



AS HISTORY

Challenge and transformation: Britain, c1851–1964

Component 1G Victorian and Edwardian Britain, c1851–1914

Wednesday 14 May 2025 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 7041/1G.
- 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.

Extract A

The actions of the Fenians in 1867 caused many Liberals to wonder if the time had come to steer Ireland away from acts of desperation through a sustained attempt at constructive reform. One of the people who began to think this way was Gladstone. After 1868, Gladstone's Irish legislation signalled a fresh way of looking at Irish problems. It marked a new harmony between English Liberalism and Irish Catholicism. In particular, the 1881 Land Act did much to meet the immediate demands of Irish tenants. It established the principle of co-partnership in the soil between landlord and tenant. It did this by giving the tenant the famous 'three Fs' – fair rents, fixity of tenure and free sale.

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Adapted from FSL Lyons, *Ireland Since the Famine*, 1973

Extract B

In 1870, Gladstone guided his first Irish Land Act through parliament. However, the act was not especially bold and it proved disappointing in operation. Subsequently, the agricultural depression of the 1870s gave a new intensity to the Irish question. Irish tenants could not pay their rents. Evictions resulted; but evictions led to attempts on the lives of landlords and agents. Gladstone felt bound to restore law and order and a Coercion Act was passed in 1881. At the same time, Gladstone accepted the need for a second Irish Land Act. However, this Act was a concession which Parnell and the Land League did not think went far enough. Once again, the Liberal government was satisfying no-one.

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Adapted from D Read, *England, 1868–1914*, 1979

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of Gladstone's attempts to improve Anglo-Irish relations in the years 1868 to 1881?

[25 marks]

Section B

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

Either

0	2
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'In the years 1886 to 1905, the Conservatives did little to improve the quality of life of the working classes.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0	3
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'In the years 1900 to 1914, Labour established itself as an influential party in British politics.'

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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