



GCE A LEVEL

1100U40-1



S25-1100U40-1

FRIDAY, 6 JUNE 2025 – AFTERNOON

HISTORY – A2 unit 4

DEPTH STUDY 4

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

**Part 2: Economic and social challenges in Wales
and England c.1918–1939**

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 **Question 1** and **either Question 2 or Question 3**.

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

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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 60 minutes on Question 1 and 45 minutes on either Question 2 or Question 3.

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.

In your answers, you should use knowledge and understanding gained from your study of Unit 2 (AS) where appropriate.

Answer **Question 1** and **either Question 2 or Question 3**.

Question 1 (compulsory)

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying economic changes in Wales and England between 1921 and 1929. [30]

Source A The minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet in April 1921

Some misgivings were expressed as to the way this crisis had been brought about, and the very sudden and heavy fall in wages involved in the proposals of the coal-owners. It was also pointed out that any arrangements which involved the closing of a number of uneconomic mines would have serious consequences for the employees, and that everything should be done to mitigate the economic effect of such closure. During the war, the miners had shown they were intensely patriotic, and it would be a calamity if there was an impression that the government was siding in this matter with the employers. On the other hand, it was pointed out that the government had throughout been most anxious not to commit themselves in any way as to the reasonableness of the offer of the owners. Reference was made to Mr Hodges' explicit statement that there was not enough money in the industry to pay the men's demands, and to the considered decision of the government that unless the industry was decontrolled, the negotiations with the owners and the men could make no progress.

Source B An editorial comment in the *Daily Herald*, a trade union-supporting newspaper (4 May 1926)

The miners are locked out to enforce a reduction of wages and an increase in hours. The government stands behind the mine owners. It has rejected the Trade Union Movement's every effort to pave the way to an honourable peace.

The renewed conversations begun on Saturday were ended abruptly in the early hours of yesterday morning with an ultimatum from the Cabinet. Despite this, the whole Labour movement, including the miners' leaders, continued their efforts yesterday.

But unless a last-minute change of mind by the government takes place during the night, the country will today be forced, owing to the action of the government, into an industrial struggle bigger than this country has yet seen.

Both from the debate in the Commons yesterday, and from the long and patient efforts of the Trade Union Movement, the central fact stands out that the blame for the crisis rests on the government and the mine owners.

Source C Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, speaking in a general election broadcast to the British people (1929)

It is for the electorate to judge, in the light of our past record, whether we have faithfully redeemed the promises which we made four and a half years ago. We have endeavoured consistently to build up industrial prosperity on sound and permanent foundations, and to improve the social conditions of our people. The result can be seen in the steady revival of trade, especially in the great basic industries, and in the reduction of the cost of living. The future destiny of the country rests in the hands of the electorate. I am confident that, with the growth of the new spirit of co-operation in industry, the present trade revival will make steady, even rapid progress, provided that British industry is guaranteed a period of stable government and can thus enjoy that confidence in the future without which trade recovery is impossible. I ask the electorate once again to place their confidence in our party as the only one which can secure stable conditions and ordered progress along sound and practical lines.

Answer **either Question 2 or Question 3.**

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“Changes to the electorate were the most significant political development in Wales and England in the period from 1918 to 1939.” Discuss. [30]

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Examine the impact of migration from Wales on the lives of the people of Wales and England. Refer only to the period between 1921 and 1939 in your response. [30]

END OF PAPER

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