**Paper 1: UK Politics**

**Unit 1 - Democracy and participation**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the UK remains a genuine pluralist democracy. (30 Marks)
2. Evaluate the extent to which rights are effectively protected in the UK (30 marks)
3. Evaluate the extent to which the UK is suffering from a participation crisis (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the extent to which UK democracy is in urgent need of reform (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the extent to which direct democracy should be used more frequently in the UK (30 marks)
6. Evaluate the view that the UK political system is no longer truly representative (30 marks)
7. Evaluate the view that the voting age should be reduced to 16 (30 marks)
8. Evaluate the view that voting should be made compulsory in the UK (30 marks)
9. Evaluate the extent to which a pressure groups success depends on the tactics they use (30 marks)

**Unit 2 - Political parties**

1. Evaluate the extent to which small parties have an impact on UK politics today. (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the view that the Labour Party has returned to its original ideological position (30 marks)
3. Evaluate the view that political parties hinder representative democracy (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the extent to which the media can influence the support for political parties (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the extent to which the main political parties disagree over policies and ideas (30 marks)
6. Evaluate the statement that ‘all the main political parties in the UK are fundamentally liberal parties’ (30 marks)
7. Evaluate the extent to which political parties should be funded by the state (30 marks)
8. Evaluate the extent to which the United Kingdom has become a multi-party democracy (30 marks)

**Unit 3 - Electoral systems**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the first past the post electoral system promotes strong and stable government. (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the view that FPTP is the most effective electoral system for promoting representative democracy.
3. Evaluate the extent to which proportional representation promotes a democratic multiparty system. (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the view that the use of referendums in the UK should be increased (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the view that the electoral systems in the UK have created a multi-party system (30 marks)

**Unit 4 - Voting Behavior and the media**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the media influence the outcome of elections in the UK (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the extent to which election campaigns influence the outcome of the vote (30 marks)
3. Evaluate the extent to which the result of general elections in the UK is determined by governing competence. (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the extent to which the image of a party leader is the most significant factor in determining the result of a general election. (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the view that voting trends are a problem for UK democracy (30 marks)
6. Evaluate the importance of class in voting behaviour (30 marks)
7. Evaluate the relative importance of different demographic factors in voting behaviour (30 marks)

**Unit 5 - Political Ideas (24 marks)**

**Liberalism**

1. To what extent do classical and modern liberals agree about human nature?
2. To what extent do liberals believe in equality?
3. To what extent do classical and modern liberals disagree about the role of the state?
4. To what extent do classical and modern liberals agree about freedom/liberty?
5. To what extent do liberals agree on the idea of collectivism?

**Conservatism**

1. To what extent do different conservatives agree about human nature?
2. To what extent do different conservatives agree about the nature of society?
3. To what extent do conservatives agree that human nature is imperfect?
4. To what extent do different conservatives agree on pragmatism?
5. To what extent is conservatism a coherent ideology?

**Socialism**

1. To what extent are different socialists committed to common ownership?
2. To what extent do different socialists disagree over the role of the state?
3. To what extent do socialists agree that the existing state must be destroyed in order to achieve socialism?
4. To what extent do different socialists agree about the nature of equality?
5. To what extent are socialists committed to equality of outcome?

**Paper 2: UK Government**

**Unit 1 - The Constitution**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the devolution process has successfully enhanced democracy in the UK. (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the extent to which the UK is now effectively a federal system. (30 marks).
3. Evaluate the view that the UK constitution should be codified (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the extent to which constitutional reforms introduced since 1997 have been successful in achieving their objectives. (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the extent that devolution has caused more problems than it has solved (30 marks)
6. Evaluate the view that our human rights are inadequately protected by the UK’s constitutional arrangements (30 marks)

**Unit 2 - Parliament**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the House of Lords performs a meaningful role in UK democracy. (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the extent to which Parliament is able to effectively call the government to account. (30 marks)
3. Evaluate the view that the House of Lords should be reformed (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the view that backbenchers play an important role in the House of Commons. (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the view that Parliament is able to effectively scrutinise the UK government. (30 marks)
6. Evaluate the extent to which the House of Commons effectively fulfills its representative function. (30 marks)

**Unit 3 - The Prime Minister and the Executive**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the cabinet can shape policy and control the power of the Prime Minister. (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the view that the Prime Minister is the most dominant force in UK politics (30 marks)
3. Evaluate the view that a prime minister’s main priority when selecting a cabinet is to advance their political allies. (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the view that the prime minister is now a president in all but name (30 marks)
5. Evaluate the extent to which the limitations on the role of the Prime Minister will ultimately outweigh their power. (30 marks)
6. Evaluate the view that the cabinet plays a central role in British Government (30 marks)

**Unit 4 - Relations between branches**

1. Evaluate the extent to which the executive can control the UK Parliament (30 marks)
2. Evaluate the extent to which the Supreme Court can protect human rights in the UK. (30 marks)
3. Evaluate the view that the House of Lords is a more effective check on government power than the House of Commons (30 marks)
4. Evaluate the extent to which Westminster Parliament has become more effective in holding the government accountable.
5. Evaluate the extent to which the European Union's influence on the UK has been more positive than negative.
6. Evaluate the view that the EU has achieved its objectives (30 marks)
7. Evaluate the extent to which the Supreme Court is important in limiting the power of the executive/legislature. (30 marks)
8. Evaluate the view that Westminster Parliament is Sovereign (30 marks)

**Unit 5 - Political Ideas (Feminism - 24 marks)**

1. To what extent has the nature of feminism changed over time?
2. To what extent does feminism address the needs of all women?
3. To what extent do feminists agree over the role of the state?
4. To what extent is feminism a single doctrine?
5. To what extent do feminists agree that patriarchy is essentially an economic based issue?

**Paper 3: USA**

**Unit 1 - The Constitution and Federalism**

1. Examine the similarities in the way that ‘checks and balances’ operate in the UK and the USA (12 marks)
2. Examine the similarities between federalism in the USA and devolution in the UK (12 marks)
3. Examine the differences between the sources of the USA and UK constitutions (12 marks)
4. Examine the extent to which the US and UK constitutions are written and unwritten (12 marks)
5. Examine the provision of decentralisation in the US and UK Constitutions (12 marks)
6. Analyse the flexibility of the UK and US Constitutions (12 marks)
7. Analyse the differences of amending the constitutions of the USA and UK (12 marks)
8. Analyse the differences of the separation of powers in the USA and the UK (12 marks)
9. Analyse the differences in the US and UK Constitutions in their provision of checks and balances. (12 marks)
10. Analyse the differences in the US and UK Constitutions in their provision of democratic participation (12 marks)
11. Evaluate the view that the US Constitution is now out of date (30 marks)
12. Evaluate the extent to which the US constitution allows for democracy (30 marks)
13. To what extent is the US amendment process effective today? (30 marks)
14. Evaluate the extent to which checks and balances ensure effective government in the USA (30 marks)
15. Evaluate the view that the states are dominated by the Federal Government (30 marks)
16. Evaluate the extent to which the constitution protects state power (30 marks)
17. To what extent of federalism within the USA? (30 marks)

**Unit 2 - Congress**

1. Examine the extent to which Parliament and Congress are able to check the executive branch. (12 marks)
2. Examine the factors that explain the low legislative output of congress and the high legislative output of parliament. (12 marks)
3. Examine the way in which the US senate and the UK House of Lords differ (12 marks)
4. Analyse the differences in ability of Congress and Parliament to provide adequate representation (12 marks)
5. Analyse the way in which the US Congress and the UK Parliament perform their oversight function (12 marks)
6. Analyse the differences in the powers of the House of Representatives and the House of Commons (12 marks)
7. Evaluate the view that congress is effective at carrying out its roles (30 marks)
8. Evaluate the significance of parties within congress (30 marks)
9. Evaluate the extent to which congressional oversight of the president is consistently effective (30 marks)
10. Evaluate the extent to which congress is a representative institution (30 marks)
11. Evaluate the extent to which Congress is an effective legislative body (30 marks)
12. Evaluate the extent to which the senate is more powerful and prestigious than the House (30 marks)

**Unit 3 - Presidency**

1. Examine the ability of the Prime Minister and President to achieve their policy aims. (12 marks)
2. Examine the ways in which the roles and powers of the US president and the UK prime minister are different (12 marks)
3. Examine the differences in relationship that the US president and the UK prime minister have with their legislature (12 marks)
4. Examine the differences between the cabinets in the USA and UK (12 marks
5. Analyse the extent to which the US President and the UK Prime Minister control their Cabinet. (12 marks)
6. Analyse the factors that affect the extent of power exercised by the Prime Minister and the President (12 marks)
7. Analyse the different ways in which the US president and UK prime minister are held accountable by their respective legislatures (12 marks)
8. Evaluate the extent to which the main factor allowing for presidential control over foreign policy is the power of commander in chief (30 marks)
9. Evaluate the extent to which the president is subject to effective checks. (30 marks)
10. Evaluate the view that since 1992, Presidents have been effective in achieving their aims (30 marks)
11. Evaluate the extent to which the president's cabinet plays a significant role within the executive branch (30 marks)
12. Evaluate the extent that the US has an imperial presidency (30 marks)

**Unit 4 - Supreme Court and Civil Rights**

1. Examine the extent of independence of the UK and US supreme courts. (12 marks)
2. Examine the basis of power for the US and UK supreme courts (12 marks)
3. Examine the differences between the US and UK supreme courts in terms of membership and tenure (12 marks)
4. Examine the role played by judicial review in the US and UK supreme courts (12 marks)
5. Examine the role of pressure groups in the protection of rights in the USA and UK (12 marks)
6. Analyse the effectiveness of the UK and US Supreme courts at protecting civil rights. (12 marks)
7. Analyse the differences in the ways the members of the US and UK supreme courts are appointed (12 marks)
8. Analyse the ways in which the US and UK supreme courts attempt to protect the rights of citizens (12 marks)
9. Analyse the difference in origins of the US and UK supreme courts (12 marks)
10. Analyse the levels of independence of the Supreme court in the US and UK (12 marks)
11. Evaluate whether judicial activism can be justified in a democracy (30 marks)
12. Evaluate the extent to which racial equality has been achieved in the USA today (30 marks)
13. Evaluate the extent to which the US Supreme Court can be considered an ‘imperial judiciary’ (30 marks)
14. Evaluate the extent to which the Supreme Court protects rights within the USA (30 marks)
15. Evaluate the extent to which the Supreme Court has quasi-legislative powers (30 marks)
16. Evaluate the view that the Supreme Court is more political than judicial in nature (30 marks)
17. Evaluate the extent to which decisions of the Supreme Court have weakened affirmative action programs in the USA (30 marks)
18. Evaluate the extent to which the nomination and confirmation process of the Supreme Court has been politicised (30 marks)

**Unit 5 - US democracy and participation.**

1. Examine the extent to which campaign finance regulations have been effective in the UK and the US. (12 marks)
2. Examine the way in which the importance of third parties in the USA and UK differs (12 marks)
3. Examine the factors that enhance the power of pressure groups in elections both in the US and USA (12 marks)
4. Examine the differences in party policies of the Democrcatic Party and the Labour Party (12 marks)
5. Analyse the similarities between party systems in the USA and UK (12 marks)
6. Analyse the need for campaign finance reform in the US and UK (12 marks)
7. Analyse the different opportunities for pressure groups to influence the judiciary in the USA and UK (12 marks)
8. Evaluate the significance of midterm elections (30 marks)
9. Evaluate the extent to which third parties in the USA always lose (30 marks)
10. Evaluate the extent that presidential primaries are important (30 marks)
11. Evaluate the extent to which there is agreement on key ideas and principles between the Democrcatic and Republican parties (30 marks)
12. Evaluate the extent to which the presidential election process is effective (30 marks)
13. Evaluate the extent to which the US political system allows for the success of interest groups (30 marks)
14. Evaluate the view that interest groups are good for democracy within the USA (30 marks)
15. Evaluate the view that the Electoral College should be reformed (30 marks)