National
Qualifications
2022

2022 Politics

Paper 2

Higher

Finalised Marking Instructions

©

General marking principles for Higher Politics

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 types of questions used in this paper are:
- To what extent . . . [20-mark information-handling question]
- Compare . . . [8-mark information-handling question]

Source-based compare question that assesses information-handling skills (8 marks)
- Candidates will have two sources at an appropriate SCQF level
- Credit candidates who synthesis information between sources
- For full marks candidates must refer to both sources in their answer.

Source-based interpreting electoral data question that assesses information-handling skills (20 marks)
- Candidates will have up to seven sources at an appropriate SCQF level
- Credit candidates who synthesis information both within and between sources
- For full marks candidates must refer to all sources in their answer.

General marking guidelines for source-based questions (compare) — 8 marks

	1 mark	2 marks	3 marks
Analysis Identification of relevant points of comparison. Award up to **3 marks**.	One accurate point of comparison identified from two sources.	Two accurate points of comparison identified from two sources.	Three accurate points of comparison identified from two sources.
Analysis Comments that identify relationships/implications/make judgements. Award up to **3 marks**.	One relevant analytical comment based on one point of comparison.	Two relevant analytical comments based on two points of comparison.	Three relevant analytical comments based on three points of comparison.
Overall conclusion Award up to **2 marks**.	Straightforward overall conclusion about the comparison based upon analysis of evidence.	Detailed overall conclusion about the comparison based on analysis of evidence.	

General marking guidelines for source-based question (interpretation of electoral data) — 20 marks

		1 mark	2 marks	3 marks
Interpretation of data linked to the first part of the viewpoint	**Component 1**	One aspect of data is interpreted accurately and linked to the first component of this part of the viewpoint.	All relevant aspects of data are interpreted accurately and linked to the first component of this part of the viewpoint.	In addition, all identified aspects of data are synthesised to provide a commentary linked to this component.
	Component 2	One aspect of data is interpreted accurately and linked to the second component of this part of the viewpoint.	All relevant aspects of data are interpreted accurately and linked to the second component of this part of the viewpoint.	In addition, all identified aspects of data are synthesised to provide a commentary linked to this component.
Interpretation of data linked to the second part of the viewpoint	**Component 1**	One aspect of data is interpreted accurately and linked to the first component of this part of the viewpoint.	All relevant aspects of data are interpreted accurately and linked to the first component of this part of the viewpoint.	In addition, all identified aspects of data are synthesised to provide a commentary linked to this component.
	Component 2	One aspect of data is interpreted accurately and linked to the second component of this part of the viewpoint.	All relevant aspects of data are interpreted accurately and linked to the second component of this part of the viewpoint.	In addition, all identified aspects of data are synthesised to provide a commentary linked to this component.
	Component 3	One aspect of data is interpreted accurately and linked to the third component of this part of the viewpoint.	All relevant aspects of data are interpreted accurately and linked to the third component of this part of the viewpoint.	In addition, all identified aspects of data are synthesised to provide a commentary linked to this component.
Evaluation of extent of validity of the viewpoint	**Evaluation of first part of the viewpoint**	An overall evaluative comment is made on the validity of one component of the first part of the viewpoint with supporting justification.	An overall comment is made on the validity of both components of the first part of the viewpoint with supporting justifications.	
	Evaluation of the second part of the viewpoint	An overall evaluative comment is made on the validity of one component of the second part of the viewpoint with supporting justification.	An overall evaluative comment is made on the validity of two components of the second part of the viewpoint with supporting justifications.	An overall evaluative comment is made on the validity of all components of the second part of the viewpoint with supporting justifications.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
1.			Candidates must demonstrate they can make accurate comparisons and draw valid conclusions. For full marks, candidates must refer to all sources and also say to what extent the evidence supports the viewpoint.	8	Award marks where candidates refer to the following aspects of the question. **Source A** • there is no limit to the length of time a Prime Minister can serve • the Prime Minister and Cabinet are members of both the legislative and executive branches of government • the Prime Minister can usually pass their preferred legislation without great difficulty, due to having a majority in the House of Commons. **Source B** • the US President is limited to a maximum of two terms of four years • the President can only be a member of the executive, as outlined in the Constitution • the President can face difficulty when trying to pass their preferred legislation as the House of Representatives and/or the Senate can be controlled by the opposition. Award marks for any other relevant comparisons.

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
			Analysis Comparisons involve: • identifying areas of differences • identifying areas of similarity • making evaluative comments on the extent of these differences/similarities. For full marks, candidates must use both sources and make three points of comparison. Award up to **2 marks** for each accurate point of comparison and analytical comment. Award up to **a maximum of 6 marks** for accurate comparisons with associated analysis. Award up to **2 marks** for an overall conclusion.		**Analysis** Candidates may make individual evaluative comments as they address each point of comparison, or they may produce a summative evaluation of each part of the viewpoint in the conclusion to their answer — award marks for both approaches. The following response would be awarded **1 mark** as it identifies one point of comparison from two sources. **(1 mark)** *Source A states that the UK Prime Minister can serve as long as they are the leader of the majority party. There is no time limit to the length of time they can serve. On the other hand, Source B says that the US Constitution stipulates that the President can only serve a maximum of eight years, comprised of two terms of four years.* The following response would be awarded **2 marks** as it identifies one point of comparison from two sources **(1 mark)** and makes a relevant analytical comment. **(1 mark)** *Source A states that the UK Prime Minister can serve as long as they are the leader of the majority party. There is no time limit to the length of time they can serve. On the other hand, Source B says that the US Constitution stipulates that the President can only serve a maximum of eight years, comprised of two terms of four years.* *This means that the Prime Minister has fewer limits than the President as they are not constrained by the constitution for how long they can serve, they can serve for much longer than eight years and remain in power if they choose to.* The following response would be awarded **1 mark** as it makes a straightforward, overall conclusion. *Overall, the UK executive can be said to have greater influence than the executive branch in the US.*

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					The following response would be awarded **2 marks** as it makes a detailed, overall conclusion.
					Overall, the UK executive can be said to have greater influence than the executive branch in the US. This is because the UK Prime Minister can be a part of both the legislature and the executive, serve for longer than eight years and can usually get their preferred legislation passed. On the other hand, there are a number of limits the US executive faces. For example, the President is constrained by only being able to serve two terms, only being part of the executive branch and having to contend with the House of Representatives and/or the Senate being controlled by a rival party.

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
2.			Candidates must demonstrate that they can interpret and evaluate electoral data. For full marks, candidates must refer to all sources and also say to what extent the data supports the statement made. **Analysis/evaluation** Award up to **3 marks** for answers that correctly interpret electoral data that links to an individual component of the viewpoint. Award **1 mark** for an evaluation of the validity of each individual component. For full marks, candidates must address both parts of the viewpoint.	20	Award marks where candidates refer to the following aspects of the question. **Interpretation of data** **First part of the viewpoint — turnout in the 2017 Scottish local elections** **Component 1** 'Turnout in the 2017 Scottish local elections easily surpassed all other recent votes in Scotland with figures showing very significant increases in all areas.' Award **1 mark** if a candidate only addresses one aspect of the data, award **2 marks** if they address both aspects of data. **Aspect 1 (turnout in other votes) — Source A** Turnout in the 2017 local elections was greater than in 2012 but it was not as good as in all the other recent elections and was nearly 40% lower than the Independence referendum. **Aspect 2 (turnout by council area) — Source B** Turnout overall increased by over 7% nationally and increased by double figures in Aberdeen City. Increases were varied with much smaller increases in West Lothian and Na h-Eileanan an Iar. Turnout did not increase in all areas as it fell in the Shetland Islands.

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Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					Component 2 'Other measure of participation indicated considerable and consistent improvements.' Award **1 mark** if a candidate only addresses one aspect of the data, award **2 marks** if they address both aspects of data. **Aspect 1 (number of candidates) — Source C** The number of candidates overall increased by 76 which could be seen as considerable but is still quite small out of 2572. This increase was not consistent, with the Greens having 132 more candidates and others falling by 78. **Aspect 2 (percentage of female candidates) — Source C** The percentage of female candidates increased by 7.7% which is considerable but there were big variations. The number of female candidates fell by 4.7% in the Conservative Party but the number of female candidates in the SNP rose by 17.5%. **Second part of the viewpoint — performance of the Conservative and Labour parties in the 2017 Scottish local elections.** **Component 1** 'The Conservatives were the clear winners of the 2017 Scottish local elections as they made huge gains and ended as the most popular party right across the country.' Award **1 mark** if a candidate only addresses one aspect of the data, award **2 marks** if they address all four aspects of data. **Aspect 1 (share of first preference votes) — Source D** The Conservatives saw a significant increase in their share of the vote and almost doubled this rising from 13.3% to 25.3%. **Aspect 2 (share of first preference votes by council) — Source D** Although the Conservatives won the largest share of the vote in some areas, such as Dumfries and Galloway, it was not every area as the SNP won areas such as Aberdeen City and in the selected areas the SNP actually won more areas than the Conservatives.

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					Aspect 3 (seats won) — Source E The Conservatives made huge gains in seats, more than doubling their numbers and improving more than any other party but they were still in a long way behind the SNP in the overall number of seats won.
					Aspect 4 (share of the seats won) — Source E The Conservatives were a long way behind the SNP and only just ahead of Labour in terms of the % of seats won.
					Component 2
					'Labour was clearly the biggest loser on the night.'
					Award **1 mark** if a candidate only addresses one aspect of the data, award **2 marks** if they address all three aspects of data.
					Aspect 1 (share of first preference votes) — Source D Labour lost a huge share of the vote, the biggest drop of any party, and fell from almost level pegging with the SNP to third place in votes.
					Aspect 2 (seats won) — Source E The election was a disaster for Labour as they lost over 100 seats, more than any party.
					Aspect 3 (share of the seats won) — Source E Labour lost a significant share of the seats, more than any other party, and fell into third place.
					Component 3 'In the 2019 English local elections there were similar outcomes for the two main parties.'
					Award **1 mark** if a candidate only addresses one aspect of the data, award **2 marks** if they address all three aspects of data.
					Aspect 1 (vote share) — Source F In 2019 both parties were level on share of the vote.
					Aspect 2 (number of seats) — Source F The Conservatives lost a massive number of seats and Labour fell by much less though the Conservatives remained well ahead on numbers of seats.

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					Aspect 3 (number of councils) — Source F Labour lost control of some councils so did poorly, but the Conservatives lost many more than Labour. **Synthesis** **First part of the viewpoint** **Component 1 synthesis — 1 mark** The 2017 Scottish local elections did not easily surpass all other recent votes and although turnout rose it was not a significant increase across all areas. **Component 2 synthesis — 1 mark** There was a small increase in participation as there were more candidates and a considerable increase in female candidates but for both it was not consistent across parties. **Second part of the viewpoint** **Component 1 synthesis — 1 mark** The Conservatives had big increases in votes, share of the vote and seats but they still were second to the SNP and it wasn't right across the country — the SNP were more popular in more areas. **Component 2 Synthesis — 1 mark** Labour lost the largest share of the vote, the largest number of seats and the largest share of seats by a long way and dropped to third place. **Component 3 Synthesis — 1 mark** Labour did lose seats, votes and control of councils, but the Conservatives lost more than Labour by a long way. They also ended up tied for share of the vote. **Evaluation of the validity of the viewpoint** **First part of the viewpoint** **Evaluation of one component — 1 mark** The 2017 Scottish local elections did not see turnout that was better than all other recent votes. It was much better than in the 2012 Scottish local elections, but turnout was much higher in all the other votes, so turnout was the second lowest not the best. There was an overall improvement in local elections turnout, but there were not very significant increases in all areas. There were small increases in some areas and it even fell in one area.

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					Evaluation of both components — 2 marks The 2017 Scottish local elections did not see turnout that was better than all other recent votes. It was much better than in the 2012 Scottish local elections, but turnout was much higher in all the other votes, so turnout was the second lowest not the best. There was an overall improvement in local elections turnout, but it was not consistent across the country and even fell in some areas. There was also a big gap between the top and bottom areas. In addition, there were improvements in participation. There were more candidates but this was only slight so wasn't considerable and there was a significant increase in female candidates, but again it was not consistent with variations across parties. **Second part of the viewpoint.** **Evaluation of one component — 1 mark** The viewpoint states that the Conservatives were the clear winners of the Scottish local elections. They did get the biggest increases in votes and seats but the SNP still done better overall. Also, they were not the most popular party right across the country — the SNP won more areas than the Conservatives. **Evaluation of two components — 2 marks** The viewpoint states that the Conservatives winners of the 2017 Scottish local elections. They did get the biggest increases in votes and seats but the SNP still done better overall. Also, they were not the most popular — the SNP won more areas than the Conservatives. Labour on the other hand were the nights biggest losers. They lost the biggest share of the vote and also the biggest number of seats resulting in them falling from second place to third place.

Question			General marking instructions	Max mark	Specific marking instructions for this question
					Evaluation of all components — 3 marks The viewpoint states that the Conservatives were the clear winners of the 2017 Scottish local elections, they did get the biggest increases in votes and seats but the SNP still done better overall. Also, they were not the most popular — the SNP won more areas than the Conservatives. Labour on the other hand were the nights biggest losers. They lost the biggest share of the vote and also the biggest number of seats resulting in them falling from second place to third place. In the 2019 English local elections it was not similar outcomes for both parties. The Conservatives won more councils than Labour and also won significantly more seats than Labour did. However, both parties did have the same share of the vote.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]