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**ADVANCED**  
General Certificate of Education  
2019

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# Government and Politics

Assessment Unit A2 2  
Political Power and Political Ideas



AGP21

**[AGP21]**  
**MONDAY 10 JUNE, AFTERNOON**

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## TIME

1 hour 30 minutes.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Choose **either Option A: Political Power or Option B: Political Ideas.**

From your chosen option answer **all five** questions, the **three** in Section A and the **two** in Section B.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 75.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Questions **3, 5(a)** and **5(b)**.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

## ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question in allocating the available examination time. Study the Source before attempting to answer Questions **2** and **3** and refer to the Source in your answers.

## Option A: Political Power

Answer **all five** questions, the **three** in Section A and the **two** in Section B

### Section A: Factors Involved in the Exercise of Power

Read the Source below and refer to it in your answers to Questions 2 and 3.

#### Source

There are always people who reject the state and want to see it overthrown and replaced by another system. The difference between societies is the proportion of the population who are alienated and reject the state. The problem for those systems with a “legitimacy crisis” is how those who are excluded politically can be won over. This is particularly the case with systems that have emerged from internal conflict, such as Northern Ireland. In such circumstances, the state may resort to coercion. Alternatively, it could seek to build trust in a variety of ways, such as including all sections of society in running the state.

- 1 What is meant by the term “coercion”? (Source, Line 6) Support your answer with a relevant example. [5]
- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain **two** reasons why a section of society may reject the state. [10]
- 3 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how states can create legitimacy. [20]

## Section B: Theories of Power

4 What is meant by the term “diffusion of political power”? [5]

**Either**

5 (a) “The existence of ruling elites means that popular democracy does not exist, never has and never can.” Evaluate this view. [35]

**Or**

(b) Evaluate the view that male dominance of political power has ended. [35]

## Option B: Political Ideas

Answer **all five** questions, the **three** in Section A and the **two** in Section B

### Section A: Texts

Read the Source below and refer to it in your answers to Questions 2 and 3.

#### Source

Protection is needed against society imposing its ideas and practices as rules of conduct on those who dissent from them. The object of this Essay is to assert one very simple principle, to govern absolutely the dealings of society with the individual. The only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. His own good, either physical or moral, is not a sufficient reason. Over himself, over his own body and mind, the individual is sovereign.

*Adapted from: J.S. Mill. On Liberty. 1860*

- 1 What does Mill mean by “his own good ... is not a sufficient reason”? (Source, lines 5/6) Support your answer with a relevant example. [5]
- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how Mill believed individual liberty could be protected. [10]
- 3 Using material from the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how Mill’s view of individual liberty has been criticised. [20]

## **Section B: Ideologies**

**4** What is meant by the term “equality of opportunity”? [5]

**Either**

**5 (a)** Evaluate Conservative views of the role of the state. [35]

**Or**

**(b)** Evaluate Socialist views of capitalism. [35]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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