



GCE AS/A LEVEL

2100U40-1



S25-2100U40-1

MONDAY, 19 MAY 2025 – AFTERNOON

HISTORY – AS unit 2

DEPTH STUDY 4

Politics and society in Wales and England c.1900–1939

**Part 1: Politics, society and the War: Wales and England
c.1900–1918**

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **both** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer,

for example

0	1
---	---

.

Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

You are advised to spend approximately 50 minutes on each question.

The sources used in this examination paper may have been amended, adapted or abridged from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

The sources may include words that are no longer in common use and are now regarded as derogatory terminology. Their inclusion reflects the time and place of the original version of these sources.

Answer **both** questions.

0	1
---	---

Using your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the extent of social change between 1902 and 1911.

[30]

Source A David Lloyd George, the Liberal MP for Caernarfon, in a speech to the House of Commons during a debate on education in Wales and England (1902)

I say that, by common consent, there is a Nonconformist grievance. ... Special advantages and privileges are given to the Anglican denominational schools which are not given to the Nonconformists and to the board schools. The [Anglican] Church has over 12 000 schools in the country, which are mission rooms to educate the children of the poor in the principles of the Church. In 8 000 parishes there are no other schools, and the whole machinery of the law is utilised to force the Nonconformist children into them. You tell them: "You will have no religious instruction at all unless you are prepared to take the instruction of the Church of England". The total expense for the staff of these schools ... is wholly paid by the state and they are engaged in teaching Church of England principles.

Source B An editorial comment in *The Times*, a Conservative-leaning newspaper (1905)

We have already made a serious inroad upon personal responsibility and personal independence by relieving parents of the duty of educating their children. That is now used as an argument for relieving them of their duty of feeding their children. When we have done that, the argument will be stronger than ever for relieving them of the duty of clothing their children. From that it is an easy step to paying for their proper housing; for what, it will be asked, is the use of feeding, clothing and teaching children, if they come to school from insanitary bedrooms? The proposed measure would already go too far in removing the remaining independence of existing parents, so what are we to expect from the present children when they in turn become parents? The habit of looking to the State for their maintenance would be ingrained in them; everything we now give would be to them a matter of course; and they would without question make new demands of their own.

Source C

Leonard Raven-Hill, a political satirist, depicts David Lloyd George in the cartoon 'The Pitiless Philanthropist', in the satirical magazine *Punch* (1911). The caption states 'Mr Lloyd George: "Now understand, I've brought you out to do you good, and good I will do you, whether you like it or not."' The name of the boat is 'National Insurance Bill'.



0	2
---	---

Historians have made different interpretations about **industrial conflict** in this period. Analyse and evaluate the two interpretations together with your understanding of the historical debate to answer the following question:

How valid is the view that industrial conflict was a serious challenge for the government of Wales and England in the period from 1908 to 1914?

[30]

Interpretation 1

Tim Evans, in this extract from his article “The Great Unrest and a Welsh Town (Llanelli)” in the magazine *International Socialism* (2011), presents an interpretation that suggests industrial conflict was a serious challenge for the government.

The Llanelli strike was part of one of the longest waves of sustained industrial rebellion in British working-class history – the “Great Unrest” of 1910 to 1914. Many commentators believed that in British society the potential for continental-style revolutions had been removed by the British trade union system and the traditional common sense of the nation. The great wave of strikes blew all that away. Driven by rank-and-file workers, it swept aside a horrified union leadership, and was characterised by direct action, widespread industrial solidarity, community involvement and physical confrontation with the forces of the state. Its far-reaching effects went beyond the purely short-term economic. These major struggles, and the power of syndicalism, might have developed into a serious challenge, had it not been for the outbreak of war.

Interpretation 2

Robert Pearce, in this extract from his book *Britain: Industrial Relations and the Economy 1900–1939* (1993), presents an interpretation that suggests pre-war industrial problems were not a long-term threat to the government.

Several writers have painted a picture of a nation ripe for revolution by 1914. Instead of solving problems by discussion and reason, people were taking direct action. Was there a gathering storm in industrial relations from 1908 to 1914? There were plenty of industrial problems, and strikes in 1910–2 must be considered industrial storms of the first magnitude, but were they really signs that storm clouds were gathering for an almighty downpour? It seems not, as the worst was over by 1914.

END OF PAPER