

## AS HISTORY

Wars and Welfare: Britain in Transition, 1906–1957

Component 2M Society in Crisis, 1906–1929

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Monday 20 May 2024

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

### Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2M.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

### Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

From an editorial in 'The Guardian' newspaper, 30 April 1909, the day after the 'People's Budget' was proposed in the House of Commons. The Guardian represented liberal, centre-left political opinion.

The 'People's Budget' attempts to reduce the gap between rich and poor. It is, in Lloyd George's words, a 'war budget' – for raising money against poverty and squalor. It is one of the fairest schemes of taxation we have ever had. All social classes will share the burden of additional taxes, but no one class is overburdened. There will, of course, be some outcry from those affected by the new taxation, but as rich people on the whole have more time for crying out, and more means to do so, no doubt they will cry out the loudest. However, to advance the common good, it is right that they should bear their full share of its taxes. 5

**Source B**

From a speech on the 'People's Budget' in the House of Lords by Lord Harris, a Conservative peer and former minister, 30 November 1909.

I object to the Budget on financial grounds. I think it is unsound and unjust in that it targets the propertied classes for special taxation purely to benefit other classes. I think it is dangerous because it goes too far in this respect. In addition, I am convinced that this quarrel has been forced on your Lordships deliberately, coolly and calmly by the government. One of its main aims during the last four years has been to attack landowners in an attempt to nationalise the land. I also oppose this Budget in the solemn conviction that it is my duty to defend the safety of the people and the constitution by preserving the liberties of this House. 5

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the aims of the 1909 'People's Budget'?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2** 'Liberal division, in the years 1914 to 1922, was due to the First World War.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'The British economy had more weaknesses than strengths in the years 1922 to 1929.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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**There are no questions printed on this page**

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