



Rewarding Learning

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2010**

Government and Politics

Assessment Unit AS 1

**The Government and
Politics of Northern Ireland**

[AQ111]



TUESDAY 1 JUNE, MORNING

TIME

1 hour 15 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Study the source material provided and answer Questions **1** and **2** and either **3(a)** or **3(b)**.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 50.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in Questions **2** and **3**.

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 Questions **1** and **2**.
You are advised to take account of the marks for each part question in allocating the available examination time.

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Source

Powers of the Assembly

Sole responsibility for governing Northern Ireland lies with the Assembly. It is from this Assembly that the government of NI, the Executive Committee, is formed through a complex power-sharing arrangement. The Assembly is therefore directly involved in nominating Ministers to the government. The Assembly meets in full, or plenary format, on Mondays and Tuesdays. For the rest of the week MLAs are engaged in a range of activities related to their work in the Assembly.

Adapted from: Government and Politics of Northern Ireland, Third Edition, M McMahon, Colourpoint. 2008, p 31

Questions

- 1 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain **two** functions of MLAs when they attend the Assembly. [8]

- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how the Executive Committee is formed. [16]

- 3 **Either**
 - (a) Assess the legislative record of the Assembly since it was elected in 2007. [26]

Or

 - (b) Assess the view that the DUP is now the dominant force within unionism. [26]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

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