



Rewarding Learning  
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2008

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## Government and Politics

### Assessment Unit AS 1

*assessing*

### Module 1: The Government and Politics of Northern Ireland

[ASQ11]

THURSDAY 10 JANUARY, AFTERNOON

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#### TIME

1 hour.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided. Study the source material provided and answer **both** questions which follow.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 24.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **both** questions.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

#### ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to study the source material before attempting to answer the questions.

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question in allocating the available examination time.

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## Source Material

### Source A

When not suspended, the Assembly had a number of committees each of which was charged with scrutinising the activities of a particular ministerial department. It also had a number of permanent standing committees and temporary committees. The chairs and deputy chairs of the committees were chosen by party nominating officers under a procedure similar to that used to appoint members of the Executive. Committees of the Assembly took decisions by a simple majority vote.

*Source: Adapted from [www.answers.com](http://www.answers.com)*

### Source B

In the last four years the DUP has transformed the political process in Northern Ireland. We have achieved what many of our opponents said was impossible. We have successfully renegotiated the Belfast Agreement, and required republicans to give up their weapons and all paramilitary and criminal activity before they could enter government. Republicans are under pressure like never before, having been forced to abandon fundamental principles and long held beliefs.

*Source: DUP Election Communication, March 2007*

## Questions

- 1 With reference to **Source A** and any other material you have studied, explain how the Assembly could hold the Executive to account. [10]
- 2 With reference to **Source B** and any other material you have studied, assess the differences between the DUP and Sinn Fein on the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement. [14]

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