



National  
Qualifications  
2017

**X749/76/11**

**Modern Studies**

FRIDAY, 19 MAY

9:00 AM – 11:15 AM

**Total marks — 60**

**SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE  
UNITED KINGDOM — 20 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** Question 1(a) **OR** 1(b) **AND** Question 2

**SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 20 marks**

Part A Social inequality in the United Kingdom  
Part B Crime and the law in the United Kingdom

Attempt **EITHER** Question 3(a) **OR** 3(b) **OR** 3(c) **OR** 3(d)

**SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 20 marks**

Part A World Powers  
Part B World Issues

Attempt **EITHER** Question 4(a) **OR** 4(b) **OR** 4(c) **OR** 4(d) **AND** Question 5

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



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SECTION 1 — DEMOCRACY IN SCOTLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM — 20 marks

Attempt EITHER Question 1 (a) OR Question 1 (b) AND Question 2

Question 1

(a)

*Voting systems aim to provide fair representation.*

Evaluate the effectiveness of **one** voting system you have studied in providing fair representation.

You should refer to Scotland **or** the United Kingdom **or** both in your answer.

12

OR

(b)

*One role of Parliament is to hold the Government to account.*

Evaluate the effectiveness of Parliament in holding the Government to account.

You should refer to Scotland **or** the United Kingdom **or** both in your answer.

12

[Turn over for next question

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Question 2

Study Sources A, B and C then attempt the question which follows.

SOURCE A

Scottish Independence Referendum

The Scottish Independence Referendum was notable for several reasons. First of all it gave the vote to 16 and 17 year olds for the first time. Also because, if successful, it would have led to the breakup of the 300 year old United Kingdom. Finally, it was notable for the high level of political debate and interest within Scotland during the campaign.

Across all 32 council areas in Scotland, 85% of voters participated and when all of the votes had been counted, the result was clear: Scotland had chosen to remain part of the United Kingdom by a margin of 55% to 45%. Over 3.6 million votes were cast. Just over 2 million voters chose to place their “X” in the “NO” box in responding to the question “Should Scotland be an Independent Country?”.

In the days and weeks that followed, political scientists tried to provide reasons why people voted the way they did. Although the average turnout was 85%, this figure varied greatly between areas with different socio-economic profiles. Of the 32 Scottish council areas, 4 voted YES. What is striking is that each of these 4 areas had high levels of poverty and social deprivation.

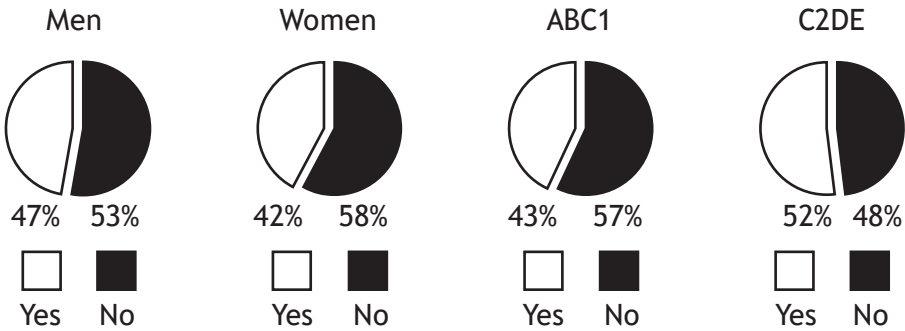
The influence of age as a factor was considered by many, particularly as 16 and 17 year olds were allowed to vote. However, it may have been the decisions of older voters rather than their younger counterparts that were important, particularly as older voters are more likely to turn out in higher numbers. Female voters seemed to be swayed more by the NO campaign’s arguments.

Result and Turnout  
Scottish Independence Referendum (Selected Regions)

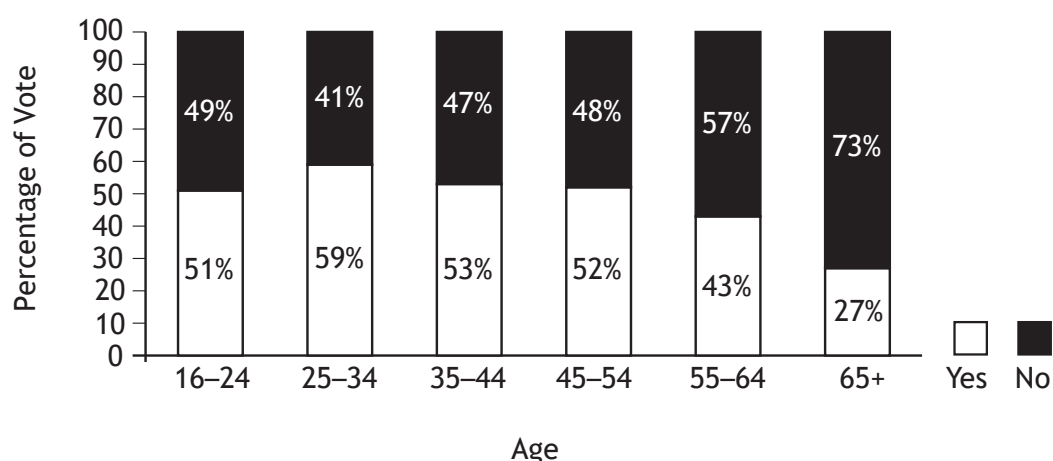
Region	Yes (%)	Turnout (%)
Aberdeen City	41.4	81.7
Aberdeenshire	39.6	87.2
Dundee City	57.4	78.8
East Dunbartonshire	38.8	91
East Renfrewshire	36.8	90.4
Edinburgh	38.9	84.4
Glasgow	53.5	75
North Lanarkshire	51.1	84.4
Perth and Kinross	39.8	86.9
West Dunbartonshire	54	87.9

SOURCE B

How Did You Vote in the Referendum?



## Question 2 Source B (continued)



## SOURCE C

## Social and Economic Indicators (Selected Regions)

	% Employment Rate	% Unemployment Rate	% of Child Poverty in Region
Aberdeen City	77.3	1.4	18
Aberdeenshire	78.6	0.6	14
Dundee City	61.4	4.4	28
East Dunbartonshire	77.1	1.4	13
East Renfrewshire	74.2	1.4	15
Edinburgh	71.7	2.2	21
Glasgow	63.3	4.2	33
North Lanarkshire	70.2	3.8	25
Perth and Kinross	75.3	1.6	17
West Dunbartonshire	65.2	4.3	25

Attempt the following question, using **only** the information in Sources A, B and C on Page 04 and above.

What conclusions can be drawn about the result of the Scottish Independence Referendum?

You must draw conclusions about:

- the influence of poverty and social deprivation on voting behaviour
- the influence of age on voting behaviour

You should provide an overall conclusion on the most important factors influencing the result of the Scottish Independence Referendum.

**SECTION 2 — SOCIAL ISSUES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM — 20 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** question 3 (a) **OR** 3 (b) **OR** 3 (c) **OR** 3 (d)

**Question 3**

**Part A: Social inequality in the United Kingdom**

Answers may refer to Scotland or the United Kingdom or both.

- (a) Poverty is the main cause of poor health.  
Discuss.

**20**

**OR**

- (b) To what extent have government policies been effective in reducing social and economic inequalities?

**20**

**OR**

**Part B: Crime and the law in the United Kingdom**

Answers may refer to Scotland or the United Kingdom or both.

- (c) Poverty is the main cause of crime.  
Discuss.

**20**

**OR**

- (d) To what extent have prisons failed to meet their aims?

**20**

**SECTION 3 — INTERNATIONAL ISSUES — 20 marks**

Attempt **EITHER** Question 4 (a) **OR** 4 (b) **OR** 4 (c) **OR** 4 (d) **AND** Question 5

**Question 4****Part A: World Powers**

With reference to a world power you have studied:

- (a) Analyse the effects of a socio-economic issue on its people. 12

**OR**

- (b) Analyse the different political opportunities that exist for people to influence decision making. 12

**OR**

**Part B: World Issues**

With reference to a world issue you have studied:

- (c) Analyse the difficulties faced by those trying to resolve the issue. 12

**OR**

- (d) Analyse the effects of the world issue on countries and their governments. 12

[Turn over

## Question 5

Study Sources A, B and C then attempt the question which follows.

### SOURCE A

#### Saudi Arabia: First women councillors elected

Women have been elected to local councils in Saudi Arabia for the first time after a ban on women taking part in elections was lifted. At least four women were elected, the state-run Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. Other news agencies put the number between 9 and 17. The vote is being seen as a landmark in the conservative kingdom. However, the local councils have limited powers.

Saudi women still face many curbs in public life, including driving. Officials said about 130,000 women had registered to vote in the poll, compared with 1.35 million men. The disparity was attributed by female voters to bureaucratic obstacles and a lack of transport. Female candidates were also not allowed to address male voters directly during campaigning. Turnout was high, state media reported. There were 2100 council seats available in the vote. An additional 1050 seats are appointed with approval from the King.

Salma bint Hizab al-Oteibi was named as Saudi Arabia's first elected female politician, after winning a seat on a local council. She was running against seven men and two women, the electoral authorities said.

Adapted from BBC News, 13/12/15

### SOURCE B

#### Saudi Arabia: Selected Statistics

	Men	Women
Adult unemployment rate – 2015 (%)	2.7	20.8
University enrolment – 2015 (%)	56	59
Literacy rate – 2015 (%)	97	91
Allowed to drive – 2016	yes	no
Allowed to vote in local council elections – 2015	yes	yes
Earned income – 2015 (US dollars)	40000	17745
Shura Council Members – 2016	120	30
Percentage of the population 2015 (%)	57.5	42.5
Life expectancy – 2015 (years)	73	77
Candidates in 2015 local elections	5938	978
Seats won in 2015 local elections (%)	99.2	0.8

Source: Various Websites



## Question 5 (continued)

## SOURCE C

**Women Today in Saudi Arabia**

A few Saudi women have risen to the top of the medical profession; for example, Dr. Ghada Al-Mutairi heads a medical research center in California and Dr. Salwa Al-Hazaa is head of the ophthalmology department at King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh and was the late King Fahad's personal ophthalmologist.

In August 2013, a law was passed which made domestic violence against women illegal. The law carries penalties of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of 50,000 riyals (\$13,000). However, convictions under this law are very rare. In Saudi courts the testimony of one man equals that of two women in family and inheritance law.

Elections of any kind are rare in Saudi Arabia and the recent election was only the third time in history that Saudis had gone to the polls. There were no elections at all between 1965 and 2005. The decision to allow women to take part in recent elections was taken by the late King Abdullah and is seen as a key part of his legacy. In announcing the reforms, King Abdullah said women in Saudi Arabia "have demonstrated positions that expressed correct opinions and advice".

Although Saudi Arabia imposes a strict dress code on women throughout the country, female newsreaders working for Al-Arabia news network which is partly owned by the son of the late King Fahad, are encouraged to adopt a Western dress code.

Before King Abdullah died in January 2015, he appointed 30 women to the country's Consultative Assembly, the Shura Council. But seats alone don't guarantee rights. Saudi Arabia's Consultative Assembly can propose laws, but ultimately only the king has the power to pass them.

Adapted from Wikipedia, 2016

Answer the following question, using **only** the information in Sources A, B and C on *Page 08* and above.

To what extent is it accurate to state that women now have greater political influence in Saudi Arabia?

In your answer, you may wish to evaluate the reliability of the sources.

8

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