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# Government and Politics Advanced Subsidiary (8067/9067-70)

Unit Test 3: The Changing UK System

Thursday 11 January 2007 – Afternoon

Time: 1 hour

Materials required for examination	Items included with question papers
Nil	Nil

## **Instructions to Candidates**

In the boxes above, write your centre number, candidate number, your surname, initial(s) and signature. Answer EITHER Question 1 OR Question 2.

Indicate which question you are answering by marking the box (🗵).

If you change your mind, put a line through the box  $(\boxtimes)$  and then indicate your new question with a cross  $(\boxtimes)$ .

# **Information for Candidates**

The marks for individual questions and the parts of questions are shown in round brackets: e.g. (2). There are 50 marks for each question. The total mark for this paper is 50. Any blank pages are indicated.

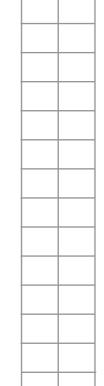
# **Advice to Candidates**

You will be assessed on your ability to organise and present information, ideas, descriptions and arguments clearly and logically, taking into account your use of grammar, punctuation and spelling.

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# Answer EITHER question 1 OR question 2.

Question 2 is on page 12.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

If you choose question 1 put a cross in this box  $\square$ .

# **Question 1**

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

### The House of Lords and Reform

#### Source 1

The House of Lords has a number of functions within Parliament. These include: considering and amending legislation, questioning the government through debates and questions to ministers, debating matters of public interest and carrying out specialist investigations through select committees of the House. These are all important jobs for a second chamber and the increasing volume and complexity of government legislation means that both the workload of the House of Lords is increasing and its contribution to the legislative process is greater.

(Source adapted from: Modernising Parliament White Paper, presented to Parliament by the Prime Minister by command of her Majesty, December 1998, published by The Stationery Office)

## Source 2

Whoever said 'No stage 1 without stage 2' was right. The fear was expressed right at the beginning that if Lords reform was split into two discrete stages, the momentum would stall after stage 1. A working if imperfect model would be destroyed, and the interim House – wholly appointed – would, by default, become stage 2. That risk is even higher when, as in this case, the nature of stage 2 was not set out when stage 1 was embarked upon. So the lesson to be learned, when we next embark on constitutional reform, is that we should have a clear idea of where we are going.

(Source adapted from: Rt. Hon. Sir George Young, Reform of the House of Lords, Hansard Society, 18 February 2005)





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(Total 50 marks)
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If you choose question 2 put a cross in this box  $\square$ .

## **Question 2**

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

# **Devolution in the United Kingdom**

## Source 1

In our first two terms we enshrined a new constitutional settlement between the nations of the UK. Now we will deliver more power to local authorities and local communities, giving people real power over the issues that matter to them. Our third term will build upon our unprecedented programme of constitutional reform, embedding a culture of devolved government at the centre and self-government in our communities.

In Wales we will develop democratic devolution by creating a stronger Assembly with enhanced legislative powers and an electoral system to make the exercise of Assembly responsibilities clearer and more accountable to the public. We will review the powers of the London Mayor and the Greater London Authority. And we will devolve further responsibility to existing regional bodies in relation to planning, housing, economic development and transport.

(Source adapted from: Labour Party Manifesto 2005)

#### Source 2

Conservatives believe that the Union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland brings benefits to all parts of our United Kingdom. We remain strongly committed to making a success of devolution in Scotland so that it delivers for the Scottish people. In Wales we will work with the Assembly and give the Welsh people a referendum on whether to keep the Assembly in its current form, increase its power, or abolish it.

But devolution has brought problems of accountability at Westminster. Now that exclusively Scottish matters are decided by the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh, exclusively English matters should be decided in Westminster without the votes of MPs sitting for Scottish constituencies, who are not accountable to English voters. We will act to ensure that English laws are decided by English voters.

(Source adapted from: Conservative Party Manifesto 2005)



blank (a) Using Source 1, how does the Labour Party propose to continue the process of devolution? **(5)** 



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Leave blank (b) Using both sources and your own knowledge, how do the Labour and Conservative parties differ over the future development of devolution?

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