



Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Thursday 8 May 2025 – Afternoon

GCSE (9–1) Citizenship Studies

J270/01 Citizenship in perspective

Time allowed: 50 minutes

No extra materials are needed.



Please write clearly in black ink. **Do not write in the barcodes.**

Centre number

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Candidate number

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First name(s)

Last name

INSTRUCTIONS

- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the space provided.
- Answer **all** the questions.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is **50**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets [].
- This document has **24** pages.

ADVICE

- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

Section A

You should spend about **15 minutes** on this section.

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]

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]

- 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]

- 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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

- 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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

Section B

You should spend about **15 minutes** on this section.

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

Section C

You should spend about **15 minutes** on this section.

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

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]

(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]

- 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]

- 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]

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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