



AS HISTORY

Wars and Welfare: Britain in Transition, 1906–1957

Component 2M Society in Crisis, 1906–1929

Tuesday 23 May 2023 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2M.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From an editorial in the Daily Mail, 3 November 1927. This newspaper, which was owned by the right-wing Lord Rothermere, ran a year-long campaign against widening the franchise.

The great majority of Conservative voters are convinced that 'votes for flappers' will mean 'votes for the Labour Party'. The last extension of the franchise has already created an enormous mass of voters who, no doubt, are well-meaning enough but do not have the political sense needed to make democracy work. These irresponsible voters sway this way and that and are always liable to vote for anyone who will promise them the most at other people's expense. With the help of the flapper vote the socialists believe that the number of Conservative MPs in the next parliament will be so small that the Conservative Party will be deprived of all effective political influence.

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Source B

From the diary of William Bridgeman, July 1929. Bridgeman had been a Conservative MP since 1906 and a Cabinet minister from 1922. He was a close political ally of Baldwin.

The 1929 election was lost not from any wave of resentment against the government or against Baldwin, nor because of any one particular piece of policy or legislation. I put the defeat down to a desire for change, or the swing of the pendulum as some call it, and to the wild promises of the Liberals and Labour. Of course, the money of Lloyd George and his insistence on fighting every seat helped Labour. They could not have won if we had made arrangements to avoid three-cornered contests. In many constituencies a split anti-socialist vote gave Labour the seat. I think Baldwin's failing was his optimism; he was too relaxed, expecting we would win easily.

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0 1

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the outcome of the 1929 election?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'The Labour Party remained weak in the years 1906 to 1914.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'The First World War transformed the position of women in the years 1914 to 1918.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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