



GCE

History A

**Y111/01: British period study and enquiry: Liberals,
Conservatives and the rise of Labour 1846-1918**

A Level

Mark Scheme for June 2025

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This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which marks were awarded by examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

All examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the report on the examination.

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MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

PREPARATION FOR MARKING RM ASSESSOR

1. Make sure that you have accessed and completed the relevant training packages for on-screen marking: *RM Assessor Online Training: OCR Essential Guide to Marking*.
2. Make sure that you have read and understood the mark scheme and the question paper for this unit. These are available in RM Assessor
3. Log-in to RM Assessor and mark the **required number** of practice responses (“scripts”) and the **required number** of standardisation responses.

MARKING

1. Mark strictly to the mark scheme.
2. Marks awarded must relate directly to the marking criteria.
3. The schedule of dates is very important. It is essential that you meet the RM Assessor 50% and 100% (traditional 40% Batch 1 and 100% Batch 2) deadlines. If you experience problems, you must contact your Team Leader (Supervisor) without delay.
4. If you are in any doubt about applying the mark scheme, consult your Team Leader by telephone, email or via the RM Assessor messaging system.
5. **Crossed-Out Responses**
Where a candidate has crossed out a response and provided a clear alternative then the crossed-out response is not marked. Where no alternative response has been provided, examiners may give candidates the benefit of the doubt and mark the crossed-out response where legible.

Rubric Error Responses – Optional Questions

Where candidates have a choice of question across a whole paper or a whole section and have provided more answers than required, then all responses are marked and the highest mark allowable within the rubric is given. Enter a mark for each question answered into RM Assessor, which will select the highest mark from those awarded. *(The underlying assumption is that the candidate has penalised themselves by attempting more questions than necessary in the time allowed.)*

Multiple-Choice Question Responses

When a multiple-choice question has only a single, correct response and a candidate provides two responses (even if one of these responses is correct), then no mark should be awarded (as it is not possible to determine which was the first response selected by the candidate).

When a question requires candidates to select more than one option/multiple options, then local marking arrangements need to ensure consistency of approach.

Contradictory Responses

When a candidate provides contradictory responses, then no mark should be awarded, even if one of the answers is correct.

Short Answer Questions (requiring only a list by way of a response, usually worth only one mark per response)

Where candidates are required to provide a set number of short answer responses then only the set number of responses should be marked. The response space should be marked from left to right on each line and then line by line until the required number of responses have been considered. The remaining responses should not then be marked. Examiners will have to apply judgement as to whether a 'second response' on a line is a development of the 'first response', rather than a separate, discrete response. *(The underlying assumption is that the candidate is attempting to hedge their bets and therefore getting undue benefit rather than engaging with the question and giving the most relevant/correct responses.)*

Short Answer Questions (requiring a more developed response, worth two or more marks)

If the candidates are required to provide a description of, say, three items or factors and four items or factors are provided, then mark on a similar basis – that is downwards (as it is unlikely in this situation that a candidate will provide more than one response in each section of the response space).

Longer Answer Questions (requiring a developed response)

Where candidates have provided two (or more) responses to a medium or high tariff question which only required a single (developed) response and not crossed out the first response, then only the first response should be marked. Examiners will need to apply professional judgement as to whether the second (or a subsequent) response is a 'new start' or simply a poorly expressed continuation of the first response.

6. Always check the pages (and additional objects if present) at the end of the response in case any answers have been continued there. If the candidate has continued an answer there, then add the annotation 'SEEN' to confirm that the work has been seen and mark any responses using the annotations in section 11.

7. There is a NR (**No Response**) option. Award NR (No Response):

- if there is nothing written at all in the answer space
- OR if there is a comment which does not in any way relate to the question (e.g., 'can't do', 'don't know')
- OR if there is a mark (e.g., a dash, a question mark) which is not an attempt at the question.

Note: Award 0 marks – for an attempt that earns no credit (including copying out the question).

8. The RM Assessor **comments box** is used by your Team Leader to explain the marking of the practice responses. Please refer to these comments when checking your practice responses. **Do not use the comments box for any other reason.**

9. Assistant Examiners will send a brief report on the performance of candidates to their Team Leader (Supervisor) via email by the end of the marking period. The report should contain notes on particular strengths displayed as well as common errors or weaknesses. Constructive criticism of the question paper/mark scheme is also appreciated.

10. For answers marked by levels of response: Not applicable in F501

To determine the level – start at the highest level and work down until you reach the level that matches the answer

To determine the mark within the level, consider the following

Descriptor	Award mark
On the borderline of this level and the one below	At bottom of level
Just enough achievement on balance for this level	Above bottom and either below middle or at middle of level (depending on number of marks available)
Meets the criteria but with some slight inconsistency	Above middle and either below top of level or at middle of level (depending on number of marks available)
Consistently meets the criteria for this level	At top of level

11. Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Blank Page
	Highlight
Off-page comment	
	Assertion
	Analysis
	Evaluation
	Explanation
	Factor
	Illustrates/Describes
	Irrelevant, a significant amount of material that does not answer the question
	Judgement
	Knowledge and understanding
	Provenance
	Simple comment
	Unclear
	View

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
1			'Working people were prepared to sacrifice their rights and liberties to support the national war effort.' Use the four sources in their historical context to assess how far they support this view. In discussing how far Source A does not support the view, answers might argue that the men in the factory were uncooperative. In discussing the provenance of Source A, answers might argue that the author was trying to justify her decision to stop working in the factory, although they may argue that the experience of the author may not have been typical of other women. In discussing the historical context of Source A, answers might discuss the background of industrial unrest in some sectors of the economy in 1915 as well as the issue of women's wages. In discussing how far Source B does not support the view, answers might argue that the author urges workers to reject 'the industrial truce' since they are being enslaved and their liberties were threatened. In discussing the provenance of Source B, answers might argue that the language of the author – 'chains' and 'Comrades' – were indicative of a left wing activist, who (some may be aware) led the General Strike in 1926. In discussing the historical context of Source B, answers might explain the terms of the 'truce' referred to or might explain the	30	The indicative content lists features of the period studied that relate to the question set. <u>Neither significance nor relative importance are attributed to the features listed.</u> The indicative content is intended to reflect the knowledge and understanding a candidate is likely to analyse and evaluate in order to arrive at a judgement in line with the question set. - No set answer is expected. - At Level 5 there will be judgement about the issue in the question. - To be valid judgements they must be supported by accurate and relevant material. - At Level 4 and below, answers may be simply a list of which sources support or challenge the view in the question. - Knowledge must not be credited in isolation. It should only be credited where it is used to analyse and evaluate the sources, in line with the descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
			'nationalistic cry of patriotism' by referring to government propaganda. • In discussing how far Source C does support the view, answers might argue the author was prepared to commit to hard work on the farm, because she felt obliged to do her bit as men were doing the fighting. • In discussing the provenance of Source C, answers might argue the account is balanced in that the author admits she had fun despite the hardships and might explain her motivation because her brother was in the trenches. • In discussing the historical context of Source C, answers might explain what the Land Army was and the extent of support for it. • In discussing how far Source D does support the view, answers might argue that employers and employees were patriotic, wanted to help the State and that the majority of workers were understanding of national difficulties. • In discussing how far Source D does not support the view, answers might argue that 'feelings of a revolutionary character' were evident (if only amongst a minority) and that 'industrial unrest' indicates that there was a degree of reluctance in the work force. • In discussing the provenance of Source D, answers might argue that this was an official report based on the investigation/evidence and that the assessment is balanced. • In discussing the historical context of Source D, answers might discuss the scale of		

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
			the industrial unrest in 1917 and some of the causes of unrest mentioned.		

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
2*			Assess the reasons for the defeat of the Liberals in the election of 1874. In arguing that the domestic policies of the Liberals were the main reason, • Answers might argue that landowners were upset by the Irish Land Act. • Answers might discuss how licensing laws angered the brewers, publicans and drinkers. • Answers might argue the Church was alienated by the Disestablishment of the Church in Ireland. • Answers might discuss how privileged groups were angered by measures about the civil service, the military and universities etc. • Answers might discuss the opposition of trade unions. • Answers might discuss local government, social and legal reforms. In arguing that other reasons were important, • Answers might explain how the foreign policy of the Liberals was unpopular. • Answers might explain how the Conservative Party had reorganised and presented the party as an attractive alternative. • Answers might argue that the Liberals were split on various measures.	20	The indicative content lists features of the period studied that relate to the question set. <u>Neither significance nor relative importance are attributed to the features listed.</u> The indicative content is intended to reflect the knowledge and understanding a candidate is likely to analyse and evaluate in order to arrive at a judgement in line with the question set. • No set answer is expected. • At higher levels, candidates will focus on weighing up the reasons; but at Level 4, may simply list reasons/factors for the defeat. • At Level 5 and above there will be judgement as to relative merits of different reasons. • At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge the defeat. • To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation. It should only be credited where it is used as the basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with the descriptions in the levels mark scheme.

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
			• Answers might argue that the National Education League, disappointed by the 1870 Education Act, ran their own candidates and so drew Liberal voters to them. • Answers might discuss the effect of scandals such as that concerning the Post Office in 1873. • Answers might argue that the rise in the Home Rule movement in Ireland cost the Liberals votes.		

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
3*			How successful was British imperial and foreign policy in protecting the nation's interests during the period from 1880 to 1902? In arguing that British imperial and foreign policy was successful: • Answers might argue that naval agreements were made with Austria/Hungary and Italy, which helped in the containment of Russia in the Mediterranean.. • Answers might discuss the Fashoda incident and British control in South Africa. • Answers might argue that British interests in India were preserved by the consolidation of their authority. • Answers might discuss the contribution of Britain in resolving the Boxer Rising, when considering the far east. • Answers might argue that the Navy was maintained as the most powerful and key bases were defended, so Britain was effectively protecting its trade routes.	20	The indicative content lists features of the period studied that relate to the question set. <u>Neither significance nor relative importance are attributed to the features listed.</u> The indicative content is intended to reflect the knowledge and understanding a candidate is likely to analyse and evaluate in order to arrive at a judgement in line with the question set. • No set answer is expected. • At higher levels, candidates will focus on weighing up British policies. but at Level 4, may simply list policies. • At Level 5 and above there will be judgement as to the degree of success of policies. • At higher levels candidates might establish criteria against which to judge success. • To be valid judgements, claims must be supported by relevant and accurate material. If not, they are assertions. • Knowledge must not be credited in isolation. It should only be credited where it is used as the

Question			Answer	Mark	Guidance
			In arguing that British imperial and foreign policy was not successful: • Answers might argue that Britain did not offer Balkan states or Turkey sufficient protection, so measures to contain Russian were inadequate. Answers might discuss how events in the Sudan and the 'scramble for Africa' compromised British interests in Africa.. • Answers might debate British policy in Afghanistan, when considering British policy towards India. • Answers might argue that the incursions of the Russians and Japanese into northern China was a failure for Britain's far East policies. • Answers might discuss the challenge from the USA and Germany in respect of Britain's overseas trade and trading routes.		basis for analysis and evaluation, in line with the descriptions in the levels mark scheme. NB: Candidates might opt to tackle the question in other ways: • They may choose to discuss the policies by regions (e.g., India, Africa, the Far East) or by topic (e.g., containment of Russia, trade and trade routes). • A chronological approach might be adopted discussing the policies of successive governments.

APPENDIX 1 – this contains a generic mark scheme grid

	<i>AO2: Analyse and evaluate appropriate source materials, primary and/or contemporary to the period, within its historical context.</i>
	Generic mark scheme for Section A, Question 1: How far do the four sources support the view? [30]
Level 6 26–30 marks	The answer has a very good focus on the question throughout. The sources are fully evaluated, using both provenance and detailed and accurate knowledge of their historical context in a balanced way, in order to engage with the sources and reach a convincing, fully supported analysis of them in relation to the issue in the question.
Level 5 21–25 marks	The answer has a good focus on the question. The sources are evaluated, using both provenance and relevant knowledge of their historical context, in order to engage with the sources and reach a supported analysis of them in relation to the issue in the question. There may be some imbalance in the analysis between use of provenance and use of knowledge.
Level 4 16–20 marks	The answer is mostly focused on the question. The sources are evaluated, using both provenance and generally relevant knowledge of their historical context, in order to engage with the sources and produce an analysis of them in relation to the question. The use of provenance may not be developed.
Level 3 11–15 marks	The answer is partially focused on the question. There is partial evaluation of the sources, with use of some knowledge of their historical context, in order to engage with the sources and produce a partial analysis of them in relation to the question.
Level 2 6–10 marks	The answer has only limited focus on the question. Evaluation of the sources is very general. There is limited use of generalized knowledge of historical context to engage with the sources and produce a basic analysis of them in relation to the question.
Level 1 1–5 marks	This answer is on the wider topic area, but not on the detail of the question. The sources are evaluated in a very basic way, primarily being used as a source of information with understanding of them being only partial. A very generalised knowledge of historical context is used in a very limited way to engage with the sources and to attempt a very simple analysis of them in relation to the question.
0 marks	No evidence of understanding or reference to the sources.

	<i>AO1: Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.</i>
	Generic mark scheme for Section B, Questions 2 and 3: Essay [20]
Level 6 17–20 marks	There is a consistent focus on the question throughout the answer. Accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding is demonstrated throughout the answer and is consistently evaluated and analysed in order to reach substantiated, developed and sustained judgements. There is a well-developed and sustained line of reasoning which is coherent and logically structured. The information presented is entirely relevant and substantiated.
Level 5 13–16 marks	There is a mostly consistent focus on the question. Generally accurate and detailed knowledge and understanding is demonstrated through most of the answer and is evaluated and analysed in order to reach substantiated judgements, but these are not consistently well-developed. There is a well-developed line of reasoning which is clear and logically structured. The information presented is relevant and in the most part substantiated.
Level 4 10–12 marks	The question is generally addressed. Generally accurate and sometimes detailed knowledge and understanding is demonstrated through most of the answer with evaluation and some analysis, and this is used appropriately to support the judgements that are made. There is a line of reasoning presented with some structure. The information presented is in the most-part relevant and supported by some evidence.
Level 3 7–9 marks	The question is partially addressed. There is demonstration of some relevant knowledge and understanding, which is evaluated and analysed in parts of the answer, but in places knowledge is imparted rather than being used. The analysis is appropriately linked to the judgements made, though the way in which it supports the judgements may not always be made explicit.
Level 2 4–6 marks	The focus is more on the topic than the specific demands of the question. Knowledge and understanding is limited and not well used, with only limited evaluation and analysis, which is only sometimes linked appropriately to the judgements made. The information has some relevance, but is communicated in an unstructured way. The information is supported by limited evidence and the relationship to the evidence may not be clear.
Level 1 1–3 marks	The answer relates to the topic but not the specific question. The answer contains only very limited relevant knowledge which is evaluated and analysed in a very limited way. Judgements are unsupported and are not linked to analysis. Relevant knowledge is limited, generalised and poorly used; attempts at argument are no more than assertion. Information presented is basic and may be ambiguous or unstructured. The information is supported by limited evidence.
0 marks	No evidence of understanding and no demonstration of any relevant knowledge.

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