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**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)**  
General Certificate of Education  
2017

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# Government and Politics

Assessment Unit AS 2  
The British Political Process



SGP21

**[SGP21]**

**MONDAY 5 JUNE, MORNING**

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## TIME

1 hour 45 minutes.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **all three** questions in Section A and then choose either to answer the **two** questions in Section B or the **two** questions in Section C.

## INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 60 marks.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in Questions **3(a)**, **3(b)**, **5** and **7**.  
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.

Answer **all three** questions in Section A **and** then choose either to answer the **two** questions in Section B **or** the **two** questions in Section C

**Section A: The UK Parliament and Executive**

1 Identify **two** types of committee in the House of Commons. [4]

2 Explain **two** ways in which backbench MPs can influence legislation. [10]

**Either**

3 (a) “The Prime Minister now dominates cabinet and is no longer simply ‘First Among Equals’.” Discuss the validity of this statement. [26]

**Or**

(b) “Parliament is no longer able to effectively hold the executive to account.” Discuss the validity of this statement. [26]

### Section B: The Judiciary in the UK

4 Explain what is meant by judicial independence. [5]

5 Explain the ways in which the Judiciary can hold the executive to account. [15]

Or

### Section C: Pressure Groups in the UK

6 Explain **one** way in which a pressure group can try to change government policy. [5]

7 Explain the argument that pressure groups are essential to the British political process. [15]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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