



GCE AS/A LEVEL

2160U10-1



S24-2160U10-1

THURSDAY, 16 MAY 2024 – AFTERNOON

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS – AS unit 1
Government in Wales and the United Kingdom

1 hour 30 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Section A: Answer **both** Question 1 **and** Question 2.

Section B: Answer **either** Question 3 **or** Question 4.

Section C: Answer **two** questions from Question 5, Question 6 **or** Question 7.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

0	1
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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The quality of your written communication, including appropriate use of punctuation and grammar, will be assessed in your answers to Section C questions.

Section A

In Section A, you must answer **both** questions.

In your answer credit will be given for accurate knowledge and understanding.

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 Using examples, briefly describe the importance of parliamentary privilege. [6]

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 Using examples, briefly describe the role of the Cabinet system within Welsh Government. [6]

Section B

In Section B, you must answer **one** question.

In your answer credit will be given for accurate knowledge and understanding and also your ability to interpret and apply political information.

Either,

0	3
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 Read the extract below and answer the question that follows.

Extract A

Official Opposition

As the second largest party in the House of Commons, the Labour Party is the current official opposition and has held this role since its 2010 election defeat. Sir Keir Starmer MP is the current leader of the opposition. The opposition is sometimes referred to as a 'government in waiting'.

In October 2020, Labour used one of its opposition days to put forward a motion to extend free school meals through half-term, following a high-profile campaign urging the government to do so. The motion was rejected in parliament but allowed Labour to keep the issue in the public eye.

[Extract adapted from 'Official Opposition' – February 2022
<https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/explainers/official-opposition>, accessed September 2022]

Using Extract A as well as your own knowledge, compare and contrast the role of the opposition in the UK Parliament and the Welsh Parliament. [24]

Or,

0	4
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 Read the extract below and answer the question that follows.

Extract B

How is collective responsibility enforced?

Ministers who have breached collective responsibility are expected to resign. However, while the ministerial code sets out the rules around collective responsibility, it is 'guidance' and only the prime minister can make the final decision based on their power to hire and fire.

If the prime minister does decide that an MP can no longer remain as a government minister, they will invite them to offer their resignation. In the rare cases where they decline this invitation, the prime minister has the ability to sack them. For example, in May 2019, Gavin Williamson was 'sacked' as defence secretary by Theresa May after he refused to resign from government.

[Extract adapted from 'Collective Responsibility' – November 2019
'<https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/explainer/collective-responsibility>, accessed February 2023]

Using Extract B, as well as your own knowledge, explain the connection between collective responsibility and Prime Ministerial Government in the UK. [24]

Section C

In Section C, you must answer **two** questions.

In your answer credit will be given for accurate knowledge and understanding, and also your ability to analyse and evaluate.

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 Evaluate the extent to which executive dominance exists in the UK Parliament. [22]

0	6
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 Assess the extent to which the British Constitution needs reform. [22]

0	7
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 'The legislative process in The Welsh Parliament (Senedd Cymru) has more strengths than weaknesses.' Evaluate this statement. [22]

END OF PAPER

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