



National
Qualifications
2024

X849/75/11

Modern Studies

TUESDAY, 30 APRIL

1:00 PM – 3:20 PM

Total marks — 80

SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM — 28 marks

Attempt **EITHER** Part A **AND** Question 7 **OR** Part B **AND** Question 7

Part A Democracy in Scotland *page 02*

Part B Democracy in the United Kingdom *page 03*

Question 7 *pages 04–05*

SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 26 marks

Attempt **EITHER** Part C **AND** Question 14 **OR** Part D **AND** Question 14

Part C Social inequality *page 06*

Part D Crime and the law *page 07*

Question 14 *pages 08–09*

SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 26 marks

Attempt **EITHER** Part E **AND** Question 21 **OR** Part F **AND** Question 21

Part E World powers *page 10*

Part F World issues *page 11*

Question 21 *pages 12–13*

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



* X 8 4 9 7 5 1 1 *

SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM — 28 marks

Attempt **EITHER** Part A **AND** Question 7 **OR** Part B **AND** Question 7

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Part A | Democracy in Scotland | <i>page 02</i> |
| Part B | Democracy in the United Kingdom | <i>page 03</i> |
| Question 7 | | <i>pages 04–05</i> |

PART A — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND

In your answers to Questions 1, 2 and 3 you should give recent examples from Scotland.

Question 1

Individuals have political rights in a democracy.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** political rights individuals have in a democracy.

4

Question 2

The Scottish Parliament has responsibility for devolved matters.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** devolved matters the Scottish Parliament has responsibility for.

6

Attempt **EITHER** Question 3(a) **OR** 3(b)

Question 3

Trade unions and pressure groups are influential within a democracy.

- (a) Explain, **in detail**, why either trade unions or pressure groups are influential within a democracy.

You should give a **maximum** of **three** explanations in your answer.

8

OR

Committees are an important part of the Scottish Parliament.

- (b) Explain, **in detail**, why committees are an important part of the Scottish Parliament.

You should give a **maximum** of **three** explanations in your answer.

8

[Now go to Question 7 starting on *page 04*]

PART B — DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

In your answers to Questions 4, 5 and 6 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.

Question 4

Individuals have political rights in a democracy.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** political rights individuals have in a democracy.

4

Question 5

The UK Parliament has responsibility for reserved matters.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** reserved matters the UK Parliament has responsibility for.

6

Attempt **EITHER** Question 6(a) **OR** 6(b)

Question 6

Trade unions and pressure groups are influential within a democracy.

- (a) Explain, **in detail**, why **either** trade unions **or** pressure groups are influential within a democracy.

You should give a **maximum** of **three** explanations in your answer.

8

OR

The House of Lords are an important part of the UK Parliament.

- (b) Explain, **in detail**, why the House of Lords are an important part of the UK Parliament.

You should give a **maximum** of **three** explanations in your answer.

8

[Now go to Question 7 starting on page 04]

Question 7

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 and then answer the question which follows.

SOURCE 1

UK general elections system

Since 1950, the system used in UK general elections to elect MPs to the House of Commons has been a simple majority system commonly known as First Past the Post (FPTP). This system is also used in local council elections in England. In the last UK-wide referendum on the Parliamentary voting system in 2011, voters were asked if they supported using a different electoral system to elect MPs, to which the majority voted ‘no’. It is argued that the high turnout rates in general elections prove that voters are happy with the current system.

However, there is a growing feeling amongst the public that the FPTP system is unfair and should be replaced. Many politicians and campaign groups want a form of proportional representation (PR) to be used for future general elections. Forms of PR are already used to elect parliaments in the devolved nations in the UK. Using a PR system means that the percentage of votes gained by a party closely equals the percentage of seats, making the electoral system fairer. It is argued that FPTP produces disproportionate results that may help create safe or marginal seats. While supporters of FPTP claim it is a popular and widely used system, this is often not the case, especially in elections throughout Europe.

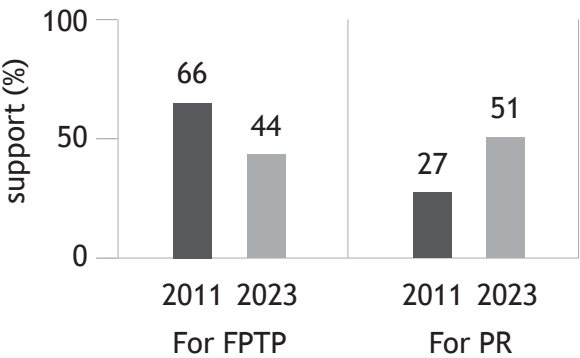
In the 2019 general election, FPTP did produce a clear winner with the Conservative Party gaining over half of the seats which gave them a strong majority to pursue their manifesto promises. This is one reason why many Conservative Party members continue to oppose electoral reform. In addition, FPTP is seen as being an effective system as it ensures extremist parties do not gain power.

2019 UK general election statistics

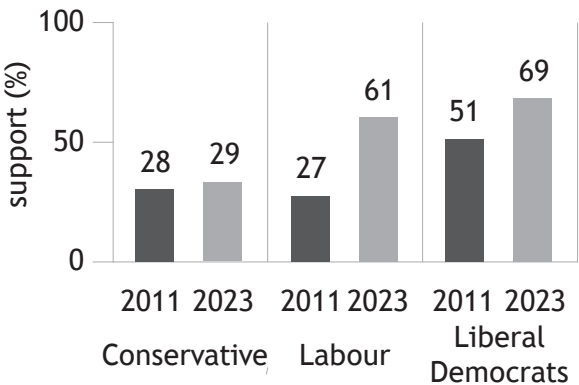
| Party | % of votes won | % seats won (FPTP) | % seats that would be won using a form of PR | Difference in seats won using a form of PR |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Conservative | 43.6% | 56.2% | 45.6% | –77 |
| Labour | 32.1% | 31.1% | 34.2% | +13 |
| Liberal Democrats | 11.5% | 1.7% | 11.1% | +59 |
| SNP | 3.9% | 7.4% | 4.4% | –20 |

SOURCE 2

Public opinion survey on the electoral system that should be used in UK general elections



Political parties support for electoral reform in UK general elections



SOURCE 3

Opinions on electoral reform

The way we elect our MPs is bad for voters, bad for governance and bad for democracy. The Electoral Reform Society want to see some form of PR used in general elections instead of FPTP. PR is fairer for smaller parties and ensures no one's vote is worth more than anyone else's. Some people will argue that PR is difficult to use but this is not the case. It is successfully used in the Scottish Parliament, the Welsh Parliament and Scottish local council elections. The UK is one of the few European countries to use FPTP in national elections, which reinforces the need for change. Using PR will also help solve the issue of safe and marginal seats. PR simply gives the voter much more choice at the ballot box.

Electoral Reform Society, a campaign group

There is no need to change the voting system we use in general elections. FPTP is fair and simple to use, with voters only requiring to mark an 'X' against the candidate of their choice. The candidate with the most votes wins, and the party with the most MPs forms the government. FPTP has been used for years and has helped produce strong governments that are able to keep their election promises like 'get Brexit done'. FPTP also means that extremist parties can't gain power in our political institutions which is good for democracy. Of those eligible to vote, over 67% voted in the 2019 general election demonstrating confidence in the system. Any change could put people off voting and that would be bad for democracy.

Supporter of First Past the Post

Using Sources 1, 2 and 3 give reasons to **support** and **oppose** the view of Imogen Nolan.

General elections should use a form of proportional representation (PR) instead of First Past the Post (FPTP).

View of Imogen Nolan

In your answer you **must**:

- give evidence from the sources that supports Imogen Nolan's view

AND

- give evidence from the sources that opposes Imogen Nolan's view.

Your answer **must** be based on all **three** sources.

10

[Now go to SECTION 2 on page 06]

SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 26 marks

Attempt **EITHER** Part C **AND** Question 14 **OR** Part D **AND** Question 14

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Part C | Social inequality | <i>page 06</i> |
| Part D | Crime and the law | <i>page 07</i> |
| Question 14 | | <i>pages 08–09</i> |

PART C — SOCIAL INEQUALITY

In your answers to Questions 8, 9 and 10 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.

Question 8

There are many consequences of social and economic inequality on communities.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** consequences of social and economic inequality on communities.

4

Question 9

The government attempts to reduce inequality.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** ways the government has attempted to reduce social and economic inequality.

6

Question 10

Unemployment can cause social and economic inequality in society.

Explain, **in detail**, **two** reasons why unemployment can cause social and economic inequality in society.

6

[Now go to Question 14 starting on *page 08*]

PART D — CRIME AND THE LAW

In your answers to Questions 11, 12 and 13 you should give recent examples from the United Kingdom.

Question 11

There are many consequences of crime on communities.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** consequences of crime on communities.

4

Question 12

The government has responded to crime in many ways.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** ways in which the government has responded to crime.

6

Question 13

Economic factors can cause crime.

Explain, **in detail**, **two** reasons why economic factors can cause crime.

6

[Now go to Question 14 starting on *page 08*]

Question 14

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 and then answer the question which follows.

You are an adviser to the UK Government. You have been asked to recommend whether or not e-cigarettes should be banned in the UK.

Option 1
Ban e-cigarettes

Option 2
Do not ban e-cigarettes

SOURCE 1

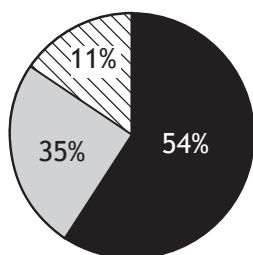
E-cigarettes

E-cigarettes are devices that allow users to inhale nicotine in a vapour rather than smoking. These are commonly referred to as vapes.

- E-cigarettes are often used by traditional tobacco smokers as a method to help them successfully stop smoking.
- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes to under 18's in the UK and trading standards officers regularly carry out activities to ensure retailers are not breaking the law.
- E-cigarettes still contain high levels of nicotine which can be highly addictive and cause health issues.
- There are thousands of different flavours of e-cigarettes and they come in a range of different coloured packaging.
- Health advisers to the UK Government have warned of the huge unknown health hazards associated with e-cigarettes.
- Recent reports have highlighted safety concerns with e-cigarette units, with instances of e-cigarettes exploding and catching fire which has harmed the individual using them.
- E-cigarettes are big business and generate over a billion pounds in revenue, this contributes a substantial amount of tax to the government.
- E-cigarettes have been linked to over 70 deaths worldwide with numbers increasing yearly.
- Some pressure groups have said banning e-cigarettes is against a person's human rights and the government should not intervene.
- Schools across the country have reported that e-cigarettes are being used by over a quarter of young people in school often causing a variety of health issues.

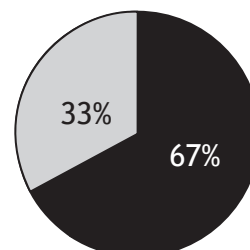
SOURCE 2

GP survey: should e-cigarettes be banned?



■ yes ■ no ▨ don't know

E-cigarette user survey: have you stopped smoking since you started using e-cigarettes?



■ yes ■ no

Question 14 (continued)

SOURCE 3

Viewpoints

I am deeply concerned by the popularity of e-cigarettes. We simply do not know enough about any long-term health issues e-cigarettes may create. I have had discussions with GP colleagues and almost all would support a full ban on e-cigarettes. Many young people who use them have reported health problems such as coughing fits, heart palpitations, gum disease and anxiety. I fear that the e-cigarette boom has the potential to create a generation of young people who will become hooked on nicotine. However, at least we are confident that e-cigarettes do not pose a safety concern to the user.

Zainab Ahmed, GP

Many people have given up tobacco smoking in favour of e-cigarettes, which has helped improve the health of the nation. There have been no reports at all of e-cigarettes being linked to suspicious deaths. While it is a concern that young people are regularly using e-cigarettes, enforcing the existing law should be the priority. Trading Standards are doing nothing to stop retailers selling to under 18's. The e-cigarette industry is a vital part of the economy providing many jobs and generating millions in taxes to pay for tobacco related health issues. It should be an individual choice as to whether someone uses an e-cigarette and not for the government to decide.

Lukas O'Donnell, e-cigarette salesperson

You must decide which option to recommend, **either** ban e-cigarettes (**Option 1**) or do not ban e-cigarettes (**Option 2**).

- (i) Using Sources 1, 2 and 3, **which option would you choose?**
- (ii) Give reasons to **support** your choice.
- (iii) **Explain** why you did not choose the other option.

Your answer **must** be based on all **three** sources.

10

[Now go to SECTION 3 on page 10]

SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 26 marks

Attempt **EITHER** Part E **AND** Question 21 **OR** Part F **AND** Question 21

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Part E | World powers | <i>page 10</i> |
| Part F | World issues | <i>page 11</i> |
| Question 21 | | <i>pages 12–13</i> |

PART E — WORLD POWERS

In your answers to Questions 15, 16 and 17 you should give recent examples from a world power you have studied.

Question 15

A political system has many key features.

Describe, **in detail**, **two** key features of the political system you have studied.

In your answer you must state the world power you have studied.

4

Question 16

World powers have an economic influence on other countries.

Explain, **in detail**, **two** reasons why world powers have an economic influence on other countries.

In your answer you must state the world power you have studied.

6

Question 17

Governments are effective in tackling social and economic issues.

Explain, **in detail**, **two** reasons why governments are effective in tackling social and economic issues.

In your answer you must state the world power you have studied.

6

[Now go to Question 21 starting on page 12]

PART F — WORLD ISSUES

In your answers to Questions 18, 19 and 20 you should give recent examples from a world issue you have studied.

Question 18

There are many consequences of international conflicts and issues on other countries and their governments.

Describe, **in detail, two** consequences of the international conflict or issue you have studied on other countries and their governments.

4

In your answer you must state the world conflict or issue you have studied.

Question 19

There are many political causes of international conflicts and issues.

Explain, **in detail, two** political causes of the international conflict or issue you have studied.

6

In your answer you must state the world conflict or issue you have studied.

Question 20

International organisations have been successful in tackling international conflicts and issues.

Explain, **in detail, two** reasons why international organisations have been successful in tackling the international conflict or issue you have studied.

6

In your answer you must state the world conflict or issue you have studied.

[Now go to Question 21 starting on *page 12*]

Question 21

Study Sources 1, 2 and 3 and then answer the question which follows.

SOURCE 1

The United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a country in the Middle East and is one the richest countries in the world. It is made up of seven emirates, including Abu Dhabi and Dubai. It has a very diverse population of around 9.5 million, of which just over 10% are UAE nationals with the remainder being people from other countries who have moved to the UAE, mainly for work. The average monthly income is about AED18,500, which is around £4,000. However, many migrant workers in the UAE are still paid very low wages, with the poverty rate in UAE estimated at 19.5%. This is very different from the image many people have of the luxury lifestyles and skyscrapers that exist in the UAE.

Life expectancy in the UAE is 78 years. There are, however, growing health concerns around issues such as obesity, heart disease and high blood pressure. Around 73% of the population is either overweight or obese. It is estimated that by 2030, 49.82% of women and 37.01% of men in the UAE will be obese.

The UAE has very strict rules and regulations on various issues such as drinking alcohol, dress code, public displays of affection and drugs. The country takes a zero-tolerance approach to certain activities and punishments can be very severe. As a result, the UAE does not have a serious crime issue, recording a crime index rate of just under fifteen per cent. The UAE has however been criticised in relation to the discrimination of women. Women are allowed to drive, vote, work, own and inherit property however they often have to have the permission of a male 'guardian' (husband or father) on certain matters, including marriage. The UAE has a World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Index score of 0.712, which is an improvement on 2020. The Global Gender Gap Index measures the gaps between women and men in four key areas - health, education, economy, and politics. A score of 0 equals complete gender inequality, while a score of 1 indicates complete gender equality.

SOURCE 2

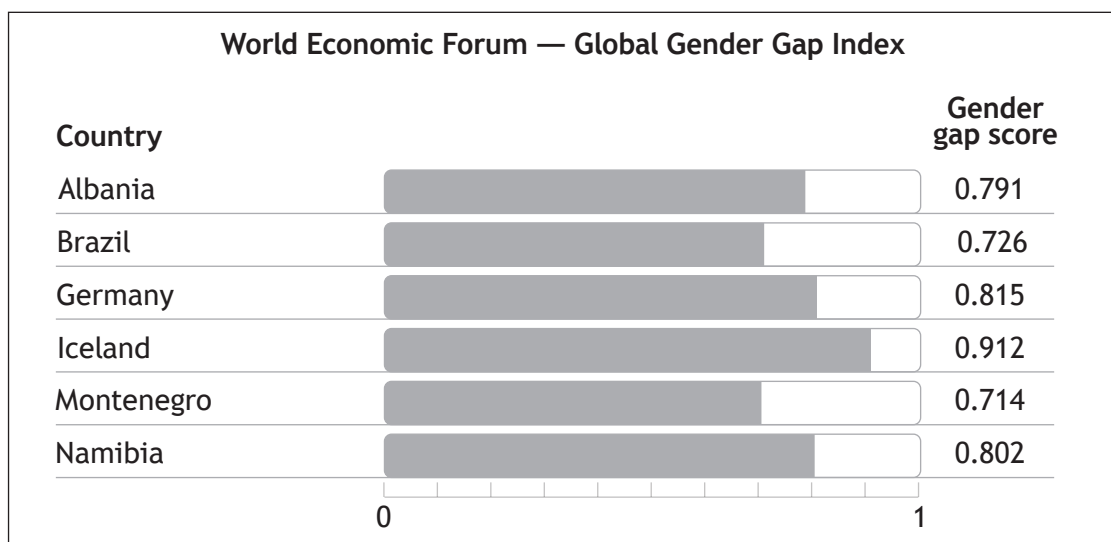
Poverty rates in the Middle East



SOURCE 3

Selected statistics

| 2030 estimated obesity rates | | | Number of tourists visiting UAE | | Crime index rate | |
|------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Country | Men (%) | Women (%) | Year | Number of tourists (millions) | Country | Rate |
| Indonesia | 7.81 | 13.77 | 2000 | 3.19 | Indonesia | 45.90 |
| China | 9.53 | 10.06 | 2005 | 7.13 | China | 30.14 |
| Japan | 7.63 | 5.40 | 2015 | 19.31 | Japan | 22.90 |
| South Africa | 22.89 | 49.59 | 2017 | 21.81 | South Africa | 76.86 |
| Turkey | 34.07 | 49.71 | 2019 | 25.28 | Turkey | 39.62 |
| UK | 36.63 | 37.45 | 2021 | 11.48 | UK | 46.07 |



Using Sources 1, 2 and 3, what conclusions can be drawn about life in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)?

You should reach a conclusion about each of the following:

- the estimated obesity rate of women in the UAE compared to other countries
- the poverty rate in the UAE compared to other Middle Eastern countries
- the crime index rate in the UAE compared to other countries
- the gender equality gap in the UAE compared to other countries.

Your conclusions must be supported by evidence from the sources. You should link information within and between the sources in support of your conclusions.

Your answer **must** be based on all **three** sources.

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