

## AS HISTORY

Challenge and transformation: Britain, c1851–1964

Component 1G Victorian and Edwardian Britain, c1851–1914

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Wednesday 15 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 7041/1G.
- 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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**Extract A**

By 1880, the state had assumed powers to control the worst abuses and ensure minimum standards of health for a majority of its citizens. Inspectorates had been established to oversee working conditions in factories and mines, to control pollution and to watch over the operation of the poor law and education. All this had happened without any overall coordination of state action, and much of this legislation was permissive rather than compulsory, inadequately enforced or limited in scope. Yet, beneath the surface, a slow change was taking place, as the government came to realise the scale and nature of the problems to be tackled and the inadequacies of private and voluntary effort.

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Adapted from E Royle, *Modern Britain*, 1997**Extract B**

Many assumed that once a popular vote had been granted in 1867, collectivist social policies designed to raise living standards and to redistribute wealth would become inevitable. However, this appears not to have been the case. Gladstone's governments concentrated more on political, legal and religious reforms than on social, and Disraeli's efforts made little impact. By 1880, the tendency was towards less social intervention in spite of the increase in the electorate. Working men placed less importance on social reforms than on wage rates and conditions of employment, which were largely regarded as beyond the control of the government. The most welcome benefits were those obtained through membership of cooperative societies, friendly societies and trade unions.

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Adapted from M Pugh, *State and Society*, 2008**0 1**

With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of social reform in the years 1868 to 1880?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

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

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**Either**

**0 2**

'Britain's economic growth, in the years 1851 to 1873, was due to free trade and laissez-faire policies.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3**

'The Liberals dominated the years 1905 to 1914 due to the mistakes and weaknesses of the Conservatives.'

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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