



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCE In Politics

Advanced Subsidiary

Paper 1: UK Politics (8PL0/01)

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Summer 2024

Question Paper P72992A

Publications Code 8PL0_01_2024_MS

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the last candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the first.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than be penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme – not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification/indicative content will not be exhaustive. However, different examples of responses will be provided at standardisation.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, a senior examiner must be consulted before a mark is given.
- Crossed-out work should be marked **unless** the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Marking guidance for levels-based mark schemes

How to award marks

The indicative content provides examples of how students will meet each skill assessed in the question. The levels descriptors and indicative content reflect the relative weighting of each skill within each mark band. Confirmation of the marks assigned to Assessment Objectives is provided at the top of each mark scheme. This has been provided to further reflect the balance between the assessment objectives as described in the relevant level descriptors.

Capping statements

Where applicable and to ensure that candidates are awarded marks for fully meeting the requirements of the question, additional capping statements have been indicated in the mark schemes. Such statements indicate where and how candidates will be limited in their achievement if they fail to fully address the requirements of the question. For instance, where questions require candidates to refer to 'thinkers' or 'engaging with sources'.

Finding the right level

The first stage is to decide which level the answer should be placed in. To do this, use a 'best-fit' approach, deciding which level most closely describes the quality of the answer. Answers can display characteristics from more than one level, and where this happens markers must use the guidance below and their professional judgement to decide which level is most appropriate.

Placing a mark within a level

After a level has been decided on, the next stage is to decide on the mark within the level. The instructions below tell you how to reward responses within a level. However, where a level has specific guidance about how to place an answer within a level, always follow that guidance. Statements relating to the treatment of students who do not fully meet the requirements of the question are also shown in the indicative content section of each levels based mark scheme. These statements should be considered alongside the levels descriptors. 3 Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Politics – Sample Assessment Materials – Issue 2 August 2022 © Pearson Education Limited 2022 Markers should be prepared to use the full range of marks available in a level and not restrict marks to the middle. Markers should start at the middle of the level (or the upper-middle mark if there is an even number of marks) and then move the mark up or down to find the best mark. To do this, they should take into account how far the answer meets the requirements of the level:

- if it meets the requirements fully, markers should be prepared to award full marks within the level. The top mark in the level is used for answers that are as good as can realistically be expected within that level
- if it only barely meets the requirements of the level, markers should consider awarding marks at the bottom of the level. The bottom mark in the level is used for answers that are the weakest that can be expected within that level
- the middle marks of the level are used for answers that have a reasonable match to the descriptor. This might represent a balance between some characteristics of the level that are fully met and others that are only barely met.

When a candidate has produced an answer that displays characteristics from more than one level, examiners must use their professional judgement to decide what level should be awarded.

Paper 1: UK Politics mark scheme

Section A

Guidelines for marking Questions 1a and 1b
Marks are awarded for AO1 only.
Marks are awarded for showing depth of knowledge and understanding.

Level	Mark	AO1 Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates limited knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories, and issues.• Makes superficial links of knowledge and understanding to a particular context.• Uses a narrow range of knowledge and understanding to support arguments/ideas.
Level 2	4–7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories, and issues.• Makes some effective links of knowledge and understanding to a particular context.• Uses a broad range of knowledge and understanding to support arguments/ideas.
Level 3	8–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories, and issues.• Makes fully effective links of knowledge and understanding to a particular context.• Uses a comprehensive range of knowledge and understanding to support arguments/ideas.

Question number	Indicative content
	Describe what is meant by the term right wing.
1(a)	<p>AO1 (10 marks)</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following description of the term right wing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Its ideas are associated with the Conservative Party in the UK whose policies are based on right wing ideas.• Right wing policies overall tend to support elite, wealthy and privileged groups. They have a tendency to be authoritarian being anti-equality and not supportive of minority groups .• It supports free enterprise and the capitalist economic system in preference to state involvement.• It favours strong law and order policies to operate in society in order to favour the individual and to protect property.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are anti-strike, anti-union, dislike protests and dislike immigration and are opposed to 'woke' politics They have a negative and pessimistic view of human nature. <p>Accept any other valid responses.</p>
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Question number	Indicative content
	Describe the various methods which are used by pressure groups.
1(b)	<p>AO1 (10 marks)</p> <p>Candidates may refer to the following methods used by pressure groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some pressure groups hold marches and demonstrations to highlight their cause this is done in order to achieve publicity and support their opinions. • Some pressure groups will hold meetings with those in power, this is done in order to influence at close quarters senior government ministers. • Some pressure groups such as trade unions may go on strike and withdraw their labour this is to persuade their employers to grant their claims. • Some pressure groups advertise in the media to get their message across this is done to attract the wider public to their cause. • Some pressure groups use direct action which may be against the law as a method to promote their cause. <p>Accept any other valid responses.</p>

Section B

Guidelines for marking Question 2
Marks are awarded for AO1 and AO2 only.
Marks are awarded for showing depth of knowledge and understanding (AO1) but this has to be based on the material presented in the source.
Marks are awarded for illustrating clarity of analysis (AO2) but this has to arise from the context presented by the source.
No marks are available for making a judgement or reaching any form of conclusion (AO3).

In AO2 political information means source.		
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis and evaluation (AO1).• Limited analysis of political information with partial logical chains of reasoning, which make simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 2	4–7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1).• Mostly focused analysis of political information with clear, logical chains of reasoning, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).
Level 3	8–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates comprehensive and precise knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1).• Consistent and sustained analysis of political information, with coherent logical chains of reasoning, which make convincing connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).

Question number	Indicative content Using the source, explain the arguments in favour of allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote.
2	<p data-bbox="341 315 855 349">AO1 (5 marks), AO2 (5 marks)</p> <p data-bbox="341 383 1318 488">Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) when considering the arguments in allowing 16-and 17-year-olds to vote:</p> <ul data-bbox="392 562 1422 909" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="392 562 1422 640">• There is a need for equality across the UK in how and when 16- and 17-year-olds can vote. <li data-bbox="392 651 1422 779">• When 16- and 17-year-olds vote their turnout is higher than the age group above 18-24. This age group also actively research political topics which are relevant. <li data-bbox="392 790 1422 824">• 16- and 17-year-olds go on to become habitual voters. <li data-bbox="392 835 1422 909">• Voting for 16- and 17-year-olds ties in with recent political education received at school. <p data-bbox="341 1059 1362 1164">Candidates may refer to the following analytical points (AO2) when considering the arguments in allowing 16-and 17-year-olds to vote:</p> <ul data-bbox="392 1205 1374 1574" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="392 1205 1374 1283">• It is unfair that different regions and areas give different democratic rights to similar age groups. <li data-bbox="392 1294 1374 1373">• The turnout of this age group reverses the trend of political participation in elections amongst young people. <li data-bbox="392 1384 1374 1496">• A healthy democracy is encouraged if at an early age younger people are becoming politically aware as this will address falling turnouts. <li data-bbox="392 1507 1374 1574">• This process builds on the work done over years in the educational system. <p data-bbox="341 1697 842 1729">Accept any other valid responses.</p>

Guidelines for marking Question 3

Marks are awarded for AO2 and AO3 only.

Marks are awarded for illustrating clarity of analysis (AO2) but this has to arise from the context presented by the source.

No AO1 marks are available for repeating knowledge or understanding from the source or for introducing own knowledge and understanding if it is not linked to providing clarity to the AO2 & AO3 points arising from the source.

AO2 and AO3 require candidates to analyse and evaluate the sources and develop their answers, showing comparative analytical and evaluative skills to address the question.

Candidates should focus their comparison on analysing the similarities and differences of the viewpoints given in the sources.

Candidates who do not provide evidence of similarity and difference from the source cannot achieve beyond Level 2.

Candidates who *do not* undertake any comparative analysis of the source cannot achieve beyond Level 1.

There are no AO1 marks available. *Do not* give credit to responses where candidates demonstrate knowledge alone. Any knowledge used must support their analysis and evaluation.

In AO2 and AO3 political information means source.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Limited comparative analysis of political information with partial logical chains of reasoning, referring to similarities and/or differences within political information, which make simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).Makes superficial evaluation of political information, constructing simple arguments and judgements, many which are descriptive and lead to limited unsubstantiated and unjustified conclusions (AO3).
Level 2	4–7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mostly focused comparative analysis of political information with clear, logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and/or differences within political information, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).Constructs mostly relevant evaluation of political information, constructing mostly focused arguments and judgements, many which are substantiated and lead to some specific conclusions, that are sometimes justified (AO3).
Level 3	8–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consistent and sustained comparative analysis of political information, with coherent logical chains of reasoning, drawing on similarities and differences within political information, which make convincing connections between ideas and concepts (AO2).Constructs coherent and sustained evaluation of political information, constructing effectively substantiated arguments

		and judgements, which are consistently substantiated and lead to precise conclusions that are fully justified (AO3).
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Question number	Indicative content Using the sources, assess whether the Labour and Conservative parties are in decline.
3	<p data-bbox="341 309 855 340">A02 (5 marks), A03 (5 marks)</p> <p data-bbox="341 376 1358 479">Candidates may refer to the following comparative analytical points (A02) when assessing the similarities and differences between the sources:</p> <ul data-bbox="389 519 1417 1258" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 519 1417 631">• A similarity is that both sources agree that policy is created by the Labour and Conservative political parties who have the ability to provide policy options. <li data-bbox="389 642 1417 754">• Another second similarity is that both sources accept that Labour and Conservative parties have the necessary organisational skills to contest elections. <li data-bbox="389 766 1417 1034">• Source 2 feels that the Conservative and Labour parties have lost touch and connection with the voting public and cannot produce new policy. Nor are the two parties reflective of the people they aim to represent: as a result, they are in decline. By contrast Source 3 defends the two parties and their policy process and connection with the public stating that they continue to be a success. <li data-bbox="389 1046 1417 1258">• Source 2 implies that the parties are in decline and voters are turning to other parties eroding the dominance of the Labour and Conservative parties: clear signs of decline. By contrast Source 3 feels that there is no large scale failing of both parties and they still monopolise power and governmental office, further evidence of success. <p data-bbox="341 1299 1358 1402">Candidates may refer to the following comparative evaluative points (A03) when assessing the similarities and differences between the sources:</p> <ul data-bbox="389 1442 1417 2038" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 1442 1417 1576">• We can conclude that the creation of policy needs research and staff and that both Labour and Conservative parties have the resources to do this, it cannot be done with considerable organisational ability. <li data-bbox="389 1588 1417 1800">• Contesting elections is a vast undertaking. It requires a huge body of staff at both local and central levels. In some senses elections are a continual process for there are national, regional, and local elections. Also, this is an expensive process and one which only parties like Labour and Conservative can afford to finance. <li data-bbox="389 1812 1417 2038">• We can conclude if we adopt the line taken by Source 2 that the two parties can no longer appreciate the problems faced by society and are in decline. This is a major let down in their core functions OR We can conclude in line with source 3 which comments that both parties remain able and focused and develop new policies which met the public demand and as such they are not in decline as their policies remain appealing and relevant.

- If we agree and support the conclusion of Source 2, the line is that the two parties are in decline, aided by the rise of other parties who produce more appealing policy. **OR** We can support the conclusion reached by Source 3 that all is well with the performance of the two parties as they continue to dominate government and policy.

Accept any other valid responses.

Section C

Guidelines for marking Questions 4a and 4b
AO1 (10 marks) Marks here relate to knowledge and understanding. It should be used to underpin analysis (AO2) and evaluation (AO3)
AO2 (10 marks) Candidates should form analytical views which support and reject the view presented by the question.
AO3 (10 marks) Candidates are expected to evaluate the information and arguments presented. They may rank the importance of the prior analysis. They should be able to make and form judgments and they should reach reasoned conclusion.
Candidates must consider both views in their answers in a balanced way. The judgement a candidate reaches about these views should be reflected in their conclusions. Candidates who have <i>not</i> considered both views in a balanced way cannot achieve marks beyond Level 2. On question 4a candidates who have not given detail of two forms of media cannot achieve beyond level 3 On question 4b candidates who have not given detail of an alternative electoral system currently in use in the UK cannot achieve beyond level 3

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates superficial knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, with limited underpinning of analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Limited analysis of aspects of politics with partial logical chains of reasoning, which make simplistic connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Makes superficial evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing simple arguments and judgements, many of which are descriptive (AO3).
Level 2	7–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, some of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Some emerging analysis of aspects of politics with some focused, logical chains of reasoning, which make some relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs some appropriate evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing occasionally effective arguments and judgements, some are partially unsubstantiated and lead to generic conclusions, without much justification (AO3).
Level 3	13–18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates mostly accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, many of which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Mostly focused analysis of aspects of politics with logical chains of reasoning, which make mostly relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs mostly relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing mostly focused arguments and judgements, many are substantiated and lead to some focused conclusions, that are sometimes justified (AO3).
Level 4	19–24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates accurate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are selected appropriately in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Focused analysis of aspects of politics with logical chains of reasoning, which make relevant connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs relevant evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing focused arguments and judgements, which are substantiated and lead to focused conclusions that are mostly justified (AO3).
Level 5	25–30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates comprehensive and precise knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues, which are carefully selected in order to underpin analysis and evaluation (AO1). • Consistent and sustained analysis of aspects of politics, with coherent, logical chains of reasoning, which make convincing connections between ideas and concepts (AO2). • Constructs coherent and sustained evaluation of aspects of politics, constructing effectively substantiated arguments and

		judgements, which are consistently substantiated and lead to precise conclusions that are fully justified (AO3).
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Question number	Indicative content
4(a)	<p data-bbox="341 230 1398 300">'Different forms of media have more influence on electoral outcomes than class, age and region.'</p> <p data-bbox="341 342 1182 376">AO1 (10 marks), AO2 (10 marks), AO3 (10 marks)</p> <p data-bbox="341 414 1318 483">Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) in response to the view:</p> <p data-bbox="341 521 509 555">Agreement</p> <ul data-bbox="341 593 1430 1261" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="341 593 1430 801">• Virtually all new political information comes from the media. Opinions are developed by individuals who form their views on the media sources they engage with. The media sources are varied – from the press to broadcasting and various forms of social media. Although broadcasting media must by law be neutral – performances on TV does really influence voters. <li data-bbox="341 801 1430 1010">• Political parties are conscious that winning media support is now more important than demographics and categories of voters. As such parties target different age groups with different forms of media – with types of social media being targeted. Social media is now becoming very influential especially with younger voters – it carries considerable weight. <li data-bbox="341 1010 1430 1189">• Performance by politicians in the media is crucial to their success – be this in the press or the broadcasting media – and now on social media. The press still makes a considerable impact on voters – especially if the press gains a 'scoop' story which damages a party and/or its leader. <li data-bbox="341 1189 1430 1261">• Class age and gender used to be effective paths to predict a voter's choice, but this is no longer true. <p data-bbox="341 1339 552 1373">Disagreement</p> <ul data-bbox="389 1373 1430 1688" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 1373 1430 1473">• The impact of the media is over-stated. Voters in the main listen to and read media sources which conforms rather than challenges their personal political views. <li data-bbox="389 1473 1430 1552">• There remains a strong correlation between a person's class and which party they support. <li data-bbox="389 1552 1430 1619">• In the same way a person's age has a strong correlation with how they vote <li data-bbox="389 1619 1430 1688">• Voting patterns have strong regional biases and we see this in the number of safe seats which never change hands. <p data-bbox="341 1798 1323 1868">Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when agreeing with the view:</p> <ul data-bbox="389 1906 1430 2040" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 1906 1430 2040">• The media is more likely to exert influence and persuasion on others than a voters immediate or wider family. The media makes its presence felt in a more continuous basis such as social media (AO2), We can conclude that social media is more influential as it

has more connections points with an individual than their wider family ties (AO3)

- Political parties turn to social media and to advertisement here and in the press in order to get their message across. It has grown in both size and importance. The vast amount of money spent on the media advertisement bears testament to how important political parties view the medium. (AO2) The media – in all its forms is more important than class age and region. The press may have declined in readership, but other forms of social media and advertising opportunities have now more direct impact – making the media all pervasive. (AO3)
- The main political parties employ full time staff to manage the media and advise politicians. A slip up on any media form could spell disaster for a party and their leaders. (AO2), Party leaders have come 'unstuck' in the lens of the broadcast media – such as Gordon Brown in Rochdale with Gillian Duffy and Ed Miliband simply eating a sandwich. Truss and Johnson were also prone to media 'gaffes' which undermined their credibility. Voters follow the media and are influenced by it more than class region or age. (AO3)
- In the decades which followed the war up until the early 1970s there was alignment with class and regions. Voters had clear and distinct tribal loyalty. They did not examine policies or question leadership but voted along defined patterns. (AO2). As the 1970s evolved that predictability and linkage with class and region fell away. There was less affiliation with class and region and people voted influenced by other factors. This can be seen in how the working-class support for Labour fell away and in the south of the UK Labour increased its profile and voting groups. This vacuum has been filled with the media. (AO3)

Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when disagreeing with the view:

- The media rather than a motivator of peoples voting patterns actually serve to reinforce their views. Voters buy newspapers which reflect their views. (AO2), A person's original views are not based on the media but on the social factors of class and region where they live. These remain of paramount importance in shaping voting patterns. (AO3)
- The profile and classification of class or stratification has changed. The simple divide which worked in past years has been replaced. Class is still there but in a different form. (AO2), The structure and definition of class has changed since the 1950s. A new modern and urban working class has emerged in the cities and towns – as such class still remains it is just that its form and profile has changed. (AO3)
- Age is a really reliable indicator of a person's voting patterns. Younger people are less likely to vote – but when they do vote

Labour. In contrast older voters 45+ tend to vote Conservative. (AO2), We can conclude that age has actually grown in reliability over time as a predictor of voting patterns (AO3)

- The election of 2019 was a 'one off' and some regions did not follow established trends. London remained staunchly Labour and the bulk of the south outside the major cities remained Conservative. (AO2), The region in which a voter lives and works carries a great bearing on how they will vote. There may be short term changes but many seats in certain areas have been with the same party for decades – and with no prospect of any change. The fall of the so-called 'Red Wall' seats is only temporary and they will return to the Labour Party at the next election. (AO3)

Accept any other valid responses.

Question number	Indicative content
4(b)	<p data-bbox="341 226 1390 371">'The time has come to replace first-past-the-post (FPTP) with a different electoral system.' How far do you agree with the view that the time has come to replace FPTP in general elections?</p> <p data-bbox="437 445 1278 481">AO1 (10 marks), AO2 (10 marks), AO3 (10 marks)</p> <p data-bbox="389 555 1366 656">Candidates may demonstrate the following knowledge and understanding (AO1) in agreement and disagreement with the view:</p> <p data-bbox="437 696 608 732">Agreement</p> <ul data-bbox="389 768 1422 1189" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 768 1422 835">• FPTP delivers unfair results with votes not having equal value and the outcome of GEs decided in a few marginal constituencies. <li data-bbox="389 840 1422 943">• Governments would more likely be coalitions rather than automatic single party ones reflective of how people vote. This is often the case with STV and AMS. <li data-bbox="389 947 1422 1084">• Other parties would stand a far better chance of gaining representation. We can see this is the case when STV is used. In Northern Ireland this ensures a representation of a wide number of parties – reflective of the vote. <li data-bbox="389 1088 1422 1189">• Voters are more likely to turn out and vote with the impetus that their vote will count under an alternative to FPTP. Safe seats do not exist with STV and AMS to the same extent. <p data-bbox="437 1263 651 1299">Disagreement</p> <ul data-bbox="389 1335 1422 1756" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 1335 1422 1402">• The time has not come to replace FPTP because it is a system which still delivers more benefits than drawbacks. <li data-bbox="389 1406 1422 1509">• Forming a government is very difficult with anything other than FPTP – and coalitions lack accountability – so the case for replacement has not arrived. <li data-bbox="389 1514 1422 1650">• Not always the case that new systems bring in change – under AMS in Wales Labour still dominate. Under FPTP and AMS in Scotland the SNP still dominate – hence alternatives have limited case for implementation or bringing in change. <li data-bbox="389 1655 1422 1756">• Voters rejected electoral reform in 2011 and there is no mood in the public for change. It is not an important issue whose time has arrived. <p data-bbox="341 1830 1326 1906">Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when agreeing with the view:</p> <ul data-bbox="389 1942 1422 2076" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 1942 1422 2076">• Where you live and the safety of the seat may determine whether you will vote or not under FPTP. A vote in a marginal constituency carries more importance and weight than one in a safe seat. (AO2) Many feel put off from voting because of the system and

this has to be judged as a bad thing for democracy. Alternative systems such as STV avoid this (AO3)

- Opinions can and do vary but some feel that a coalition which shares power and is composed of more than one party is a good thing. Evidence that coalitions last can be seen in the 2010-2015 coalition. (AO2) This means that government is more consensual and accommodated a wider spectrum of views and this has to improve democracy. Hence if other systems such as AMS or STV replaced FPTP coalitions are to be welcomed. (AO3)
- The system of FPTP is simply unfair. All parties other than Labour or the Conservatives cannot get representation or seats which reflect the votes cast for them. (AO2) This is simply undemocratic and will lead to declining participation and legitimacy in the political system again AMS and STV reduce this unfairness. (AO3)
- Turnout in recent elections is still low when set against the total electorate and historical data. If FPTP goes turnout improves. (AO2), An increased turnout has many benefits. Firstly, it presents an accurate picture of the country's wishes. Secondly it increases the legitimacy and meaning of the elections – thus aiding the democratic profile of the UK. (AO3)

Candidates may refer to the following analytical (AO2) and evaluative (AO3) points when disagreeing with the view:

- FPTP does not claim to be 100% accurate but the variation in votes is a small price to pay for the ability which it created to form strong and stable governments. (AO2), We can conclude that those who favour PR in any form are misguided – for the drawbacks of PR are worse than those of FPTP (AO3)
- Abandoning FPTP means coalitions. This creates deals and debates after the election. The line of accountability through a set mandate is lost. (AO2), It can be judged that PR and the abandonment of FPTP renders political accountability void. What manifesto is adopted – a mixture of manifestoes was never voted for. (AO3)
- AMS has not delivered a turnout boost or an improvement in democracy. (AO2), We can conclude that changing electoral systems does not always deliver changes which are claimed. (AO3)
- When offered an alternative electoral system for Westminster this was convincingly defeated. (AO2), The public are more concerned with other political issues than they are with electoral reform. (AO3)

Accept any other valid responses.

