



AS HISTORY

The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007

Component 2S Building a new Britain, 1951–1979

Monday 19 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 7041/2S.
- 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 a speech in the House of Commons by Hugh Gaitskell, the Labour leader, 27 October 1955. Gaitskell was responding to the government's proposals for an emergency autumn Budget.

The people of this country were generally surprised when they heard the announcement of an autumn Budget, which is a most unusual event. It signals the need for emergency action. Mr Butler, the Chancellor, has persistently and wilfully misled the public about the health of the economy and he has done so for electoral reasons, buying votes with a bribe and actively encouraging spending through tax cuts. In reality, the economy needed damping down. This Budget, which we are considering today, is necessary because the April Budget was a masterpiece of deception, benefitting only the better-off half of the community. It was very neatly devised, being just enough to give the government the majority it wanted.

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Source B

From the Conservative Party election manifesto, 'The Next Five Years', 1959.

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Source B argues that the Conservative Party's record in managing the economy is deserving of people's vote.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining Conservative management of the economy in the years 1951 to 1959?

[25 marks]

Section B

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

Either

0 2 'British society changed very little in the 1960s.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3 'In the years 1976 to 1979, James Callaghan successfully dealt with the problems faced by his government.'

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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