



National  
Qualifications  
RESOURCE

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**X849/76/12**

**Modern Studies  
Paper 2**

## **Marking Instructions**

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Please note that these marking instructions have not been standardised based on candidate responses. You may therefore need to agree within your centre how to consistently mark an item if a candidate response is not covered by the marking instructions.



## General marking principles for Higher Modern Studies Paper 2

*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses*

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Marking must be consistent. Never make a hasty judgement on a response based on length, quality of handwriting or a confused start.
- (d) Use the full range of marks available for each question.
- (e) The detailed marking instructions are not an exhaustive list. Award marks for other relevant points.

### Marking principles for each question type

For each of the question types the following provides an overview of marking principles.

The information handling questions used in this paper are

- to what extent is it accurate to state that. . . **10 marks**
- what conclusions can be drawn. . . **10 marks**
- to what extent are sources. . . reliable **8 marks**

### Objectivity questions (10 marks)

- Award up to **3 marks** for a single developed point depending on the use of the evidence in the sources and the quality of the analysis or evaluation.
- Award marks where candidates synthesise information both within and between sources.
- For **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.
- Candidates must also make an overall judgement as to the extent of the accuracy of the given statement. Award a **maximum of 8 marks** if no overall judgement is made on extent of accuracy of the statement.

### Conclusions questions (10 marks)

- Award up to **3 marks** for a single developed point depending on the use of the evidence in the sources and the quality of the analysis or evaluation.
- Award marks where candidates synthesise information both within and between sources.
- For **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.
- Candidates are required to make an overall conclusion about the issue in the question. Award a **maximum of 8 marks** if candidates do not provide an overall conclusion

### Reliability questions (8 marks)

- Award up to **2 marks** for a single developed point depending on the use of the evidence in the sources and the quality of the analysis and/or evaluation.
- For **full marks** candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.
- Candidates must also make a judgement based on the evidence on the most reliable source. Award a **maximum of 6 marks** if candidates do not provide an overall judgement.
- Award a **maximum of 3 marks** if only one factor is considered, for example, date, bias, sample size, provenance.

Higher Modern Studies marking grid for 10 mark source based (objectivity/conclusions) questions

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks	4 marks	5 marks	6 marks	7 marks	8 marks
<b>Use of sources of evidence.</b>  Award up to <b>8 marks</b> .	Candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence from one source relating to one aspect of the issue.	Candidate links two distinct pieces of evidence relating to one aspect of the issue which may be from within a single source or between sources.	Candidate synthesises two distinct pieces of evidence relating to one aspect of the issue which may be from within a single source or between sources, and gives an evaluative comment.	In addition the candidate addresses a second aspect of the issue with reference to one relevant piece of evidence.	In addition the candidate addresses a second aspect of the issue with reference to linked evidence.	In addition the candidate addresses a second aspect of the issue is addressed with reference to synthesised evidence including an evaluative comment.	In addition the candidate addresses a third aspect of the issue with reference to one relevant piece of evidence.	In addition the candidate addresses a third aspect of the issue with reference to linked evidence.  <b>OR</b>  Synthesised evidence including an evaluative comment.
<b>Objectivity</b>  Candidate presents an analysis of the accuracy/selectivity/objectivity of a given view against the evidence.  Award up to <b>2 marks</b> .	Candidate provides an objective assessment of a given view, based on evidence presented from the sources.	Candidate provides a detailed objective assessment of a given view, based on evidence presented from the sources.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates <b>must</b> refer to all sources in their answer. Award a <b>maximum of 6 marks</b> if all sources are not used.</li> <li><b>Objectivity questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Award up to <b>8 marks</b> for an accurate evaluation of the given view using evidence.</li> <li>Award up to <b>2 marks</b> for an overall judgement as to the extent of accuracy and/or objectivity of the view.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Conclusions questions</b>  For <b>full marks</b> candidates <b>must</b> make evaluative comments or judgement(s) or draw a conclusion about each of the points given in the question. Award a further <b>2 marks</b> for an overall conclusion.</li> </ol>					

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks	4 marks	5 marks	6 marks	7 marks	8 marks
<b>Conclusion</b>  Candidate presents an overall evaluative comment(s) derived from a judgement of the evidence.  Award up to <b>2 marks</b> .	Candidate presents an overall conclusion that is clear and supported by evidence from the sources.	Candidate presents an overall conclusion that is insightful and supported by detailed evidence from the sources.						

# Higher Modern Studies marking grid for 8 mark source based (reliability) questions

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks	4 marks	5 marks	6 marks
<b>Use of sources of evidence.</b>  Award up to <b>6 marks</b> .	Candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of one source.	Candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain in detail the reliability of one source.  <b>OR</b>  Candidate uses two distinct pieces of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of one source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a second source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain in detail the reliability of a second source.  <b>OR</b>  Candidate uses two distinct pieces of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a second source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a third source.	In addition, the candidate uses one relevant piece of evidence accurately to explain in detail the reliability of a third source.  <b>OR</b>  Candidate uses two distinct pieces of evidence accurately to explain the reliability of a third source.
<b>Reliability</b>  Candidate presents an overall evaluative comment(s) on which source is the most reliable, derived from a judgement of the evidence.  Award up to <b>2 marks</b> .	Candidate presents an overall conclusion on the most reliable source, that is clear and supported by evidence from the sources.	Candidate presents an overall conclusion on the most reliable source, that is insightful and supported by detailed evidence from all the sources.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates <b>must</b> refer to all sources in their answer. Award a <b>maximum of 5 marks</b> if all sources are not used. Award a <b>maximum of 3 marks</b> if only one factor is considered, for example, date, bias, sample size, provenance.</li> <li>Award up to <b>6 marks</b> for an accurate evaluation of source reliability. Award a further <b>2 marks</b> for an overall judgement on the most reliable source.</li> </ol>			

## Marking instructions for each question

### Conclusions question

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
1.			<p>Candidates interpret and/or evaluate complex sources in order to reach conclusions.</p> <p>In order to gain marks candidates must show evidence which explains the conclusions reached.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Award up to <b>3 marks</b> where candidates use evidence appropriately, depending on the quality of the explanation and the synthesis of the evidence to reach any one conclusion.</li> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.</li> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates must reach conclusions about each of the points given and make an overall conclusion on the issue.</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>	<p>Candidates can gain marks in a number of ways up to a <b>maximum of 10 marks</b>.</p> <p><b>Possible approaches to answering the question</b></p> <p><b>The impact of welfare and benefit changes on men and women</b></p> <p><b>Response 1</b>            One conclusion that could be made about the gender impact of changes to welfare and benefits is that it has impacted upon women more than men. Source A states that ‘poverty amongst single parents, especially women, has increased’. This can be backed up by evidence from the graphic in Source A which shows that 20% of women in the UK are in poverty compared to 18% of men. Taken together this shows that more women are suffering from poverty than men.  <b>Total – 2 marks (synthesis within Source A with conclusion)</b></p> <p><b>Response 2</b>            One conclusion that could be made about the gender impact of changes to welfare and benefits is that it has impacted upon women more than men. Source A states that ‘poverty amongst single parents, especially women, has increased. This can be backed up by evidence from the graphic in Source A which shows that 20% of women in the UK are in poverty compared to 18% of men. This can be further backed up by evidence in Source B which clearly shows that across all of the ethnic groups of white, black and Asian, women are consistently losing a greater proportion of their income than men. Taken together this shows that more women are suffering more poverty than men.  <b>Total – 3 marks (complex synthesis across Sources A and B with conclusion)</b></p>

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><b>The children most likely to experience poverty</b></p> <p><b>Response 3</b> One conclusion that can be made about child poverty in the UK is that it is not evenly spread across different ethnic groups. Source B shows that child poverty is far more likely among ethnic minority groups such as blacks and Asians, than it is among whites. One in ten white children live in poverty but this figure is twice as high among black children and two and a half times higher among Asian children in the UK. Not only are Asian children more likely to be in poverty than other ethnic groups, they are also almost twice as likely to be in poverty as the rest of the Asian population. <b>Total – 3 marks (complex synthesis within Source B with conclusion)</b></p> <p><b>Response 4</b> Child poverty is not spread evenly across different parts of the UK. This uneven spread of child poverty can be seen in one of the Source C graphs which shows that some areas of the UK have significantly higher levels of child poverty than others. For example child poverty is highest in Manchester at 44%, however in Edinburgh the figure is only 22%. <b>Total – 2 marks (synthesis within Source C with conclusion)</b></p> <p><b>Pensioner poverty</b></p> <p><b>Response 5</b> In the last ten years pensioner poverty has been falling. <b>Total – 0 marks (a conclusion without supporting evidence)</b></p> <p><b>Response 6</b> In the last ten years pensioner poverty has been falling. It has fallen from about 17% in 2011 to 11% now. <b>Total – 1 marks (a conclusion with straightforward supporting evidence from Source C)</b></p>

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><b>Response 7</b> In the last ten years pensioner poverty has been falling. It has fallen from about 17% in 2011 to 11% now. This is a substantial fall of around 33%. <b>Total – 2 marks (a conclusion with supporting evidence from Source C and synthesis)</b></p> <p><b>Response 8</b> In the last ten years pensioner poverty has been falling. It has fallen from about 17% in 2011 to 11% now. This is a substantial fall of around 33%. Source C also shows that pensioners are much less likely to be in poverty than children or working age adults. In fact, pensioners are around a third as likely to live in poverty as children are. <b>Total – 3 marks (a conclusion with supporting evidence and complex synthesis within Source C)</b></p> <p><b>Possible overall conclusion about the extent of poverty in the UK</b></p> <p><b>Response 9</b> Poverty is a very serious problem in the UK. As Source A states ‘A fifth of the population’ are experiencing poverty. <b>Total – 1 marks (conclusion with evidence from source A)</b></p> <p><b>Response 10</b> Poverty is a very serious problem in the UK but only for some groups. As Source A states, policies to tackle pensioner poverty have been working as they are the only group with falling numbers in poverty as shown in Source C. <b>Total – 2 marks (conclusion with supporting evidence synthesis from sources A and C)</b></p> <p><b>Response 11</b> If you are part of a minority ethnic group, poverty is a bigger problem than if you are white. Source B shows that blacks and Asians have generally higher levels of poverty than whites and that these two groups have suffered most from benefit changes with the poorest Asian women losing 19% of their income. <b>Total – 2marks (conclusion with supporting evidence synthesis from source B)</b></p>



Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><i>Any other valid point that meets the criteria described in the general marking principles for this type of question.</i></p> <p><b>Do not award marks for a valid conclusion which is not supported with relevant source evidence.</b></p>

## Objectivity question

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
2.			<p>Candidates interpret and/or evaluate complex sources of information, detecting and explaining the extent of objectivity.</p> <p>In order to gain marks candidates must show evidence which supports the extent of accuracy in a given viewpoint.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Award up to <b>3 marks</b> where candidates use evidence appropriately, depending on the quality of the explanation and the synthesis of the evidence, for any one explanation of the extent of objectivity.</li> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.</li> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates must make an overall judgement as to the extent of the accuracy of the given statement.</li> </ul>	<b>10</b>	<p>Candidates can gain marks in a number of ways up to a <b>maximum of 10 marks</b>.</p> <p><b>Evidence that supports the view – ‘the House of Lords is considered to be democratic’.</b></p> <p><b>Examples of types of evidence that supports the view include</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>‘the 2015 House of Lords (Expulsion and Suspension) Act authorises the House of Lords to expel a member’ and ‘mechanisms should be in place to remove members’ (Source A)</li> <li>members should be ‘appointed indirectly by the House of Commons or by a prime minister who is accountable to the House of Commons (Source A) and the prime minister has the lead role in the appointment of new members</li> <li>‘appointments should be reviewed by an independent regulatory body’ (Source A) and ‘an independent House of Lords Commission reviews nominations’ (Source C)</li> <li>the Lords can ‘act as an effective scrutiny on executive power’ (Source C) and ‘40% of its time is on scrutiny’ (Source A)</li> <li>experts add to debate and level of scrutiny, improving democracy (Source C).</li> </ul> <p><b>Possible approaches to answering the question</b></p> <p><b>Response 1</b> The statement is supported by the evidence because the House of Lords ‘<i>act as an effective scrutiny on executive power which is a requirement of a functioning democracy</i>’ (Source C). <b>Total – 1 mark (accurate use of evidence from one source)</b></p> <p><b>Response 2</b> The House of Lords can be argued to be democratic because it meets the criteria shown in Source A that an upper chamber should be ‘<i>appointed indirectly by the House of Commons or by a prime minister who is accountable to the House of Commons</i>’ because it shows in Source C that the prime minister has the lead role in the appointment of new members. <b>Total – 2 marks (accurate synthesis of evidence from two sources)</b></p>

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><b>Response 3</b>  The statement is correct because the House of Lords appointments are reviewed by the House of Lords Commission (Source C), which shows that it can be argued to be democratic as one of the criteria for a democratic upper chamber is that it appointments should be removed by an independent regulatory body (Source A).  <b>Total – 2 marks (accurate synthesis of evidence from 2 sources)</b></p> <p><b>Evidence that opposes the view – ‘the House of Lords is considered to be democratic’.</b></p> <p><b>Examples of types of evidence that opposes the view include</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60% of the public believe that the House of Lords doesn’t meet democratic standards (Source B) and ‘The success of the House of Lords in meeting these democratic criteria can be measured by the public’s attitude towards them’ (Source A)</li> <li>• ‘mechanisms should be in place to remove members who breach legal or ethical standards’ (Source A) and ‘despite claims of expenses abuse no Lord has yet been expelled by the House’ (Source C)</li> <li>• ‘just over a quarter of members are women and only 6.4% are non-white’ (Source C) which is well below the 13% of UK citizens that are non-white (Source B)</li> <li>• an upper chamber should ‘contain no members as a result of. . . donating money or services to party politicians’ (Source A) and ‘a number of key Conservative aides and donors awarded peerages’. (Source C)</li> </ul> <p><b>Possible approach to answering the question</b></p> <p><b>Response 4</b>  The statement can be opposed by Source B which says that 60% of the public believe that the Lords do not uphold democratic standards, showing that it does not have public support and is therefore considered undemocratic.  <b>Total – 1 mark (evaluation of one piece of evidence from Source B)</b></p>

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><b>Response 5</b>  The evidence shows that the statement is inaccurate because it shows in Source A that to be democratic an upper chamber should contain '<i>no members that sit . . . as a result of donating money or services to party politicians</i>' and it is shown in Source C that in 2016 David Cameron appointed '<i>key Conservative aides and donors</i>'. This shows that appointments have included those who have supported party politicians and even donated money to them, and therefore the chamber does not meet the criteria to be democratic as a result of this cronyism.  <b>Total – 3 marks (synthesis of evidence from across two sources with evaluative comment)</b></p> <p><b>Response 6</b>  The House of Lords can be argued to be undemocratic as it does not represent the public. Source C shows that '<i>just over a quarter of members are women</i>'. This shows that women are underrepresented. In addition, Source C shows that the non-white population are also underrepresented with only 6.4% of members. If they were fairly represented, Source B suggests they should have 13% of members.  <b>Total – 3 marks (synthesis of evidence from across two sources with evaluative comment)</b></p> <p>For <b>full marks</b>, candidates <b>must</b> make an overall judgment as to the extent of the accuracy of the given statement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the statement is accurate and the House of Lords can be considered to be democratic <b>(0 marks)</b></li> <li>the statement is partially true as peers can be expelled for not meeting the standards of the Code of Conduct <b>(1 mark)</b></li> <li>the statement is mostly inaccurate as the most convincing piece of evidence shows that the House of Lords is undemocratic. Even though it meets the criteria of being able to expel members, this was only introduced in 2015 and has not been used despite scandals in the Lords, showing that in practice the House of Lords mostly operates in an undemocratic way. <b>(2 marks – evaluative conclusion supported by evidence)</b></li> </ul>

## Reliability question

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
3.			<p>Candidates interpret and/or three complex sources of information, evaluating and explaining the extent of reliability.</p> <p>In order to gain marks candidates must show evidence which supports the evaluations reached.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Award up to <b>2 marks</b> where candidates use evidence appropriately, depending on the quality of the explanation and the synthesis of the evidence, for any one explanation of the extent of reliability.</li> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.</li> <li>For <b>full marks</b> candidates must make an overall conclusion on the most reliable source of information.</li> </ul>	8	<p>Candidates can gain marks in a number of ways up to a <b>maximum of 8 marks</b>.</p> <p><b>Source A</b></p> <p><b>Response 1</b> Source A is a very reliable source. <b>Total – 0 marks (no evidence or explanation provided).</b></p> <p><b>Response 2</b> Source A is a very reliable source as it was produced by the Scottish Government meaning the information will be factually correct without being false or untruthful. <b>Total – 1 mark (straightforward evidence provided).</b></p> <p><b>Response 3</b> Source A is a very reliable source as it was produced by the Scottish Government meaning the information will be factually correct without being false or untruthful. It is also a very big sample size meaning the results will reflect the views of the population. <b>Total – 2 marks (detailed evidence provided).</b></p> <p><b>Response 4</b> Source A is not reliable as it is not clear when it was carried out. However the big sample of 5,570 means that the information would have been accurate at the time and could prove to be a reliable comparison with more up-to-date figures. <b>Total – 2 marks (detailed evidence provided).</b></p> <p><b>Source B</b></p> <p><b>Response 5</b> Source B is not reliable as it was published in 2014 meaning that the article and figures in it are not the most up-to-date and will have changed. <b>Total – 1 mark (straightforward evidence provided).</b></p>

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><b>Response 6</b> Source B is partially reliable as it is from a newspaper. This newspaper (the Herald) is reputable as it is a broadsheet so will have higher standards of journalism than a tabloid. However, in the article they have not referenced where the 2921 figure comes from which makes it less reliable. <b>Total – 2 marks (detailed evidence provided).</b></p> <p><b>Response 7</b> Source B is not a reliable as it is a newspaper and they are biased. <b>Total – 0 marks</b></p> <p><b>Source C</b></p> <p><b>Response 8</b> Source C is not a reliable source as it was produced by a pressure group that has a pro-smoking agenda. <b>Total – 1 mark (straightforward evidence provided).</b></p> <p><b>Response 9</b> Source C is not a reliable source as it was produced by a pressure group that has a pro-smoking agenda. Forest support smoking and so the article is biased against the prison smoking ban and is very one-sided. For example, some of the comments in the article are very opinionated, such as, ‘At the very least inmates should be allowed to light up outside’. <b>Total – 2 marks (detailed evidence provided).</b></p> <p><b>Examples of an overall conclusion on the most reliable source of information</b></p> <p><b>Response 10</b> Overall, Source A is most reliable as it is an in-depth, professional piece of research that interviewed over 5000 people. <b>Total – 1 mark (overall conclusion supported by evidence from one source).</b></p>

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					<p><b>Response 11</b> Overall, Source A is the most reliable as it has been produced by a trusted organisation, the Scottish Government, compared to Sources B and C who can be openly biased. It also has a large sample size meaning the information in the source is trustworthy compared to Source C where an individual's opinion can and does influence the source. <b>Total – 2 marks (overall conclusion supported by evidence from all sources).</b></p> <p><b>Response 12</b> Source C is the most reliable because of its date. It is just over two years old so views are the most recent. Sources A and B are much older and their statistics are well out-of-date. They may not reflect the current position accurately. <b>Total – 2 marks (overall conclusion supported by evidence from all sources).</b></p> <p>For <b>full marks</b>, candidates <b>must</b> make an overall judgement on the most reliable source.</p>

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]