

Politics – Year 12 exam guidance

Your mock exam is 2 hours long and is worth 77 marks. It is split into 3 sections, students will answer 5 questions:

- A. 3 x 9 mark questions – spend approximately 13 minutes on each.
- B. An extract question worth 25 marks – spend approximately 46 minutes on this.
- C. A choice between 2 essay questions worth 25 marks – spend approximately 35 minutes on this.

9 mark questions

These should be written in three paragraphs with each displaying a ‘point,’ ‘exemplification’ and some ‘analysis’ (2 key points if possible, but due to time constraints do not go beyond that).

Extract questions

1 or 2 extracts can be used. They will refer to a debate within the political sphere. Students should ‘identify the key debate’ in their introduction. They should quote from the extract (s) and use it / them to stimulate their response. Students should use ‘point,’ ‘example / exemplification,’ analysis as in the 9 mark questions but should also seek to add ‘counter arguments’ and ‘evaluation’ (strengths / weaknesses/level of support etc.) to this. Students should also discuss the ‘provenance’ of the extract – ‘when, why, bias? etc.

Essay questions

As in extract questions students should ‘identify the debate’ in their introduction. They should then use ‘point, example, analysis, counter argument and evaluation’ in distinct paragraphs. Planning an example is always important. Students must show **balance** in their answer before drawing to a conclusion. Avoid ‘one sided answers or ‘rants.’

Key revision areas:

Sources of the Constitution

How does the Constitution uphold Rights?

The work of Select Committees

Pressure Groups

Voting Behaviour

Party Funding and Organisation

The relationship between Prime Ministers and their Cabinets