



General Certificate of Secondary Education
2024

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Government and Politics

Unit 1

Democracy in Action

MV24

[GGP11]

THURSDAY 23 MAY, AFTERNOON

Time

1 hour 30 minutes, plus your additional time allowance.

Instructions to Candidates

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Do not write on blank pages.

Complete in black ink only.

Answer **all** questions in **Sections A, B and C.**

Information for Candidates

The total mark for this paper is **75**.

Figures in brackets printed at the end of each question indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **Sections B** and **C** (all questions).

Section A

Answer **all** questions.

1 What does the term 'MEP' stand for?
[1 mark]

2 Name **one** action an individual citizen can take to hold the powerful in society to account. [1 mark]

3 Name **one** type of electoral system in the UK. [1 mark]

4 Name **one** type of pressure group.
[1 mark]

5 What does the term 'MP' stand for?
[1 mark]

6 Name **one** UK political party. [1 mark]

7 Name **one** person or group who makes
rules for society. [1 mark]

8 Name **one** opposition party in the UK parliament. [1 mark]

9 Give **one** reason why rules are needed in society. [1 mark]

10 What is meant by the term ‘Private Members’ Bill’? [2 marks]

11 What is meant by the term ‘devolved government’? [2 marks]

12 Give **one** way an MLA can represent their constituents. [2 marks]

13 Read the following statements. Tick [✓] the correct box to show if the statements are reasons **for** or **against** the use of referenda. [4 marks]

	For	Against
A referendum campaign raises public awareness of political issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Most voters are not well informed or interested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Only the government can decide if a referendum is held	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The people get to decide the outcome	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14 Match the correct term in the list below to the description in the grid provided opposite.
[5 marks]

Censorship

One-party state

Free and fair elections

Range of political parties

Separation of powers

	<p>The same party has been in power for a long time. Opposition parties are banned or crushed.</p>
	<p>A system of checks and balances to make sure that one branch of the state does not have too much power.</p>
	<p>The media is not allowed to freely report on government actions.</p>
	<p>People can vote for different political parties who hold alternative views.</p>
	<p>Voters are free from coercion and can choose who they want to vote for.</p>

Section B

Answer **all** questions.

Read Source A and answer the question that follows.

Source A:

One report in 2022 stated that the Northern Ireland economy had recovered to pre-pandemic levels. One reason given for this was Northern Ireland's access to the EU single market. However, not all political parties in Northern Ireland supported the trade arrangements (NI Protocol) that had been agreed.

15 Using **Source A** and your own knowledge, describe some of the ways the views of Northern Ireland's main political parties differ. [5 marks]

16 Explain why the protection of rights is important in a democratic society.

[6 marks]

Use the lines below if required.

Blank Page

(Questions continue overleaf)

Read Source B and answer the question that follows.

Source B:

For many people, the media can be their only source of information on political issues and candidates. As the media has expanded, politicians have been keen to use the new opportunities it offers them, such as X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram, to communicate their policies.

17 Using **Source B** and your own knowledge, explain how politicians can use the media for political messaging. [6 marks]

Use the lines below if required.

Read Source C and answer the question that follows.

Source C:

A free media can make a significant contribution to a democratic society. One reason why a free press is important is so that politicians can be questioned by the media on their actions, for example, the media exposed politicians breaking Covid regulations during the pandemic.

18 Using **Source C** and your own knowledge, explain why freedom of the press is important in a democracy. [8 marks]

Use the lines below if required.

Section C

Answer **all** questions.

19 “MPs are successful at scrutinising the government.” Make a case **in support** of this statement. [10 marks]

20 Evaluate the following statement: “Joining a pressure group is the best way citizens can take action in a democracy.”
[16 marks]

In your answer you should include:

- arguments **in support** of the statement;
and
- arguments **against** the statement.

**This is the end of the
question paper**

For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
Section A	
1–14	
Section B	
15	
16	
17	
18	
Section C	
19	
20	
Total Marks	

Examiner Number

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