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Edexcel GCE

History
Advanced Subsidiary
Unit 2
Option B: British Political History in the 19th Century

Tuesday 22 May 2012 – Afternoon Time: 1 hour 20 minutes	Paper Reference 6HI02/B
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You must have: Sources Insert (enclosed)	Total Marks
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Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer question part (a) and part (b) of the topic for which you have been prepared. There is a choice of questions in part (b).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
– *you should take particular care with your spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression, on these questions.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

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PEARSON

6HI02/B – British Political History in the 19th Century

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B1 – Britain, 1830–85: Representation and Reform

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer Question 1, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 1

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) Study Sources 1, 2 and 3.

How far do the sources suggest that Feargus O'Connor was an effective leader of the Chartist movement?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 1, 2 and 3.

(20)

EITHER

***(b) (i) Use Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that the main reason for the passing of the 1832 Reform Act was the fear of 'a violent revolution' (Source 4, lines 16–17)?

Explain your answer, using Sources 4, 5 and 6 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

***(b) (ii) Use Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that the Reform Act of 1867 brought about significant changes in the nature of the political parties in this period?

Explain your answer, using Sources 7, 8 and 9 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 1 = 60 marks)



6HI02/B – British Political History in the 19th Century

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Poverty, Public Health and the Growth of Government in Britain, 1830–75

Study the relevant sources in the Sources Insert.

Answer Question 2, parts (a) and (b). There is a choice of questions in part (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii) on page 9.

Question 2

Answer part (a) and then answer EITHER part (b) (i) OR part (b) (ii).

(a) Study Sources 10, 11 and 12.

How far do the sources suggest that the main reason for the introduction of the New Poor Law was the desire to prevent mismanagement of Poor Law funds?

Explain your answer, using the evidence of Sources 10, 11 and 12.

(20)

EITHER

***(b) (i) Use Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that Edwin Chadwick contributed little to the progress made in public health in the years 1838–54?

Explain your answer, using Sources 13, 14 and 15 and your own knowledge.

(40)

OR

***(b) (ii) Use Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.**

Do you agree with the view that the harshness associated with the New Poor Law was greatly exaggerated?

Explain your answer, using Sources 16, 17 and 18 and your own knowledge.

(40)

(Total for Question 2 = 60 marks)



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Sources Insert

Paper Reference

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Do not return the insert with the question paper.

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PEARSON

Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B1 – Britain, 1830–85: Representation and Reform

Sources for use with Question 1 (a)

SOURCE 1

(From Robert Lowery, *Passages in the Life of a Temperance Lecturer*, published 1857. Lowery was present at the first Chartist Convention in 1839.)

1 Politically, Feargus O'Connor in 1839 was a popular man in Yorkshire and Lancashire, and in every district he was beginning to attract the admiration of the unthinking crowd. However, the few who were far-seeing already perceived the deficiencies of his character, and the evil results that his language would eventually lead to.

SOURCE 2

(From a poem by Thomas Cooper, published in the *Northern Star*, September 1841. It was written to celebrate Feargus O'Connor's release from prison in 1841.)

The lion of freedom comes from his den,
We'll rally around him again and again,
We'll crown him with laurels our champion to be,
O'Connor the patriot of sweet liberty.

SOURCE 3

(From R. G. Gammage, *History of the Chartist Movement*, published 1854. Gammage joined the Chartists in 1840 and travelled extensively, meeting many of its leaders, including Feargus O'Connor. This extract refers to events that took place in 1848.)

10 It was evident that the spirit of unity was lacking in the Chartist body. O'Connor's policy had been the main cause of the disunion. He was wrong, not in abandoning the procession, but in having encouraged so long the empty loud-mouthed show-offs, and enthusiastic but mistaken men of the Convention.

Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (i)

SOURCE 4

(From Eric Evans, *The Great Reform Act of 1832*, published 1994)

The Act was passed as the climax to a two year period of high political tension
15 both within parliament and outside. Many MPs believed that, unless a measure
of parliamentary reform were passed no later than the spring of 1832, a violent
revolution would sweep away all established institutions. Chaos and bloodshed,
such as the French had experienced during the French Revolution of 1789, would
take place in Britain. From the government's point of view, the Reform Act served
20 its major purpose – it removed the immediate threat to the security of the state.

SOURCE 5

(From a speech made in the House of Commons by Lord Palmerston on 3 March 1831. He was a member of the Whig government.)

Any man who looks at the workings of the present system must see that there are
great and peculiar blemishes, which it is necessary to remove, in order to fit it for the
demands and feelings of the times in which we live. These blemishes include the
corruption which prevails; the absence of all adequate balances of representation
25 with respect to the great manufacturing and commercial towns; the very unequal
and unjust distribution of the right to vote among the middle and lower classes.

SOURCE 6

(From John Ashton Cannon, *Parliamentary Reform 1640–1832*, published 1972)

The ministers introduced reform primarily because they believed that the old
system had lost the confidence of the country and could not go on. Grey was a
reluctant reformer, moved mainly by the desire to restore public order, while the
30 more radical members of his cabinet welcomed the need for change. The solution
was to strengthen the institutions of the country by bringing the prosperous
middle classes into the representative system. Those features of the old system that
had brought it into disrepute over the years should be eliminated.

Sources for use with Question 1 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 7

(From a letter written by Joseph Chamberlain to *The Times* newspaper, April 1880. Chamberlain had been mayor of Birmingham and was a member of the Liberal government in 1880.)

Popular representative organisations on the Birmingham model, sometimes called
35 'The Caucus', exist in sixty-seven of the parliamentary boroughs in which contests
have just taken place. In sixty of these, Liberal seats were gained or retained. This
remarkable success is proof that the new organisation has succeeded in uniting all
sections of the party. It has deepened and extended the interest felt in the contest;
it has fastened a sense of personal responsibility on the elector; and it has secured
40 the active support, for the most part voluntary and unpaid, of thousands and tens
of thousands of voters, who have been willing to work hard for the candidates in
whose selection they have, for the first time, had an influential voice.

SOURCE 8

(From Bob Whitfield, *The Extension of the Franchise 1832–1931*, published 2001)

Although the parties had to adopt new forms of organisation to integrate working-
class political activists into their structures, and adjust their policies to attract
45 working-class support, it is notable that these changes did not alter the fundamental
nature of the Liberal and Conservative parties. Leadership, the control of policy and
the social composition of the House of Commons were all changed very little by the
1867 Reform Act.

SOURCE 9

(From Robert Pearce and Roger Stearn, *Government and Reform: Britain 1815–1918*, published 1994)

The effects of the 1867 Reform Act on party politics are not easy to quantify. There
50 were gains and losses for both parties. The Act led to improvements in organisation
for both parties. The increased electorate, especially in the boroughs, brought
about more efficient party machines to capture the new voters. The National
Union of Conservative Associations was formed in 1867 and the National Liberal
Federation in 1877.

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Choose EITHER B1 (Question 1) OR B2 (Question 2) for which you have been prepared.

B2 – Poverty, Public Health and the Growth of Government in Britain, 1830–75

Sources for use with Question 2 (a)

SOURCE 10

(From Thomas Malthus, *Essay on the Principle of Population*, published 1798. Malthus was an economist whose ideas were influential in the 1830s.)

1 It is a subject often stated in conversation, and mentioned always as a matter of
great surprise, that, notwithstanding the immense sum which is annually collected
for the poor in this country, there is still so much distress among them. Some think
that the money must be embezzled for private use; others, that the churchwardens
5 and overseers consume the greatest part of it in feasting. All agree that somehow
or other it must be very ill-managed. £3 million were collected annually for the
poor, and yet their distresses were not removed.

SOURCE 11

(From a report produced by *The Committee of the Society for the Improvement of Prison Discipline*, published 1827)

In the House of Correction at Brixton more than one half of prisoners were under
twenty-one. The causes of this evil state of affairs may be briefly told. Nothing
10 tends more powerfully than pauperism to weaken the natural affections of family
life and destroy the sense of parental obligation.

SOURCE 12

(From the *Report of the Royal Commission of Enquiry into the Operation of the Poor Laws*, published 1834)

It appears from all our returns, especially from the replies to the rural queries, that in
every district the discontent of the labouring classes is directly linked to the money
given out in poor rates, or in voluntary charities. The violence of most of the mobs
15 seems to have arisen from an idea that their suffering and distress arose from fraud
by those entrusted with the management of the fund provided for the poor.

Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (i)

SOURCE 13

(From R. J. Cootes, *The Making of the Welfare State*, published 1966)

Chadwick's argument, that it was better to prevent poverty caused by ill health than to spend money on poor relief, was certain to appeal to ratepayers. He also took a hand in experimenting with glazed earthenware pipes for making sewers. He
20 found them vastly better than the brick-lined tunnels then in use. Pipes prevented blockages, and they were soon regarded as essential for all sanitary engineering. He stressed the need for greater government powers if really large-scale improvements were to be made.

SOURCE 14

(From Edwin Chadwick, *Report on the Sanitary Conditions of the Labouring Population*, published 1842)

Wherever the attacks of disease are frequent among the labouring classes, they
25 are always found in connection with atmospheric impurities and the physical circumstances in which the labouring classes live. Where those circumstances are removed by drainage, proper cleansing, better ventilation, and other means of decreasing atmospheric impurity, the frequency and intensity of such disease is reduced. Where the removal of these harmful causes appears to be complete, such
30 disease almost entirely disappears.

SOURCE 15

(From J. L. and Barbara Hammond, *The Bleak Age*, published 1934)

It is difficult to understand how the Government, aware as it must have been of the atmosphere of resentment and suspicion in which the 1848 Public Health Act was received, came to choose the most hated man in England as a member of the Board of Health. The Board lasted six years and made many of the mistakes to
35 be expected from Chadwick's lack of judgement and lack of tact. But the Board's career marks an important stage in the history of public health. It gave help and expert advice about water and drainage and agreed to improvements. The Act was adopted in some two hundred places.

Sources for use with Question 2 (b) (ii)

SOURCE 16

(From David Roberts, 'How cruel was the Victorian Poor Law?', an article published in the *Historical Journal*, 1963)

The regulations of the commissioners were not so very harsh. In their rules for
40 medical care, diets, schooling, discipline, health and in their flexible application of
the workhouse test, they showed a kindly concern for the welfare of the pauper.

SOURCE 17

(From Friedrich Engels, *The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844*, published 1845. He was a German political writer who spent a considerable amount of time in England.)

The regulation of these workhouses, or as the people call them, Poor Law Bastilles,
is such as to frighten away everyone who has the slightest prospect of life without
this form of public charity. The workhouse has been made the most repulsive
45 residence. In the workhouse at Greenwich in the summer of 1843, a boy of five
years' old was punished by being shut in the dead room, where he had to sleep
upon the lids of the coffins. In the workhouse at Herne, the same punishment was
inflicted upon a little girl for wetting the bed at night.

SOURCE 18

(From Peter Murray, *Poverty and Welfare*, published 1999)

The principle of less eligibility was a key aspect of the new Poor Law, although the
50 commissioners were keen to make clear that their intention was not to introduce
a system of deliberate cruelty. The institutional arrangements of the workhouse
system inflicted a form of psychological as opposed to physical cruelty. Silent
mealtimes, monotonous work and the absence of even the smallest of extra
comforts were all matters of deliberate policy, not accident. The commissioners
55 fostered the idea of the workhouse as a grim place from which the poor would do
well to stay away.

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