



Monday 2 June 2014 – Morning

AS GCE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

F852/01/I Contemporary Government of the UK

INSERT

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- You must use your own knowledge and the sources in this Insert to answer Question 1.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- This document consists of **2** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

INSTRUCTION TO EXAMS OFFICER/INVIGILATOR

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Sources for Question 1

Read the sources below and use them when answering Question 1.

Source A

The Speaker and the government whips

Key figures in the House of Commons are the Speaker and the government whips. They have a vital role in ensuring that the business of the Commons is efficiently managed, but they look at it from very different perspectives. The Speaker must look after the interests of the whole House and maintain order. Government whips have to ensure that the government's business gets done. They are in a position to make life very difficult for backbenchers who decide not to follow the official party line.

Source B

The House of Lords

Recent polls show that a majority of the UK population does not approve of the House of Lords in its current form. However there is no consensus about what might replace it. One possibility is simply to abolish the Lords. The House of Commons could then be reformed in such a way as to take up the scrutiny and other roles performed currently by the Lords. The government however would miss appointing Ministers without having them elected.

Source C

Diary of a member of the House of Lords

- 09.00 Attend board meeting as Chair of a major company.
- 11.00 Lobby government department as member of the executive of a charity.
- 12.30 Lunch at Lords with All-Party Committee on Science and Technology.
- 14.00 Take part in Lords Debate on civil partnerships/gay marriage.
- 16.00 Participate in Committee stage of Health Bill.



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