



ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
January 2010

Government and Politics

Assessment Unit A2 1

assessing

Module 4: The Government and Politics
of the USA

Module 5: The Government and Politics
of the Republic of Ireland

[A2Q11]

FRIDAY 22 JANUARY, MORNING



TIME

1 hour.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **either** Section A on Module 4 **or** Section B on Module 5.
Answer **one** question from your chosen section.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 30.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** 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 take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

You should answer **one** question from **either** Section A **or** Section B

Section A

Module 4: The Government and Politics of the USA

1 The Constitution of the USA

- (a) Identify and explain **two** constitutional changes that have helped to protect individual rights. [10]
- (b) “More than ever, the Constitution does not meet the needs of the United States.” Discuss. [20]

2 The Supreme Court

- (a) Identify and explain **two** criticisms that have been made of the powers of the Supreme Court. [10]
- (b) “The political system of the United States is the creation of the Supreme Court.” Discuss. [20]

3 Political Parties

- (a) Identify and explain **two** roles that political parties play in the US political system. [10]
- (b) “There are now really no significant policy differences between the Republican and Democratic Parties.” Discuss. [20]

Section B

Module 5: The Government and Politics of the Republic of Ireland



1 Bunreacht na hÉireann

- (a) Identify and explain **two** constitutional changes that have helped to protect individual liberty. [10]
- (b) “The Republic of Ireland urgently needs a new constitution.” Discuss. [20]

2 Irish Local Government

- (a) Identify and explain **two** functions of local councillors. [10]
- (b) “Irish local government has become more important in recent years.” Discuss. [20]

3 Political Parties

- (a) Identify and explain **two** reasons for Fianna Fail’s dominance of Irish government. [10]
- (b) “There are very few real policy differences between Irish political parties.” Discuss. [20]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER
