



Rewarding Learning
ADVANCED
 General Certificate of Education

Government and Politics

Assessment Unit A2 2
 Political Power and Political Ideas



AGP21

[AGP21] Assessment

TIME

1 hour 30 minutes.

Assessment Level of Control:

Tick the relevant box (✓)

Controlled Conditions	
Other	

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

The success of states with authoritarian or even dictatorial structures remains a mystery from a liberal democratic perspective. How can a state survive when the media is tightly controlled and human rights are often violated? Yet a large percentage of the world's population live under such states and appear to have no great desire to change things: authoritarian leaders such as Putin apparently remain very popular. One reason for this may be that people put more importance on stability than on free speech. If this is the case then it is possible that authoritarian leaders can emerge even in liberal democracies, especially if these states experience increased instability.

- 1 What is meant by the term “the media is tightly controlled”? (Source, lines 2 and 3.) Support your answer with a relevant example. [5]
- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain **two** features of an authoritarian system, other than state control of the media. [10]
- 3 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain the reasons why authoritarian states can survive for a long time. [20]

Section B: Theories of Power

4 What is meant by the term “patriarchy”? Support your answer with a relevant example. [5]

Either

5 (a) “Governments and leaders come and go but the domination of power by the few remains constant.” Evaluate this view. [35]

Or

(b) Evaluate the view that it is still the case that states act in the interests of the ruling class and not on behalf of the proletariat. [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

Working after the pattern of nature we transmit our government and our privileges. By preserving the method of nature in the conduct of the state, in what we improve we are never wholly new, in what we retain we are never wholly obsolete. Society is a contract, a partnership between those who are living, those who are dead and those who are to be born. A disposition to preserve and an ability to improve would be my standard of a statesman. Those statesmen who attempt to level never equalise. In all societies some citizens must be uppermost.

Adapted from © Reflections on the Revolution in France by Edmund Burke. Published by James Dodsley, Pall Mall, 1790

- 1 What did Burke mean by “In all societies some citizens must be uppermost”? (Source, lines 6 and 7.) [5]
- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain Burke’s argument that political leaders should work “after the pattern of nature”. [10]
- 3 Using material from the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how Burke’s support for custom and tradition has been criticised. [20]

Section B: Ideologies

4 What is meant by the term “limited state”? Support your answer with a relevant example. [5]

Either

5 (a) Evaluate the view that modern liberals have very different ideas to their classical predecessors. [35]

Or

(b) Evaluate the view that the differences between revolutionary and reformist socialism mean that they are two very different ideologies. [35]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

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