did not believe that substantial EU citizens had left the UK and others did believe that rates of emigration now exceeded rates of immigration.

Question 37

37 Which **four** statements below are aims of the EU?

- A** bring member nations together into a single European state
- B** develop a single European language
- C** develop a single integrated transport system across all nations
- D** encourage free movement of people, goods and capital between member states
- E** ensure strong economic growth by cutting business regulations
- F** establish an economic and monetary union whose currency is the euro
- G** have a single parliament to replace all existing national parliaments
- H** promote immigration from outside the EU
- I** promote worldwide free trade
- J** set up a single European armed defence force
- K** set up a single, internal market for goods and services
- L** speak for Europe internationally

Your answer

[4]

This factual recall question was answered well. Almost all candidates were able to identify at least one EU aim. Popular choices were economic aims D and K. Candidates were less sure about the EU's political aims.

Question 38

38 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: The UK's overall wealth has reduced as result of leaving the EU.

Second statement: The UK is now free to agree trade deals with other countries.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

The UK's overall wealth has reduced as a result of leaving the EU, but the government is now free to agree trade deals with other countries. Both statements are true but relatively few candidates, including those who did well on the rest of the paper, identified the correct answer (option B). Most chose incorrectly that the UK's wealth had not reduced as a result of leaving the EU.

Question 39

39 Which UK political party or parties would like closer links with Europe?

P	Greens
Q	Labour
R	Reform

A P and Q

B P, Q and R

C Q and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

Of the options given, only Reform would not like closer links with Europe. Labour and the Greens would be in favour of closer links, so option A is correct. Most selected this correct answer. Many of those who were incorrect suggested that Reform wanted closer European links.

Question 40 (a)

40 Study **Source 40** and answer questions **40 (a)** and **40 (b)** that follow.

Source 40

The Commonwealth is made up of 56 countries around the world.

The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent countries spread over every continent and ocean.

It's home to over 2.5 billion people. That's almost one third of the world's population. It has a huge spread across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Americas, Europe and the Pacific. Commonwealth people are of many faiths, races, languages and cultures.

Extract adapted from Map of the Commonwealth

(a) Why is the Commonwealth sometimes described as a 'family of nations'?

P	all member nations are independent
Q	one of the Commonwealth's aims is democracy
R	the UK and most other member nations have historic links

A P, Q and R

B P and Q

C Q and R

D R only

Your answer

[1]

Statements 'P', 'Q' and 'R' are all correct, so option A is the correct answer. Option B was popular with many unsuccessful candidates who were uncertain about the matter of historic links. Those who did well on this question tended to achieve well on the rest of the paper.

Question 40 (b)

(b) Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: Each Commonwealth member nation has an equal say in decision-making.

Second statement: Richer member nations contribute more funds to the Commonwealth's costs than poorer nations.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

Candidates performed better on the second part of the Commonwealth question. Most answered that both statements were correct so gained the mark for answering option B.

Question 41

41 Which row below correctly describes a **Non-Governmental Organisation's (NGO's)** response to a crisis overseas?

	Who is helped?	Where the money comes from
A	people are supported. It doesn't matter who they are or where they are from	raises money from the public
B	people in countries whose governments are hostile to the UK are unlikely to receive help	uses taxpayers' money
C	people are supported. It doesn't matter who they are or where they are from	uses taxpayers' money
D	people in countries whose governments are hostile to the UK are unlikely to receive help	raises money from the public

Your answer

[1]

After careful consideration, examiners decided that option A and option C should both be regarded as correct. NGOs raise money from the public (option A) but many also receive taxpayer-funded government grants (option C). Most candidates chose one or other of these correct responses. The overwhelming majority of this group chose option A but all correct answers demonstrated an understanding of the term 'NGO'.

Question 42

42 Study the two statements. Choose option **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** to describe their accuracy.

First statement: Most of the world's nations are members of the United Nations (UN).

Second statement: China, France, Russia, the UK and the United States of America (USA) all have the right to block UN action.

A	both statements are false
B	both statements are true
C	the first statement is false, but the second statement is true
D	the first statement is true, but the second statement is false

Your answer

[1]

It is true to say that most of the world's nations belong to the UN and that the countries identified in the second statement have the right to block UN action. Most of those who did not gain the mark thought the second statement was false. The correct answer is B.

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